

Report of the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

The Parks and Recreation Committee met on Thursday, March 26, 2009 at Town Hall.

The committee received a report from Libby Zando, the manager of the gazebo replacement project, who reported that the excavation for the gazebo foundation has been done, and as soon as the weather dries up, the foundation and concrete and brick apron/stage will be started. The gazebo company will be coming in to do the installation of the gazebo (which will take approximately one week) in late April/early May, with completion of the entire project to precede Horseshoe Crab Festival on Memorial Day weekend. The Committee Chair reported that the Lions Club will be doing repair work and updating of the train during the week of April 20-24, and asked that the gazebo installation not be scheduled for that week, so that the two projects would not complicate matters for each other.

The Committee approved the list of improvements to Memorial Park, including additional playground equipment, picnic tables, grills, benches and brick walkways, that we had discussed at last month's meeting. Some of these items are on order, and installation will be done throughout spring and summer as weather and other activities in the park permit.

The Committee reviewed a draft of a Memorial Tree policy presented by the Committee chair. We discussed aspects of the plan and reached consensus that an important part of any such policy must be a landscape plan for the park, so that those wanting to donate memorial trees and other items would have a specific list of trees/shrubs to choose from and specific locations in the park to choose from for the location of their trees. We will pursue getting such a plan done, by volunteers, after the park renovations are completed. At that time the memorial tree policy will be finalized and put into effect. In the meantime, we will identify some possible vendors and styles for plaques and tree tags to be used for the memorials.

Kathryn Greig reported that the Garden Club has received funds in memory of Ricky Hazzard, who was killed recently, and they would like to use those funds for a floral memorial. The Committee had no objection, and the Garden Club will, upon completion of the new gazebo, look into plantings (possibly knock-out roses) around the gazebo, with a memorial plaque of some sort.

The next Parks and Recreation Committee meeting was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 22. The Committee adjourned at approximately 7:10 pm.