

Attendees: Marty Davis, Tony DiCostanza, Sage Gerling, Amanda Garris, Art Lewis, and Janelle Toner

Brief summary: The group discussed details for the park entrance beautification project and briefly discussed event ideas for the Pocket Park Passport project. Loomis Woods was discussed as a possible pocket park adoption, and was determined not to be a focus since it is owned by the school district. Updates on the wooden playground by the ices rink, summer 2011 Rec. Dept. programming, Gulvin Park playground equipment, and pavilion costs were discussed.

2011 Park Projects Updates:

Park Entrance Beautification: This project involves improving the visibility and appearance of the park entrances through new plantings and signs. Currently, no consistent City park sign is used. The only park signs are Nieder Park entrance on N. Genesee St. and Bicentennial Park. Amanda and Sage are working on an inventory of park entrances. At the last meeting, the group discussed having a design competition for park entrance ideas. After discussion, the group decided to solicit directly to landscape companies to adopt a park entrance. The landscape company would design the layout, donate the plants and do the installation. They could be recognized with a plaque for their donation, listed on the Rec. Dept web page and the GNRC website, and featured in a Finger Lakes Times article. Priority parks need to be determined.

The entrance sign design will be consistent for every park. Loren Marshall will help coordinate the sign design. Paul Cosentino and Janelle Toner will need to approve the sign design and materials. Marty mentioned that the Ontario County walking trail signs are nice and sculptural. She will take a photo for an example.

Additional assistance for installation and maintenance of these areas could be HWS Day of Service volunteers (possibly August Service day), HWS architectural studies student association, and neighborhood associations. Entrance installations could also be coordinated with the Pocket Park Passport Project events in each park.

Pocket Park Passport Project:

Bike Rally at Bicentennial Park: Sage spoke with Eric Heieck from the police department regarding the police department's participation in the Bicentennial Park Bike Rally. The police department would like to participate and should be able to donate helmets. They typically do a bike awareness event with Finger Lakes Health every year and thus already have experience. Marty is working on connecting with Jackie Augustine about having the rally during the same weekend as Seneca7. Hog Rally/ Cruisin weekend, the Musselman weekend with the Teen Mussel Group, or Miracle in the Park (Sage to confirm if still occurs) were also suggested as possible collaborations to investigate. A stand-alone date for the bike rally would also work for the group.

Other Event Ideas: We ran out of time to fully brainstorm ideas for each park's event. The group will brainstorm more at the next meeting. Here are the ideas from the meeting.

- Chartres Park: Janelle suggested renaming the park after Helen I. Cannuli Lirosi (nickname "Tonto"), a Genevan and avid softball league player who passed away. We

would need City Council approval to change the name. The social event for this park could be a dedication to Helen and renaming of the park.

- Nieder Park- Frisbee Tournament in the fall. Gavin Sacks may be able to help rally Frisbee enthusiasts (such as people from Joe's Hots and the Hobby Shop) along with the HWS student Frisbee team to participate.
- Brook Street Park: Music event amphitheatre style in the afternoon. Neighbors at the corner of Brook St. and Lyceum St., who run El Morro (a catering business), had a salsa band perform in their former restaurant. They may be interested in
- Park TBD: Do an event in conjunction with a monthly Star Party
- Park TBD: Health-themed event in collaboration with Finger Lakes Health
- Park TBD: A neighborhood association adopting a park party in their neighborhood

Playground Benches: The group tabled this discussion until the next meeting.

Additional Topics Discussed:

Loomis Woods. Sage reported that Loomis Woods, the woods with a walking trail behind North Street Elementary School, was suggested as a possible park for the park campaign group to add to the neighborhood pocket parks. Loomis Woods is owned by the Geneva City School District and maintained by the Boy Scouts Troup Pack 5 under the direction of Hank Roenke. The group determined that this was not within the group's focus since owned by the school district, but the group would like to promote activities done in Loomis Woods. When Hank Roenke and the Boys Scout troop are not able to take care of the woods, the group will relook at offering to help the school board with a succession plan.

Surveys: Sage informed the group that Loren Marshall is working on her park usage survey for Ridgewood, Jefferson, and Richards parks. Loren will have more details at our next meeting.

Wooden Playground by the Ice Rink: Janelle reported that the wooden playground by rink has been closed due to a poor safety inspection. The playground will probably be removed. Janelle plans to meet with Geneva Community Projects (led the community built project originally) in spring to see about doing another playground at the lakefront to replace this community asset.

Summer 2011 Park Programming by the Rec Dept: Janelle shared that summer park programs will be determined later in the spring. The new program brochure will be available in mid-May. Summer concerts for the lakefront have been scheduled.

Gulvin Park Playground Equipment: Janelle shared that the playground equipment at Gulvin Park is a 2-5 year old piece and 5-12 year old piece that is slated to be installed at some point this summer. She said that if this playground equipment is too large for Gulvin Park they might switch out the equipment and put the equipment at the lakefront. Janelle will clarify with DPW.

Pavilion Costs: The group discussed the pavilion costs for Gulvin Park to get a better idea of costs associated with doing a community-built pavilion in Ridgewood Park. Janelle followed up after the meeting with Gulvin Park pavilion bids. The lowest bid was \$77,000 for materials. Another \$16,500 would cover benches, grills and City DPW labor. Possible partners for fundraising for a Ridgewood Park pavilion are Geneva Little League (use the park for practices only at the end of summer/fall), YMCA

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Youth Lacrosse (use the park in early spring to until end of June for practices and games, and Geneva Youth Soccer (use the park for practices and games in the summer).

Action items

- Park entrance inventory and list of local landscape companies **(Sage and Amanda)**
- Work on landscape company solicitations for park entrance project **(Fred, Sage, and Amanda)**
- Find out about HWS student bike rack/bench design, perhaps invite designers to next meeting **(Loren)**
- Talk to Katie Flowers with CCESL for potential HWS student involvement **(Loren)**
- Look into City dog + park regulations **(Sage)**
- Groundwork for Bike Rally **(Marty)**
- Photo of Ontario County trail signage **(Marty)**
- Invite skate park advocate to next meeting to share info **(Sage)**
- Ideas for events **(Everyone)**
- Develop parks survey **(Loren)**
- Check with Chiropractic College about volunteers for events **(Vicki)**
- Send email when minutes are posted **(Sage)**
- See if Miracle in the Park still occurs **(Sage)**

Next Meeting: Next meeting is Saturday, February 19th at 9:30 AM at the GNRC.