

# **Village of Chagrin Falls Parks Commission August 25, 2015**

Members present: deConingh, Lutz, White

Also present: John Brockway, Ben Himes, Rob Jamieson

The meeting was convened in the Village Hall Council Chambers at 8:32 am.

MINUTES The June 1 and July 30 minutes were approved.

## TRIANGLE PARK

An application request for Lifebank Awareness for Girl Scout Silver Award events on Sundays : August 30, and September 6, 13, 20 was approved but only if they take place to the left of the Popcorn Shop, not in Triangle Park. Anne will contact Alice Patton.

## RIVERSIDE PARK

A discussion of how to address the constant defacing of the bus shelter with obscene graffiti elicited several suggestions. Rob Jamieson will contact Lieutenant Amber Dacek about the possibility of using a camera to identify the culprits. Also, a motion-activated spotlight could be installed to discourage this after-hours activity.

The grassy areas that were reseeded following Blossom Time and Art by the Falls need further attention because of people walking on the turf when it was muddy, creating a very uneven surface. In the fall the Service Department will re-wet these areas and pack down the humps with a road roller.

Anne reported a conversation with JoAnne Shaner of the HDR consulting firm regarding the impact the 2018-2019 North Main Street bridge replacement will have on Bell Street and Riverside Parks. At this point the excavation will start from either side of the river walls and extend eight feet into each park. Bell Street Park will be closed

altogether and the entrance to Riverside will be dismantled in the area of the "Falls" garden; whatever can be saved will be stored somewhere off of the property and ultimately be replaced as originally found. In view of the anticipated construction, the Parks commissioners discussed the wisdom of replacing the boxwood next spring and decided it was worth doing anyway. John Brockway has been talking with Chagrin Valley Nursery and thinks he will be able to obtain the correct variety.

John put watering of the four boxes along the river containing serviceberry trees, shrubs and some perennials on the "to do" list.

Village resident Mike Carlton spoke in reference to two November ballot initiative petitions filed with the Village by some residents identifying themselves as the Riverside Park Preservation committee. Ben expressed his displeasure with the wording, especially the Intent portion, saying, "You killed a gnat with a sledgehammer." And Mike voiced his unhappiness with the way the Village has interpreted the wording. Ben said the Village will publish a piece explaining zoning input and that attorney Ken Fisher needs to put out an opinion. Mike said the Village needs to take a non-biased approach.

#### BELL STREET AND TRIANGLE PARKS

Rob Jamieson said dead trees will be removed.

#### RIVER RUN PARK

The bushes near the sign along Solon Road that were removed have been replaced with new ones afforded by Shirley Ashby, with guidance from Char at Chagrin Pet and Garden. Anne will contact Barbara Christian to write a piece about this for the *Chagrin Valley Times*. The shrubs cost \$600. A thank you note will be sent to Shirley as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 am.

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

**September 22 at 8:30am in Village Hall Council Chambers.**

Anne deConingh, Chairman