

Rootstown Park Committee
5/18/15 Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Joe Paulus, Trustee
Linda Hankins, Trustee
Stephanie Farkash
Ken Conrad
Curtis Wise
Christy Wise
Kevin Lafferty
Doug Fuller
Jordan Michael
John Lallathin
Al Ballou

Joe Paulus called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes from last month's meeting were read. Stephanie Farkash made a motion to approve the minutes. Linda Hankins seconded. All were in favor.

Linda asked John Lallathin about the Ohio Operators Union. John said they need a geographic map and can start their work in June. They will be in the park at night. The tiering of the land should wait until July to not affect the wheat.

Joe said it will likely take until September, and he would like a master plan before starting. He and Linda would like restrooms on both sides of the park. Curtis Wise asked the trustees to go through the same hoops as an outside developer would have to. The trustees agreed. Joe discussed the possibility of closing the entrance at Case Avenue. Linda preferred keeping both entrances for ingress and egress. They will look into seeing if Gracie Field is leased to the township.

Curt said the fence had better not be saved for last. Linda said there will be dirt for mounds as soon as the soccer fields are done. Al Ballou asked if they will set themselves to the same standard as a private developer. The trustees said yes. Curt asked to see it all in writing. He also thanked the trustees for the pipe.

Kevin Lafferty asked if there are any thoughts about lights. Joe said no, it hasn't been discussed because the park will be closed at night. Al asked about the pond slope. Joe and Linda said the Ohio Operators Union will be taking care of that. Joe said we need "no swimming" signs around the pond.

Linda said another pavilion would be nice. Joe asked if the park would be better suited for sewer or septic. Several residents said a mound system would be best. Al asked if there is a park levy. Joe and Linda said no.

Everyone looked at the Option 2 plan that was selected at the last meeting. Joe said a mound/fence buffer along Pfile Drive would be best, since it would be harder to do a fence and trees. There was a question and answer session with architect Doug Fuller who was in attendance. Christy Wise asked if Vaughn Avenue will be buffered too. Joe and Linda said they already have trees.

Doug said it looks like an effective layout and asked what the time frame is. Joe said they can wait until July or August if needed. Doug said he will talk with a civil engineer; perhaps the Ohio Operators Union has one he can talk to.

Stephanie said the baseball field is deeper than the Akron Rubberducks field. Joe said it doesn't have to be that deep. John suggested the corner by the pond for a concession stand. Joe said basketball or tennis courts should go north/south so they could add more if demand calls for it. He also said he would like extra access to the walking trail instead of just at each end. Stephanie said parents walk around now during soccer, so that would help them keep an eye on their kids.

Doug said he will contact the trustees in a couple of days. Joe adjourned the meeting at 6:37 pm.