



**GREEN SPACE/PARK COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** August 4, 2021

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Pat Hogan      Doug Dresie      Randy Page      Loretta Rokey      Darlene Page**  
**Lori Wilson      Michelle Balside      Dan Newyear      Mark Cann**

<b>Park Improvements</b>	
1.1	Master Plan Worksheet Review: The group reviewed the worksheet. Doug is to send the Excel file to the group for comments/feedback and to start populating dates and responsibilities. A pdf version will accompany the minutes.
1.2	Locust Corner Park Fence Replacements/Ballfield Usage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loretta spoke with Chris Clingman and explained the pricing issue with the fence replacement. They may consider a reduced scope for the grant.</li> <li>• Randy spoke with Laura Waczovszky at the Township offices and she said that there are currently 3 little league teams who use the ballfields for practice. This is 4 nights/week as one team practices twice a week.</li> <li>• The group discussed eliminating the ballfields in the current configuration, and then having one placed with the backstop near the tennis courts and oriented facing northwest to the outfield. Another consideration is to use modular backstops (chain link) rather than large fixed backstops as currently installed.</li> <li>• The group also discussed the potential option of utilizing netting rather than chain link around the tennis courts and basketball court. The group needs to research options.</li> </ul>

<b>Groh Park</b>	
2.1	Discuss Special Meeting of July 22, 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loretta reported that Groh Park has been vandalized again. There was graffiti on a slide and on the paved walking path. Cameras are being upgraded at Groh Park.</li> <li>• The group discussed the feedback received at the Community Meeting on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Committee will recommend to the Trustees that the skateboard park be removed expeditiously.</li> <li>• Other items discussed have been added to the Master Plan Worksheet.</li> <li>• Randy noted that there is evidence of a potential homeless camp in the woods beyond the walking paths. It is unknown how recent it may have been utilized. Cleaning up some of the invasive plants may provide better visibility.</li> </ul>

<b>Other Business</b>	
3.1	Fall Clean-up Event: The group agreed that removing invasive plants at Groh Park will be the focus for the fall clean-up day. Invasives will be removed around the walking path and to the west side of the open field. Randy suggested renting a chipper (~ \$500) or have the Service Department pick up the brush. The group settled on Saturday, November 13, 2021, from 9am – 1pm for the work day. Saturday, November 20, 2021 will be an alternate in

	case of bad weather. Dan Newyear is to reach out to University of Cincinnati for volunteers. Pat Hogan will also recruit some Scouts to help out.
3.2	<p>Park Event Subcommittee Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark Cann reported that the subcommittee has met and is working on some ideas. There was discussion about having an event on September 18<sup>th</sup>, but, that is too soon to pull something together.</li> <li>• Another potential is to hold a Pupkin Parade event similar to 2019. It would be Saturday, October 16, 2021.</li> <li>• The group needs more volunteers for event planning.</li> <li>• Mark also suggested a Farmer's Market next year on property that the Township now owns on Oak Street behind CVS, and across from the Library. Loretta noted that the property is currently co-owned with Batavia Township.</li> <li>• The next Subcommittee Meeting is August 10<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>
3.4	<p>Vision/Mission Statement/501c3 Development:</p> <p>Doug presented a draft Vision and Mission statements for the Committee for the group's review. All are to review and provide feedback. It was noted that the statements need to align with the Township's vision statement.</p>
3.5	<p>Signage for New Hiking Trails:</p> <p>Pat has contacted Urban Banners and received pricing for signs for the new hiking trails recently completed at Locust Corner Park. There are 3 trail head signs, and 4 signs at trail direction changes. The cost is \$30 per sign plus the cost of posts (\$250). Pat is to work with Debbie Schwey and Laura Waczovszky regarding the signs and work with John Koehler on getting the posts from Lowe's.</p>
3.6	<p>Randy recommended that it be requested of the Trustees to approve Parks Committee volunteers of purchasing Pierce Township branded t-shirts and golf shirts with "Volunteer" written on them to wear at events or when working in the Parks. This would make them recognizable to visitors as volunteers and may prompt conversation or questions about the Parks. Randy is to draft a letter to the Trustees for consideration.</p>
3.7	

**NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, September 1, 2021, 6:30pm**

**Minutes prepared by: Doug Dresie**

**PIERCE TOWNSHIP PARKS MASTER PLAN WORKSHEET**

Original concept developed by M. Cann										08/17/21	
<b>Priority Legend:</b>											
1 - Urgent: requires immediate action due to safety and/or perception issues											
2 - Moderate: could become urgent status if not addressed in a timely manner											
3 - Future: requires planning, funding or other items to bring to fruition											
<b>Project Legend:</b>											
FND - Funding needed		PPT - Pierce Pres/Trails		LCDP - Locust Corner Dog Park		ADI - Arboretum Development Initiative		PM - Park Maintenance	AR - Arrowhead Park	SSP - Spencer Shank Pk	TD - Tree Donation Program
TW - Township Website		GP - Groh Park		LCRA - Locust Corner Recreational Area		HBT - Hiker/Biker Trails		UOP - Use of Park	FUN - Fundraising	NA - Nature Areas	
PROJECT NUMBER	LOCATION	PRIORITY (see legend)	Funding Source	WORK	EFFORT/RESOURCES/ESTIMATED HOURS AND OR COSTS REQUIRED	LOGIC	ASSIGNED TO/ OWNER	DATE ASSIGNED	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	ISSUES/NOTES	
ADI-1	Arboretum Development Initiative	2	Public/ Private	Develop and maintain a Level One Arboretum	Staff, park committee, outside expertise	Tie to Tree Donation Program. Could be major community attraction and prestigious initiative	Randy Page				
AR-1	Arrowhead Playground	3	Public/ Private	Restore playground area to greenspace	Service Department Staff	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area	John Koehler			General public opinion expressed in 07.22.2021 Special Parks Meeting, is that area should be left green space.	
FUN-1	Fundraising	1	Public/ Private	Develop master plan for fundraising activities including identification of opportunities, best practices and energetic, proactive approaches	May require a subset fundraising committee for this work	Ongoing need to foster growth and momentum	Doug Dresie				
FUN-2	Fundraising	1	Public/ Private	Form 501c3 Park Foundation	Staff, park committee, outside expertise	Fundraising tool	Anne Campbell		12/31/21		
GP-1	Groh Park	1-FND	Public	Playground equipment replaced. Consider options for smaller kids while maintaining those that appeal to other ages.	Staff. Funding is major issue	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area				Funding is major issue.	
GP-2	Groh Park	2-FND	Public/ Private	Shelter house and tables need repair and/or replacement	Volunteer/Staff. Assess scope of repairs/replacements and costs and then develop work plan	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area	John Koehler			Service Dept. has performed some repairs. Overall scope to be assessed.	
GP-3	Groh Park	1-FND	Public/ Private	Add ADA swings or other accessible equipment.	Research products and solicit quotes. Service Dept Install. Funding needed.	Enhance resident's experience	Doug Dresie			Funding needed.	
GP-4	Groh Park	1	Public	Remove skate park equipment	Service Department Staff.	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area	John Koehler			Service Department staff priorities.	
GP-5	Groh Park	2-FND	Public/ Private	Add benches along walking paths.	Volunteer/Staff	Comfort. Enhance resident's experience				Bench donation program potential.	
GP-6	Groh Park	3-FND	Public	Add basketball hoops	Staff. Funding.	Increase capacity for play.				Funding and prioritization.	
GP-7	Groh Park	3-FND	Public	Add restrooms with running water.	Large project. Competitive bid/contractor built.	Comfort. Enhance resident's experience				Funding.	
GP-7	Groh Park	3-FND	Public	Add pickle ball court and tether ball court.	Review park layout. Potential use of skate park area. Service Department or work contracted.	Attract and encourage activities by residents and guests				Funding. Potential for County Parks Grant application.	
HBT-1	Hiker/Biker Trails	2-FND	Public	Extend existing hiker/biker trail from Legendary Run golf course maintenance building to Inverness lift station	Staff. Estimated 500'- 600' of trail needed. Negotiate trail easement with 4 property owners. This project, along Locust Corner Road, was discussed with the property owners in March or April of 2015. Hershner even made up easement plats with the trail depicted. This could be done in phases: e.g., 1st Phase: "rough" trail of gravel or mulch, then as monies become available; 2nd Phase: blacktop and detailed completion.	This will bring closure to the promised hiker/biker trail that was to totally encircle Legendary Run some 20 years ago. This will also offer "connectivity" from Royal Troon, Inverness, Mackenzie Crossing, Castlestone and Turnberry in a more direct and less arduous trek to get to the Locust Corner trail hub, recreational fields and learning/event center					
HBT-2	Hiker/Biker Trails	3-FND	Public/ Private	Feasibility study on more connectivity to parks and neighborhoods	Staff, park committee, outside expertise	Create close knitting of communities and neighborhoods where practical					
LCDP-1	Locust Corner Dog Park	1	Public	Update Website, Cerkl, Social Media notifications that park is open and install "Now Open" sign at entry along Locust Corner Road	Township Staff; 3 hrs.	Make better effort to "sell" and "market" our community asstes.	Loretta Rokey			Staffing constraints/workload.	
LCDP-2	Locust Corner Dog Park	2-FND	Private	Seating needed. Fundraising required	Volunteer/Staff	Comfort. Enhance resident's experience			09/30/21	Two benches donated and have arrived. Plaques ordered.	
LCDP-3	Locust Corner Dog Park	3-FND	Public/ Private	Agility equipment to be added in future. Fundraising required	Volunteer/Staff	Enhance resident's experience	Lori Wilson				
LCP-1	Locust Corner Park	3-FND	Public/ Private	Bill Brewer Memorial	Volunteer/Staff	Tribute to fallen officer and township resident	Jeff Bachman				
LCP-2	Locust Corner Park	3-FND	Public/ Private	Shelter	Volunteer/Staff	Stimulate family usage and events					
LCP-3	Locust Corner Park	3-FND	Public/ Private	Exercise equipment on paved walking trail	Volunteer/Staff	Encourages mobility and healthful activities					
LCP-4	Locust Corner Park	3-FND	Public/ Private	Playground equipment/features	Volunteer/Staff. ADA equipment	Larger resident segment appeal. Cross-generational draw	Doug Dresie				
LCP-5	Locust Corner Park	3-FND	Public/ Private	Playground equipment/features	Volunteer/Staff. Additional seating needed	Larger resident segment appeal. Cross-generational draw					
LCP-5	Locust Corner Park	3-FND	Public/ Private	First Responders Memorial	Volunteer/Staff. Elements to be defined	Branding					
LCP-6	Locust Corner Park	3-FND	Public/ Private	Playground bench shade	Volunteer/Staff. Shading needed	Larger resident segment appeal. Cross-generational draw					
LCP-7	Locust Corner Park	3-FND	Public/ Private	Playground equipment/features	Volunteer/Staff. Multi-generational play/cornhole	Larger resident segment appeal. Cross-generational draw					

**PIERCE TOWNSHIP PARKS MASTER PLAN WORKSHEET**

Original concept developed by M. Cann										08/17/21		
<b>Priority Legend:</b>												
1 - Urgent: requires immediate action due to safety and/or perception issues												
2 - Moderate: could become urgent status if not addressed in a timely manner												
3 - Future: requires planning, funding or other items to bring to fruition												
<b>Project Legend:</b>												
FND - Funding needed		PPT - Pierce Pres/Trails		LCDP - Locust Corner Dog Park		ADI - Arboretum Development Initiative		PM - Park Maintenance		AR - Arrowhead Park	SSP - Spencer Shank Pk	TD - Tree Donation Program
TW - Township Website		GP - Groh Park		LCRA - Locust Corner Recreational Area		HBT - Hiker/Biker Trails		UOP - Use of Park		FUN - Fundraising	NA - Nature Areas	TW - Township Website
PROJECT NUMBER	LOCATION	PRIORITY (see legend)	Funding Source	WORK	EFFORT/RESOURCES/ESTIMATED HOURS AND OR COSTS REQUIRED	LOGIC	ASSIGNED TO/ OWNER	DATE ASSIGNED	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	ISSUES/NOTES		
LCRA -1	Locust Corner Recreational Areas	1-FND	Public	Replace all fencing	Staff. 2021 estimate is \$50,000 for ballfield alone. Outsourcing required. May need to be accomplished in phases.	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area				Steel prices have driven up cost above thresholds for competitive bidding and far exceeds grant resources. Recalibrate scope and design as exact duplication of fencing may not be needed. Possibility of leaving existing poles in place to reduce costs. Also combination of black vinyl and electrostatic painting may be possible to reduce costs. Existing lengthy sideline fencing may not be required. Existing height of backstop may not be required. Other ideas should be considered.		
NA-1	Nature Areas	2	Private	Trail repairs needed	Partial Eagle Scout project on some of this, but additional volunteer work desired	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area	Pat Hogan					
NA-2	Nature Areas	2	Private	Ongoing invasive plant removal required	Partial Eagle Scout project on some of this, but additional volunteer work is needed	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area	Pat Hogan					
NA-3	Nature Areas	2	Private	Signs and markers needed	Partial Eagle Scout project on some of this, but additional volunteer work and sign/marker costs to be defined	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area	Pat Hogan					
PM-1	Park Maintenance	3-FND	Public	Service department personnel addition	Staff	Required for proper overall park maintenance				To support Parks Maintenance Plan implementation.		
PM-2	Park Maintenance	2	Public	Annual evaluation of maintenance costs	Staff	Cost control						
PM-3	Park Maintenance	2	Public	Annual maintenance plan review	Staff	To secure proper grounds appearances and facilities						
PM-4	Park Maintenance	2	Public	Creation of documented Parks Maintenance Plan to define work scope, roles and responsibilities, scheduled check-offs of grounds and facilities and other requirements to ensure upkeep, appearances and problem avoidance	Staff	To secure and control proper grounds appearances and facilities						
PPT-1	Pierce Preserve & Trails	3	Public/ Private	Maintenance and improvements as required and approved by NOPE group	Partial Eagle Scout project on some of this, but additional volunteer work desired	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area						
SSP-1	Spencer Shank Park	3-FND	Public	Add amphitheater with restrooms.	Large project. Competitive bid/contractor built.	Enhance resident's experience.				Funding		
SSP-2	Spencer Shank Park	2	Private	Disc golf course signs	Volunteer project	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area	Pat Hogan					
SSP-3	Spencer Shank Park	2-FND	Public	Basketball court resurfacing. Reduce number of basketball courts.	Staff. Cost assessment	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area						
SSP-4	Spencer Shank Park	2-FND	Public/ Private	Existing exercise equipment	Volunteer/Staff. Assessment of current equipment for repair and/or replacement	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area						
SSP-5	Spencer Shank Park	2-FND	Public/ Private	Dog park fencing and shading	Could be volunteer work. Bottom rail or tension wire should be installed for escape prevention	Safety, image, appearance and enrichments to area						
SSP-6	Spencer Shank Park	3-FND	Public	Add parking at Dog Park.	Assess access. Engage engineers for design.	Safety, ease of access improvement.				Funding		
TD-1	Tree Donation Program	3	Public/ Private	Plan to be developed	Staff, park committee, outside expertise	Resident memorialization	Randy Page					
TD-2	Tree Donation Program	2	Public/ Private	Invasive plant removal and reforestation in all parks	Staff, park committee, outside expertise	Resident memorialization	Dan Newyear					
TW-1	Township Website	1	Public	Update with facts and pictures of Amelia community parks, learning center and other relevant and current materials	Township Staff; 6 hrs	Make better effort to "sell" and "market" our community asstes	Loretta Rokey			Staffing constraints/workload.		
TW-2	Township Website	1	Public	Put updated Master Plan on Website	Township Staff; 1 hr	Keep residents informed	Loretta Rokey			Staffing constraints/workload.		
UOP-1	Increased Use of Park	1	Public/ Private	Marketing plan should be developed to define and determine feasibility of best uses, events and initiatives to attract pleasureable usage by residents	May require a marketing/promotions subcommittee for this work	Attract and encourage activities by residents and guests	Mark Cann					

## **Pierce Township Parks**

### **Vision**

Pierce Township Parks are a premier destination for recreation in southwest Ohio, offering superior facilities, amenities, and programming which enhance the lives of residents and visitors.

### **Mission**

The Pierce Township Green Space/Parks Committee mission is to assess Township Green Space and Park assets and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees to improve facilities, add amenities, and establish programming to realize the Vision. The Pierce Township Green Space/Parks Committee will also offer recommendations to the Board of Trustees to ensure designated green spaces are maintained to preserve those assets for the natural beauty they contribute to the Township.