

**City of Oronoco
Parks and Trails Committee Meeting
Monday, July 1, 2024
At The Community Center at 7:00 pm**

Members:

Present: Katie Dudley, Ryland Eichhorst, Paul Pendergrass, Kevin McDermott

Zoom: Justin Black

Absent: Dawn Littleton

City Staff: Jason Baker, New City Administrator

City Parks Staff: John Huey

Guests: Tony Pileggi from Leadership Greater Rochester

Ari Kolas from Hamilton Group

Agenda approval - no agenda available for tonight

Leadership Greater Rochester Credible Lines - In April Kristen Leveque was here and the April City Council did not approve the sign - Tony presented from the group - promote positive mental health - guided meditation walk through a park - The size of the sign is 3 feet by 2 feet by Schad Tracy - hope to give city money towards maintaining - cost to the city would be as minimal as possible
They will have signs at Stewartville and Eyota so far. Calendar year is December to December - have been working on it since November 2023 Projects start in August and are wrapped up in May - Leadership Greater Rochester is planning a 5K to celebrate the completion of this project

Discussion - Paul asked why we put signs up that in Oronoco

Tony said we branch out of the city of Rochester

Justin on Zoom - It makes sense to him what they are looking for

We did put up the Zumbro Watershed Partnership Signs

Katie Dudley makes a motion to recommend it to City Council

Branch out of Rochester

Justin - have someone from LGR come to council - Tony group of 12 to 15 people

Kevin asked if they would like to put up more signs later

Tony - ultimate goal to promote mental health - one sign per city - put it at a trailhead -

Katie makes a motion to bring it to council Kevin second. Discussion

Not sure how Justin can vote because it needs to be posted 3 days in advance to be at the meeting on

Zoom

Vote yes Katie, Kevin and Justin
Vote no Paul. Motion carried.

Ryland needed to head out of the meeting at this time

Ari Kolas from Hamilton Group - Housing Development by Gas 'N Go - presented since December - Cedar Crest Point - will add a bike trail that will tie into 2nd Ave to connect to River Park

Ari visited with us about the three phases of development

Easement along the river to Cedar Woodlands and connects to Timberline SE

Planning and Zoning Meeting and plats with variances Mid September might be breaking ground after approved

Allis Park - Garlic Mustard Removal has taken place in May and June - Lance, Kevin, Justin, Dawn, and Katie

Planters have waterers with a felt wick in the pots to help with keeping those wet
All but one planter received the waterers

Dawn put native plants in the planters this year

Upgrade power line 364 down one side and one 161 from Pine Island to Rochester, down across the lakebed would be an option, City Council agreed that it could be an option, State Energy Commission has to have two options, the other was going down the west side of New Haven Township

We discussed we would not want to have it placed over the lakebed.

Jason said it is in the early process of hearings, etc.

Ryland has attended some of the meetings

Paul said it would like what comes through Zumbrota

Not in favor of having the line come through over the lakebed

Music in the Park - Hope to get an update from Ryland in August

Previous lakebed - Trails on the previous lakebed are going

Garden Park Bluebird boxes were not occupied by bluebirds

Oronoco Park - water was up to the wall

River Park is gated off - woodchips are gone by the playground - need to check the structural integrity of the playground -

Moved picnic table up by the gazebo - a metal one - two metal tables are at River Park

Cain has been replacing wooden picnic tables with metal ones

Flooding has been wild

T-ball - it is usually done the week of July 4

River Park Place SE - might be coming to the August Meeting

There is a trail proposed along the river that would be on private property, land owners are concerned that it could be created in the future. There is a mowed trail by the tennis courts, it is not that one. It goes 100 yards and then it stops.

A trail to connect to 3rd St SE and 2nd Ave SE with 15 foot easement along the river, could be washed out by now.

They are just looking into reassurance that it would not happen in the future.

In 2006 Jech Subdivision - talked about it, but then when they saw the landscape of the land.

Is it on their abstracts?

The February 2012 zoning map is what the land owners are referring to

FLUP - Future Land Use Planning Document July 21, 2020 - a future bituminous pathway

We support you that we would not be putting a trail in there.

We should recommend to Council to get this taken off the map.

Kevin talked about the rip rap to just hold the trail there, so that would not make sense to put a trail there.

Recommend to leave it to stay wild

Cedar Woodlands Trail - water did come up on the trail and it is just muddy

Rip Rap appears to be working there

Cedar Woodlands past ten years it has flooded almost every year

Next Meeting will be August 5, 2024

Paul said we should look at the Park Plan Ordinance for Development at our next meeting

10 percent land per subdivision ordinance or cash in lieu of upon the sale of each lot

Concern that River Park is not big enough to support another subdivision, maybe give funds to expand the playground section larger, 3 larger subdivisions,

What is the acreage of River Park?

2.5 acres

4 parking spaces?

A lot of people walk or bike down there

Katie made a motion to adjourn at 7:58 and Paul second. Motion carried.