

## VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

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### VILLAGE COUNCIL

MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Mayor*

ROBERT PESTRONK, *Chairman*

DANIEL AHR, *Vice Chairman*

MARTHA SOLT, *Secretary*

ROY SCHAEFFER, *Treasurer*

MICHAEL MEZEY

CHERYL TYLER

JULIAN P. MANSFIELD, *Village Manager*

### Approved Minutes

#### Friendship Heights Village Council Parks and Grounds Committee Tuesday, January 7, 2025

**Parks and Grounds Committee members present:** Robert Pestronk; Roy Schaeffer; Daniel Ahr.

**Others present:** Julian Mansfield; Jason Goldstein; Martha Solt; Al Muller; Charles Schwartz; Robin Schattman; Pat Donovan; Lois Forster; Michael; Dawn.

At 6:40 p.m., Mr. Pestronk called the meeting of the Friendship Heights Village Council Parks and Grounds Committee to order. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom. He remarked about the good job done throughout the Village to remove the recent snow.

#### Public Comment Period

Lois Forster reported that dogs have broken into Page Park and there are numerous dogs there without a leash. She said dogs are still coming onto the Red House property and she has picked up dog waste around the Village. She expressed frustration that dogs are everywhere and are ruining plantings. She requested that the Committee consider ways to better control dogs and to limit damage to property. The Committee will place this item on the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

#### Approval of Minutes

Mr. Ahr moved, Mr. Pestronk seconded, to approve the minutes of the November 19 Parks and Grounds Committee meeting. Mr. Pestronk had two suggested changes to the minutes, in the section regarding the pollinator garden and in the section regarding the Page Park website. The amended motion was approved by a 2-0-1 vote (Mr. Schaeffer abstained).

Consideration of the November 6 minutes was pushed to the end of the meeting.

#### Page Park Update

Mr. Mansfield reported on the status of the three outstanding items: 1). An architect has been engaged by the Village and has taken the slope measurements for the main pathway leading into the park. The architect will follow up with GreenSweep to

confirm the ADA compliance information and submit the required form; 2). The civil engineering firm engaged by the Village will begin the stormwater management concept work this month; and 3). The Village is working to coordinate the three required third-party inspections of the pergola footings, anchor bolts, and concrete slabs.

### **Willoughby Park trees removed**

Mr. Mansfield reported that the row of arbor vitae trees along the fence between Willoughby Park and the South Willoughby driveway have been removed. The trees had died or were in decline. GreenSweep will provide recommendations for native plant replacements to be planted in this area in the spring.

### **Ewes replaced in Humphrey Park**

Mr. Mansfield reported that 36 dead yews were replaced in Humphrey Park with inkberry shrubs, a native species. GreenSweep covered 18 of the replacements under warranty.

### **Public Comment**

Jim Trotta, a resident of 4620 North Park, stated that a friend of his who lived in the Willoughby recently passed away, and the family would like to have a memorial or plaque dedicated in his memory in Willoughby Park. Committee members agreed to put this item on the agenda for the next Committee meeting on February 13 for further discussion.

### **Charter for Committee**

Mr. Pestronk referred to the draft charter that had been circulated previously to Committee members. Mr. Ahr indicated it is a good idea for each committee to have a charter. He proposed a change to the charter in the Committee Members section because the Committee does not have the authority to direct the responsibilities of the Mayor or anyone outside the Committee. The Committee members agreed to strike the three paragraphs in that section.

Mr. Ahr moved, Mr. Pestronk seconded, to recommend approval of the charter as amended to the Village Council. Mr. Schaeffer indicated the charter goes beyond the statement of purpose and that the Committee should hold off on passing a charter until the Village bylaws are settled. The motion was approved by a 2-1 vote (Mr. Schaeffer opposed).

### **Erosion behind Page Park**

Mr. Schaeffer mentioned that there is an erosion issue behind Page Park that is getting worse. He suggested that the Village investigate the extent of the erosion issue going down the hill behind Page Park to the creek. The Committee requested that the Village Manager inquire with the civil engineering firm that was engaged to do the stormwater management plan to see what they think about the erosion issue.

**Signage in Parks**

Mr. Pestronk referred to materials previously circulated to the Committee regarding possible signage to be posted in each of the three Village parks. He suggested the Committee approve the concept and present a recommendation to the full Council. Mr. Ahr offered to draft language to be included in the signs. The Committee agreed with this approach. Mr. Ahr moved, Mr. Pestronk seconded, that the committee recommends consistent signage in Village parks and that the full Council should determine the content of those signs. The motion was approved by a vote of 2-1 (Mr. Schaeffer opposed).

**Approval of November 6 Minutes**

Mr. Schaeffer moved, Mr. Pestronk seconded, to approve the minutes of the November 6 Parks and Grounds Committee closed meeting. The motion was approved by a vote of 2-0-1 (Mr. Ahr abstained).

No other actions were taken by the Parks and Grounds Committee. Mr. Ahr moved, Mr. Pestronk seconded to close the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



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Bobby Pestronk, Parks and Grounds Committee Chair