

TOWN OF McCANDLESS
MINUTES – RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 1, 2016 TOWN HALL

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:43 p.m. by Committee Chairwoman Zachary with the following in attendance: Committee members Aufman, Mertz, Walkauskas, LeDonne and McKim; Town Attorney Ries, Town Manager Cordek, Assistant Town Manager Ebner, Chief Anderson, Public Works Superintendent Sabina, Fire Marshal Stack and Marie Haller, Administrative Assistant. Excused: Councilwoman Powers.

ANNOUNCEMENT
COMMUNITY DAY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Zachary reported the first meeting of the Community Day Planning Committee was held on February 23rd. Residents wishing to participate may contact Councilman Aufman.

DISCUSSION
CREATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Councilwoman Zachary discussed the overall purpose of an Environmental Quality Board and shared about her previous experience serving a chairperson of such a board in another community where she previously lived. She provided examples of programs the former board initiated and supported including an Adopt a Highway Program and a Whitetail Management Program. She discussed potential projects that may be beneficial to the Town of McCandless such as working with watersheds, conducting energy audits of Town buildings and initiating a community garden. She discussed her previous assistance in obtaining a grant that provided low cost compost containers to residents. She suggested this board may be able to explore current available grant opportunities to benefit the Town. Councilwoman Zachary discussed her passion to participate in this type of work and offered to be a liaison between such a board and Council.

Council President Aufman discussed a few examples of similar programs and events that have occurred. He mentioned clean-up programs, permission granted to permit hunting in Town Parks and the Town participation in activities with the Friends of North Park in addition to many other activities supported by Town Council.

Councilman McKim remarked this proposal fits in well with many activities and events the Town has conducted and this board may be an opportunity to coordinate the efforts similar to what has been done. Town Manager Cordek provided an example of a significant event that was supported by Town Council and coordinated with other area municipalities to cleanup Pine Creek. He discussed the success he has experienced working with others and mentioned

successive events have spurred off this original project to continue the maintenance of Pine Creek since. He also remarked that coordination of efforts similar to this could be helpful. He pointed out it would be important to select priorities, have an appropriate staff person assigned to work with the chairperson to plan and execute the programs and events.

Barbara Richards, Manor Court, stated she is in support of an Environmental Quality Board. She asked if there are any known grants available or if the Town has ever participated in these type of grants or activities. She asked if the Town has considered obtaining grants or participating in programs as mentioned. Town Manager Cordek discussed several examples of activities in the Town including promulgation of composting and the development of rain gardens. He also reiterated that the Council has granted permission to hunters to hunt in Town parks, which is managed by the Police Department.

ADJOURNMENT

The Recreation meeting adjourned into an Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. The Executive Session concluded at approximately 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Marie A. Haller, Administrative Assistant
Manager's Office

TMC/mah