



The meeting of the Board of Directors of the *Friends of Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park Association, Inc.* was called to order on Friday, August 7th, via ZOOM teleconferencing at 10:30 a.m.. Present were:: Karen Roberson, Leslye Wing, Deb Gray, Mike Burke (for Celia Scott), Ron McMullen and Midge McGinnis. Steve Kennerly was unavailable.

AGENDA ITEMS

Oak Woodland

Oak Woodland group held a tour at Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park on Tuesday, July 21st. Mike Burke, Deb Gray and Ron McMullen were in attendance. Deb Gray and Mike Burke were able to answer some of their questions. Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park is one of their priority locations. Douglas County Parks Department has been included in both the meetings and tour. The tour looked at places in the park that have previously had work done and discussed the previous treatments and what should be done going forward. They are working on a grant through NRCS that would focus on the oak woodland areas of the park. Historically these grants have only covered a 'one time' treatment and others would have to step in afterwards to continue the work (ie: hawthorne eradication, thinning in oak woodland areas, etc.). We are pleased that this group has included Friends in their meetings and plans and we will continue to have representation at their meetings.

Release from County for donated equipment

We are still waiting for a written release form from county to accept the donation of an antique manure spreader. Our plan would be to put it in the equipment shed. There are also pen panels that are stored in there that need to be moved to make room for the equipment. County had suggested that since they cannot establish who the owners are that they might be able to place them in the next excess equipment auction. Covid-19 has delayed any plans for that. We will probably ask county if we can move them up to Underwood Barn (first we need to get the written release from county). The release will indemnify Friends from any lawsuits that could arise from someone experiencing an injury on the equipment.

C. Giles Hunt Grant

Several months ago we submitted a grant request to Wells Fargo/C. Giles Hunt for a grant to cover additional restoration steps at the English Settlement School House. The announcement date was to be sometime in August. As of today, we have not yet heard if we will receive a grant.

NEW BUSINESS

Picnic Tables

Ron McMullen discussed the possibility of repairing at least two of the picnic tables located in the equestrian/hiking trail area. We agreed that we have the funds to cover this and Ron gave Karen a materials list. Midge will contact county to receive approval to proceed (we have received an okay). Once we have that, Karen can purchase the materials and we can put together a work party to repair the tables. (probably will do in September)

Wired Shut Gate

It was noticed that the gate between the day use area and the equestrian area has been wired shut, making it impossible for visitors to hike from day use area into the equestrian trails. We believe (and it was confirmed by county) that this gate was wired shut do prevent gate from being left open and cattle getting into day use area. We have suggested that the county or cattle owner to install a 'walk thru' gate which county said is a good idea. (see photo below). Other options would be to place a sign on gate reminding hikers to close gate behind them or install a spring on gate to automatically close it. In any case, the gate needs to be able to be opened.

Additional note: apparently cattle are frequently 'escaping' the park. Board member who lives down street from park has contacted leasors and moved cattle herself back to park. County is aware of this issue.

NEXT MEETING

Friday, September 11th at 10:30 a.m. – Meeting to be held via Zoom.



