



MILLS RIVERSIDE PARK

Jericho Underhill Park District

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Jericho Underhill Park District
MEETING MINUTES—10/02/24

Board members present: Livy Strong, Bruce Blokland, Chris Tardie, Paula vanDeventer, Dave Williamson Kim Spaulding, Donna Pratt

Board members absent: none

Guests present: none

1. Livy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **Public comment.** None

3. **Review of minutes.**

Motion by Kim to accept the 09/18/24 minutes as presented; seconded by Livy. Passed unanimously.

Financial Report.

Donna continued her review of budget line items in the 2025 budget. The board discussed a large number of projected expenditures it wants to accomplish in FY 2025.

Donna further reviewed FY2026 proposed budget and the funding increases needed.

4. **Park Management**

Bridge:

--Bruce has submitted list of questions to Cricket McCusker of TR Fellows Engineers for clarification of repairs recommended to the underside of the bridge. Planning to meet at the bridge in October with Cricket and Steve Mattera to review and discuss the repairs needed.

--Donna observed that we should do regular inspections to the bridge decking, as it is uncovered and exposed to the elements. It was also suggested that we do an annual cleaning of the bridge decking and railings as debris is accumulating and will eventually cause rot.

--It was suggested that we consider removing the very large branches of a fallen tree that are extending above the Browns River immediately east of the bridge.

Trails:

--Bruce received a ballpark estimate from Arrowhead Environmental, Jeff Parsons, that a wetland delineation will cost about \$500. Bruce is proceeding to obtain a date and time this fall to walk Fieldstone East trail with the consultant.

--Livy reported on Chris Wells' estimates for the trail repairs outlined in last meeting:

-Off Leash area: \$2500.

-Upper Main Connector area: \$1200.

-Main Path at bridge: \$1600.

-Butterfly Garden area: \$1500.

-Secondary Connector from Dog Off Leash area: \$4200.

--Dave reports that the broken fence railing at the park entrance has been replaced and spare railings are stored in the barn.

--Chris reported on his effort to find suitable People Counters to replace the current ones that only operate sporadically. He recommends a system that comes with three counters, lithium battery powered, and operate individually. With the three units, we could deploy the counters in three locations around the park, gathering more extensive trail use data. Cost estimate: \$2800.

--Chris reported on using Muck-A-Way enzymatic pellets on our main pond to accelerate the decomposition of organic matter on the floor of the pond. We have approximately ½ acre area and an estimated pond depth of ten feet. It would take several treatments to begin to see results. An annual treatment would cost approximately \$350.

Motion by Dave to authorize Chris to purchase Muck-A-Way at a cost of approximately \$350. Seconded by Livy. Passed unanimously.

Chris and Paula discussed acquiring a new phone number for JUPD business.

Motion by Livy to purchase the phone at \$120. annual cost. Seconded by Dave. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Chris to proceed with outlined FY 2025 projects, totalling \$19,830. as listed in our CIP FY 2025 budget. These projects include: updated park signage; additional picnic tables and benches; riparian buffer plantings, remediation and signage; trail repairs outlined above; obtaining a wetland delineation for Fieldstone East trail. Seconded by Paula. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Chris recommending a FY 2026 budget of \$85,962, and asking for a 10% funding increase from the two towns. Seconded by Dave. Passed unanimously.

Other Business

The board will revisit the Vendor Policy at the 11/16 meeting.

Adjournment. At 8:57 pm, Bruce moved to adjourn and Kim seconded. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Blokland

Meeting Recordings

Use the link below to access meeting recordings.

Note: Recordings are posted once minutes have been approved and are available for 30 days.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1VDckTyvioosbWqEacYly9pgrzYdM8mzi>