

City Activities Committee Meeting
April 5, 2016, 9:00 AM
Timeshare Meeting Room

Present: Hughel Goodgame, Linda Lapeyrouse, Mandy Cantrell, Liz Carr, John Branch, Ben Chitwood, Audrey Goodgame, Cathy Turner

Guests: Ellie McCall, Jerome Osteryoung, Joe Routt, Paul Wheeler

Mayor Goodgame called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Positions filled: Chairman – Liz Carr, Vice Chair – John Branch, Sec – Cathy Turner

Mayor Goodgame delivered an overview of discussion items:

Hiking – Hiking group involved in cleaning trails in Sky Valley.

-Better signage is needed for Rabun Bald and Mud Creek Falls Trails which are approachable inside Sky Valley

Visitor Center – As of Monday, manned daily 9-4 except Sunday which hopefully will be filled by volunteers.

-Pat Calderone will be painting a mural on the north side of the building to provide a photo op along with the large sitting stones beside the building.

- Pat has offered to sublet her artist room for community activities (Bingo, cards, etc.) when not being used by her business.

-Cedar tree was planted for Arbor Day and we will start annual lighting of the tree. Fall fest Bear will be moved to a more level location nearby.

-Mr. Osteryoung asked about putting a sign in the window to show when VC is open. Discussion of signs – will try to put signs of same style in all 3 windows (Calderone/VC/West Realty). *Liz Carr will check with other 2 occupants for OK.*

-Trying to get door between VC and West Realty to prevent disruption to either.

-Ms. McCall asked about the VC lease – 3 years with option of 3 more (same as with West Realty). Calderone has no lease, pays \$600/mo and pays electricity.

West pays \$400/mo for smaller space. Income of VC is \$1000/mo. The only maintenance is landscaping and electricity; water is on a well. Mayor Goodgame reviewed the unanimous council decision to purchase the VC: its potential for future use for community and for control of that use.

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Post Office Property - Mayor Goodgame asked Harrison Merrill for permission to lease to park on his property on the west end of the P.O. area which was denied. We now only use when we have an event. The VC, P.O. area and City Hall are the only parcels the City owns. Several parcels of land have been donated and several bought over the last few years

Pickleball & Other Activities – Through trimming other areas, Council has put aside \$50K in the budget to work on a community park area. The Timeshares Park area will be cleared of brush, lower limbs removed along Sky Valley Way, expose noisy creek.

-Committee developing resident survey for suggestions of what activities to include in the Community Park/Children's Park, what areas & land to prepare. Set a deadline for the survey and keep it short – no more than 10 items to check.

-Timeshares is building and financing 4 pickleball courts.

-City wants to expand pavilion, add bathrooms, add raised perimeter walking trail (hard or soft surface?) with distance signs.

-As park is not lit, daylight hours will have to be posted.

-Access to park is by step or wide grassy ramp.

-Charcoal grills on site now.

-Ms. Carr asked if we could solicit donations for labor and materials. That will be asked of residents on the survey. Also, Mayor Goodgame noted that there is an Atlanta company which organizes project such as this from solicitations to the labor pool.

-A chimney was suggested and Francisco may possibly provide help or refer help.

-Ms. Goodgame suggested other ideas for using the area, possibly under the pavilion would be such events as yard sales, plant swaps

-As this is Timeshares' property, it is their decision as to whether alcohol will be allowed.

Recreational Grants – Due to the conflict between City of Clayton and the Rabun Water Authority, funds are available but cities aren't qualified to apply. Therefore, SV council budgeted the \$50K for this project.

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Land Acquisition – Mayor discussed 12-acre parcel for acquisition located behind Time Shares off Knob Drive. Owned by LLC in Dahlonega but although appraised at \$200K, LLC wants \$1M.

-Covered Bridge area of 22 acres was discussed as valuable and pretty area to develop. Privately owned, not by Harrison Merrill.

-Entrance near 8th hole off Sky Valley Way – may be able to create parking area & trail access for golf carts, bicycles, foot traffic (no cars or trucks).

-Property lines between City and Time Shares will be reviewed.

Misc – Ms. McCall asked how to get in touch with other tennis players – was there a place to go to sign up, and also would like to know when future golf tournaments are scheduled so they can include in their plans when visiting.

- Jerry of Timeshares considering reopening tennis hut as snack bar.

Cathy Turner
Secretary