

Westgrove Pack Board Meeting 5/13/2020

In attendance: Jeff Pandin, Melissa Pandin, Anne Street, Megan Kesling and Emma McAlary

Meeting started at 7:00pm

Agenda

1. Drainage

We have been doing a lot of work with full cooperation of the Park Authority. They have given us a key to their lock so that the work can get done. All the work has been done under CDC guidelines. We are being really good and we are getting a lot done because the park is closed.

The county did a lot of work on the drainage in late Feb before we closed, but we didn't have a good sense of how it was going to work out. We had a lot of rain in March and April. However, right now 24 hours after it has stopped raining there is no standing water inside the fence. Yay!

We think this is a success. There IS one spot when you go into the gate at the north end—on the right side on both sides of the fence that is a little soft. That is probably the lowest spot of the park. We can take a look at it again once there is traffic in the park or not and we can see if that is a problem or it is something we can live with.

They did not do as extensive a project as they had spect out, but what they did do look pretty good now. Next winter will be the real test.

The grass seed that they threw down has taken root too. By virtue of the fact that it has been undisturbed the grass has a good hold. There are still a few spots that are still a little thin. By June 10th they will probably be filled in.

2. Plumbing

Before we closed they dug the section of trench from the fence to where the fixture would be. We wanted to get that done first so we could seed on top of it. On Saturday they dug the rest of the trench that connects to the water line. This week they will finish installing the two shut off valves—one that shuts off the entire park and one that is upstream from the existing water fixture that will just shut off the new fixture and anything we put upstream in the future (ie irrigation). They are also going to pour the concrete pad that the actual unit is going to sit on. The unit was already deliver in late March. Our target is to have that project completely done by the end of May and it looks like we are on tract.

3. Trees

Two trees died this year. The river birch outside of the fence closest to the drive in entrance didn't come back and we aren't exactly sure why. It might not have had enough water in that spot. We aren't sure. We are going to have to replace it. That one is less of a big deal because it is outside of the fence. Inside the fence, the tree surrounded by the bench that is closest to the north end is 99% dead. There is a little tiny bit of green sort of coming back where the trunk starts to branch out. Everything above that spot is dead. We are pretty sure that the tree was killed by dog pee that occurred before we protected it with the wrap around bench. We got some expert advice from Hollywood and Vines and they seem to agree. We are hopeful that

the benches will continue to protect the other tree and any future tree that goes in the same spot. Do we want to replace or give it a severe haircut and hope it comes back?

Liz wonders if an arborist can come take a look at it. Jeff says he can try to set that up, but he is concerned that it might never be the tree we wanted it to be. It might be better to replace it. Liz agrees that it could be a lot of money to dump into a tree that isn't salvageable. Jeff says its not so a money expense as it is a time expense. We can go over a clip the dead parts and wait.

Liz wonders if it might be a well issue or soil issue. Jeff says he cut off a piece of it last fall went it started to become sick and brought it to Hollywood and Vines nursery. They were thinking it was in the nature of poison and when Jeff said that it is in a dog park and a lot of dogs pee on it —they said “ding, ding, ding!”

Last year when we put the tree in the dogs were pretty much being on the base of the tree. With the introduction of the round benches encircling the tree the dogs now have to pee at least two feet away. Again, hopefully the benches help protect any trees that are in those two spots.

We decide what to do. Do we wait for the next planting season? Or do it now. If now, then we can get it done while the park is still closed. If later, we will have to close the south end for a period of time.

Fall is a good tree planting time so we can leave it during the summer and see what happens to it.

We talk about the money. It won't make a huge dent in our coffers—about \$250.

We take a vote on what do to about the tree and we unanimously voted to let the tree stand until the Fall.

3. Turf

We've had two mowings so far. We've got sort of what we were hoping to have—cool weather grass mixed with chick weed. It will be interesting to see if the cool weather grass survives the summer and it is still there in September. Fingers crossed.

4. Spring Meeting and Opening

We didn't have a spring general meeting because of COVID regulations. Melissa suggest that we also don't open the park south end until June 10th (the full ban lift) even if the county says we can go ahead and open it early. The board agrees.

We go into executive session at 7:18pm.

After we come out of executive session at 7:21 we talk about if we will have another board meeting before June 10th. Melissa says yes. There won't be a lot to talk about, but we can start to plan the opening at the next meeting. We can go over the county guidelines and whether we can have a Hot Dog Friday Night. We can also discuss the push for board members/project managers. We will wait for a hard date and then we can schedule a meeting.

Meeting ended at 7:25pm