

HERITAGE CORRIDOR & OUTDOOR RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2018

Lemont Village Hall - 418 Main St. - Lemont, IL 60439

I. Call to Order

Chairman Dan Ganzer called the Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

II. Roll Call

The Chairman, Ryan Shaughnessy, Gregg Vavra, Dennis Voltarel. Jon Timbers, Mark Pawlak, Mayor John Egofske, Trustee Dave Maher, Administrator George Schafer, Jim Helbling

III. Jeanette Virgilio and Bart

IV. approve minutes from July - Motion to approve - Mark Pawlak, seconded by Gregg Vavra, approved

Chairman comments

Anthony accepted into doctoral program and will be there every Wed for next 4 years. The open position would be posted and the commission will solicit for potential new members. Potential "friends of the committee" for weekend work, or any help in the future.

Canal clean up videos and pictures will be posted

V. Discussion Items

A. The Forge – At Lemont Quarries Presentation

Representatives from the Forge at Lemont Quarries were in attendance to discuss the proposed outdoor recreation park to be built in and around the Heritage Quarry Recreational Area (HQRA).

B. Adventure course, flipped parking so it is closer to activities, 400 spots, climbing building, event and check-in center.

C. 10 acres between quarries, ropes courses, kayaking, single track

D. Preliminary plans by end of the year to review before taken to PUD process.

E. IMBA involvement recently bumped mountain bike trails into phase 1, which includes north of canal. IMBA will do trail layout and design with side spurs with skill elements.

F. Gregg - Ropes bridges, bird sanctuary on island. Dennis and Gregg expressed concerns with having a bridge on the bird sanctuary

G. Quarry that boat ramp goes into (Great Lakes) - no yellow path on north side, but should be. Should have foot path rather than bike path.

H. South side of quarry, paths, parking, and extreme bike path is proposed. The peninsula is ideal for public access and picnic area. The bike trails may not be ideal in that area.

I. The Forge would like to have running events in the future, to clarify, it will be multi-use and not predominantly mountain biking.

J. North of the canal is targeted for distance rides

K. Running paths need to be defined

L. Additional parking may be needed.

- M. Funding for trail development is being targeted for sponsorship from major corporations. If this does not occur, the Forge will fund, which will affect priority and timeline for them to be completed. Additional funding would allow the timeline to be decreased.
- N. Purple area - IMTT lease is up in 2023, used for open space. We should review that lease and to ensure renewal and review with putting in trails. No specific type of trail has been determined. The village has 90 ft around the canal, which is part of the lease swap.
- O. Revenue would come from, Ziplines, rent mountain bikes, climbing, challenge courses
- P. Boat rentals in consumers quarry? Not at this time, as this is privately held by Ozinga.
- Q. Met with IDOT, widening along Main St to reduce flooding needs to be coordinated. Application for rail crossing has been applied for.
- R. Dan Lipinski is providing a letter of support and the Forge is looking into hiring a railroad consultant to help with the process.
- S. North of the Canal planning - Citgo will come again in April - the commission should start thinking about how to have the parties work together beyond towers and bike paths.

VI. Aerators for Canal

- A. Jim - Met with Clark Company - they stated canal was not deep enough (currently 2 feet).

1. More clarity on how deep and defined space (culvert, manhole?)

Another company is being sought for options - Jim will bring this back next month

Dennis sent picture of floating structure in pond - reverse cone 18-20 inches high

Prioritized list - Jon will review list, Dan is reviewing signs. The signs are smooth, so signage over them should be possible for Jim to label them.

Ryan - post interactive map on website to provide those with no concept of the area to click on the map to see a quick video of the area. Google maps was discussed. The Forge will be doing a website and marketing, which could include this. This will be a 3-6 month process starting after the Walker Road access is resolved.

Mark - access to the overlook - review Com Ed grant and bring discussions back next month. This area may be a good area for the conservation group in April to clear. The grant application was January last year.

VII. **Unfinished Business**

Fish study was done Monday, Oct 22nd around 11:00. George will forward on results. Next step is to get recommendations on signage for DNR Restrictions.

VIII. **New Business** – No new business

IX. **Audience Participation** - None

X. **Adjournment** - Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

- A. Motion by Dennis Voltarel, seconded by Jon Timbers

Next meeting

- B. Vision for Canal - what is the ideal end state “Gold plated” to work from to determine what is possible.