

JOHNSON SKATEPARK & BIKE TRACK COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES – NO QUORUM
JENNA'S COFFEE HOUSE, 38 MAIN ST., JOHNSON
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2023

Present:

Committee Members: Greg Fatigate, Casey Romero, Howard Romero

Others: Dean Locke, Ashton Schriber, Alexis Daniels, Jeannie Osgood, Sheldon Osgood, Sheila White

Absent: Rick Aupperlee, George Swanson, James Whitehill

There was not a quorum present so a formal meeting could not be held, but Casey and Dean gave some updates to those present starting at about 5:40.

Casey said some families of elementary school kids are doing a lemonade stand for flood relief at Tuesday Night Live and they decided they wanted all the proceeds to support the skatepark. Their first night they got \$376. Tom Moog donated the lemons. They will continue to do this at TNL. The kids involved are Reason and Lyla Goodell (whose mother is McKinley Fagan-Barry), Jay and Aliana Carton (whose mother is Carri Ferrari) and Gabbie, Charlie, and Simone Waweru (whose mother is Tasha Waweru.)

Casey said Rick Aupperlee was flooded out of his house and has to move, so he is on hiatus from committee work.

Dean said the water system was not compromised anywhere in the town or village so he doesn't think we need to have any concern about water at the park. Because of the amount of flood water compared to any potential contaminants there shouldn't be any reason why soil from the park couldn't be used somewhere else. Disposal of debris at the park will be handled by the town. The insurance assessor has not made it to the skatepark yet. Before we have debris moved Dean needs to find out whether the assessor needs to see it as it is now. Carl mentioned that with all the work that is going to be done, this might be a good time to expand water to an access site near the community garden. Dean will reach out to the person who runs the garden to see where he thinks water should go and he will find out where it is possible for it to go. Once the wooden structures are moved the park should be able to reopen.

Howard said he thinks we could jack up the mini ramp, slide blocks under it and continue to use it. It was not broken up in the flood. It is a heavily used feature. Dean said if we remove it we will get reimbursement for the cost of rebuilding it. FEMA money is normally intended to cover the cost of replacing a structure as it was, but because the skatepark is in the floodplain the hope is that we can put that money towards putting in concrete structures and pavement that will last. Greg said he thinks it keeping the mini ramp is too much of a liability risk. We can rebuild it with FEMA money. Casey agreed.

Alexis Daniels asked if the plan is to get rid of all wooden structures. Casey said we don't have a replacement plan yet, but the general thought is to do more concrete and no more big wood structures. Dean said we might have small wooden features like boxes. *(Sheila White arrived at 5:54.)*

Dean asked if there is any word from the fencing company. Casey said not yet. She will call them.

Jeannie Osgood asked if the committee is putting in more dirt. Casey explained that the dirt that was brought in and stockpiled will be used for a berm surrounding the new concrete structure. Jeannie said she and her husband are concerned that more dirt might be brought in, leaving no place for water to go. If the piles of dirt had not been there, maybe there would have been less flooding. Sheila White said the bowls

may have increased flooding as well. Sheldon Osgood suggested that if the committee needs more dirt it would be good to take it from the ditch.

Casey asked if we can separate the metal from the features being removed and sell or donate it. Dean said he wondered if it would be worth it to put in the man-hours to strip off the sheet metal to sell. He can talk to Jason about that.

Casey said she will finish the ramp inventory, then we can figure out next steps. Concrete blocks at the park that we want to reuse can be stacked somewhere.

Sheila White said a couple of the picnic tables from the park are on her property and so is the portalet. Dean said he will check with Jason about picking up items from that area. Casey said she can let the portalet company know we are trying to clear that area.

Casey said we will be getting an estimate of replacement cost.

The meeting ended at 6:15.

George was unable to attend, but emailed a Laraway update afterwards. He said all is well at Laraway. The summer program has ended. One of the skatepark's tables was found on the Laraway river bank. They will patch it up with students and get it back to the park.

Minutes submitted by Donna Griffiths