Shelby County Park District

Board Meeting

Meeting 2/28/2023

Cara Kellersmith\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jessie McCoy\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_\_\_ Noah Ganson\_\_\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_\_\_

Others in attendance: Dee Monnin, Brian Monnin, Carol Hemmert, Jim Bornhorst, Tracy Johnson

***Old Business***:

**Renner Sanctuary:** New bird houses were put up and trees were marked to show the path by Dee and Brian Monnin. They continued to mark the path that Scott and Lainey White started in the fall.

**Bornhorst Woods:** Park has been maintained.

**Renner Sanctuary:**

* Talked to commissioners about sending their engineer out to look at the pond that is washed out.
  + - * Engineer visited the pond and we will be scheduling a meeting to discuss options.

**New Business:**

**Bornhorst Woods:**

* Houston Environmental Club and Houston FFA are planning to do a spring clean up work on cleaning up the cemetery. They would like to know what we would like and what do we need? Do we want them to work only at Bornhorst, or do you want them to work other places?
  + - * We decided it would be nice to have the groups also help at Hardin Park preparing the beds and cleaning up. We will look to see if there is anything that needs repainting at Hardin Park as well.
      * We will have the volunteer groups help forge a new trail that will provide a dryer access to the cemetery at Bornhorst Woods. We will also have the groups help clean trails and clean up the base of the trees and mulch around the base. We will fix the area around the newest planted tree and position plaques so they are easier to see.
      * We want to make a bench to put out near the cemetery.
        + Supplies needed for project in spring: Mulch, bench, maybe paint
      * Jim Bornhorst shared the vision his father, Ralph Bornhorst, had for the entry driveway to Bornhorst Woods. Ralph planted oak trees all along the drive, on both sides, in hopes to someday have a completely enclosed tree tunnel made by an enclosed canopy of tall oaks. We discussed the need to plant a tree between each of the existing trees so that vision could be reached. Jim indicated that there was currently a 70’ gap between the trees.
      * Jim also discussed contacting a group to see if Bornhorst could be classified as an old growth forest. He said he had taken some measurements and was in the process of seeing if the woods qualify. He shared that there were 4 endangered species of trees in the woods.
      * Noah plans to run a Wildflower Nature Hike at Bornhorst Woods on Saturday April 29th at 10 a.m. We will post the date on both our website and our Facebook page. It is open to anyone who would like to explore some of the beautiful wildflowers our park has to offer.
      * Jim also has paint to repaint the sign at Bornhorst this summer.
      * Dee Monnin discussed inviting Rich Wallace (historic society) out to look at the cemetery
      * D2 Biological solution was suggested as a compound to help clean up the old headstones.

**Lockington Dam:**

**Fire Inspector:** Update on Fire Extinguisher: Jessie is going to take in the old fire extinguishers and purchase two new ones, one for each barn. He will also contact a company to have them inspected.

**Hardin Park:**

* Carol discussed the need to have Hardin Park rolled. The moles have made the land quite bumpy and it is difficult to mow because the ground is so uneven.
* We are going to call around to see if we can find someone with a roller

**Other Business**

* Carol discussed the need to look at the mower before the season starts and fix an issue she noticed last fall. We also need to change oil and sharpen blades.

Tracy Johnson came to talk about groups, like Concerted, that she has found work with non-profits to encourage people to volunteer. She also discussed several other programs like Free Little Library promoted by the Dewines.

**Executive Session**

**-**Farm lease –

Next Meeting: March 28th at Culvers in Sidney at 6:30 pm