

- Develop a pocket park on town property by Trestle 16 on Virginia Creeper Trail - picnic space and nature playground, clearing the underbrush will aid in the maintenance of Trestle 16.
- Funding not used for priorities one and two will be allocated toward the replacement schedule for landscaping trees in the downtown corridor and Town parks.

Up to \$20,900 in grant funding for this project / Not matching grants /Current draft budget of \$17,000 for the project.

Timeline - expect to be complete and ready for a grand opening by September.

- All of the basic components of a park - picnic tables, benches, trash cans, signage, plus several nature playground elements.

Grand opening celebration - Make-A-Wish will be part of the grand opening, will be similar to the park dedication of Laurel Creek Park with refreshments, probably some music, etc.

Josie's involvement – Ms. Kroll has been communicating with Make-A-Wish and just got confirmation to begin working directly with the family.

- Josie's wish was to do something where she could make five friends and do something awesome for kids in this Town.
- Family has been reviewing design plan along the way.
- From the start, Josie gave a wish list of her top five items she would like to see in the park.
- Family does live in Town, are residents.

Ms. Kroll expects to see a lot of community support for this project.

Has already had workdays with two groups from Holston High School, one as part of the Leave No Trace Spotlight in mid-April, and one during the week of Trail Days / last week of school. Public Works is working on removing the brush pile and keeping kudzu bush hogged every other week.

Chief Turner has offered to help with the removal of brush pile as well and will continue working on the park with his tractor to prepare for seeding grass.

Richard Smith reported:

- Starting to recruit volunteers, pushing for one work session per week
- Huge kudzu problems - can get Alex Cornett to come back in and take care of that
- Hope we don't run into issues or delays like the deed with the dog park
- Encouraged Town Council members to participate in the work sessions and help find more volunteers
- DVFD plans to help and he is also distributing flyers

Ms. Coleman asked if we can go public and put this on Facebook.

Ms. Kroll stated that she is working on putting together a press release and Richard Smith has already started a Facebook group, 'Josie's Nature Playground Development Team'.

Purchase approvals needed for the following:

1. Picnic tables

- Half of overall expense is for the nature playground and half is for LCP.
 - Made of Barco Board, similar to the Trex material used for the decking at the Damascus Trail Center, which is why it is more expensive.
 - Has a 50 year breakage warranty.
 - Won't stain, won't grow algae in the shade.
 - Long term investment.
 - \$925.97 each, \$6,252.88 total.
- Ms. Coleman made a motion to approve the quote for the picnic tables, 3 for Laurel Creek Park and 3 for the new Waterway Park, in the dollar amount of \$6,252.88. Mr. McCrady 2nd the motion, which passes (5-0).

2. Mountain View Land Management

- Approved clearing (first phase) back in April under small purchase for \$2,300.
 - Quote in review is for work that has not been done yet (second phase). Total would be close to \$5,000
- Ms. Coleman made a motion to approve paying up to an additional \$2,500 for the second phase of ground clearing, as quoted. Mr. McCrady 2nd the motion, which passed (5-0).

'Waterway Park' and 'pocket park' have been used as working titles for the development of this park, but it is officially located on part of the property given to the Town in 1986 to be designated as the 'Roy Wright Park', so that is the official name, and the nature playground will in that park.

- Mr. McCrady made a motion to officially name it the "Roy Wright Park with Josie's Nature Playground". Mr. Fields 2nd the motion, which passed (5-0).
- Mr. McCrady made a motion to go into Closed Session for Discussion and Consideration of Personnel Matters pertaining to the Public Works Department, per VA Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1); and, discussion regarding Legal Counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such Counsel, per VA Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (7). Ms. Coleman 2nd the motion, which passed (5-0).
- Mr. McCrady made a motion to return to Open Session, 2nd by Ms. Coleman. The motion passed (5-0).

- *CERTIFY (individually): We Certify that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such matters identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed meeting.*

Susan Coleman - Yea

Tom Hayes - Yea

Charles Fields - Yea

Jesse Kokotek - Yea

Jack McCrady - Yea

- Mr. McCrady made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to solicit proposals for Legal Services, 2nd by Mr. Kokotek. The motion passed (5-0).
- Mr. McCrady made a motion to advance Public Works employee, Eduardo Arias, from part-time to full-time, beginning July 1, 2023. Ms. Coleman 2nd the motion, which passed (5-0).
- Mr. McCrady made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Kokotek 2nd the motion, which passed (5-0).