

Greater Lansing Area Development March 24, 2022 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President, Dick Greenwood. The GLAD members present were: Dick Greenwood, Anita Greenwood, James Littlejohn, René Shuford, Mack Powers, Larry Blevins, Brenda Reeves, Mauvine Shepherd, Lynn MacDougall Fleming, Brittany Duncan, Jim and Cookie Parsons, Drew Plettner, and Sandy Roten.

The minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by James Littlejohn to accept the February minutes and seconded by Anita Greenwood. Motion carried.

Finance Report

A financial report was given by James Littlejohn. The main account balance is \$12,281.40. After holding these items until spent, the balance in the account would be \$4,368.69. Holding amounts are: Beautification \$2,162; project manager \$4,368.69; mural \$1,250.

Music in the Park donation received from Skyline Skybest is \$1,200, a promise from United Chemi-Con of \$500 is expected. These funds will go along way to funding the music.

PARTF Grant

Mr. Drew Plettner, Region Planner with the High Country Council of Government, gave a presentation of the proposed park additions. This was in preparation of the PartF grant application Lansing is pursuing. This grant program is very competitive and is awarded on a point system. Mr. Plettner presented the map of the park showing the location of the proposed playground, the new restrooms, and the picnic shelter. The preliminary cost of this addition totals \$390,000. More quotes are expected to be received. All documentation must be ready for submission by May 2, 2022. The maximum amount of the grant application is \$500,000.

A move was made by James Littlejohn and seconded by Anita Greenwood that GLAD does approve and support the PartF grant application and is highly appreciative for the opportunity. GLAD does hereby endorse this grant application. Motion carried.

Events Committee Report

The events committee met on March 22nd for a short meeting. Music in the Park slots are filled except for August. We are looking for some band to perform in August. The bands schedule are as follows: May 21st – Rock Bottom; June – Nobody’s Business; July – Those Three Guys; August – Bryan Osborne & the Ashe Mountain Boys; September – Whitetop Mountain Band. Opening acts will start at 6:30 featuring young artists with the main band coming on at 7:00.

Creeper Trail Park Vendor Fest is our next big event. Email and mailed application are being sent out for this event. Also, sent were handouts telling about the festival, the rules, and what they

cannot bring, such as food items, yard sale items, or flea market items. Vendor spaces are 12 x 12 for \$35 or a 12 x 24 for \$70. We need something to draw the crowd and then stay. We want live music all day. How would we pay for the music? We will ask businesses in the county to help sponsor the music. Sponsors will get a sign with their name on it posted in the park and at the stage area.

Menu consists of hot dogs, barbeque sandwich, pizza, chips, candy, ice cream, coffee, drinks, and water. We will also have festival t-shirts for sale. Amy Anne's will make our shirts for a good price and we can sell for at least \$15 or \$20 and make a profit. We will start out with 50 shirts.

We are asking everyone that can to make themselves to work that day. A work schedule/sign up sheet will be available at the next meeting.

Beautification Committee Report

An update concerning different items was given by René Shuford.

We are looking at some hometown grants. Grants for water and sewer, burying the power lines.

The newsletter was supposed to go out in February. The newsletter will go out this week-end, around the 26th of March.

The Blue Ridge Elementary School project is still a go. The date is May 13 starting at 8:30 until 11:00. There will be 90 school kids attending. We will have different stations discussing different projects.

The plant sale is scheduled for May 6 from 2-6 and May 7 from 8-12 or until everything is sold. The location is in Warrensville across from the Fire Department. There will be probably between 150-200 plants. Most of these are perennials. Glen Sullivan will furnish us with some trees and shrubbery. Sandy's son, Daniel Roten, may donate some items for sale.

Dancing in Lansing will be March 26th at 6:30 at Maggie's Coterie.

The box car located at the fire department is still on the beautification list to update. Rianna Barker is designing a barn sign that will be put on the box car. She will help out as the committee paints the sign.

The update of the digital sign template was discussed. Dennis Lawson will help redo the sign.

Ola Belle Reed mural is slated to be done by April 30. Jonie Ray has already ordered the paint.

This Week in Lansing – Dick Greenwood wanted Brittany to head this up. He wants a hard copy printed and digitally to be on the website showing all events that are scheduled for that week in Lansing.

Town Report

An update was given by Mack Powers and Anita Greenwood.

The playground was discussed and we are awaiting a formal quote on more natural looking equipment.

Mack Powers said the town is looking into another water tower and location, fire hydrants for the town, working on a PartF grant application, paving the parking lot near the barn is scheduled for mid-April. We have also been promised a police car from the sheriff's department and county commissioners. The sheriff said he would pick out the best SUV for us to use in Lansing. Maybe in the future we can hire a part time patrolling officer.

The sidewalk project and patio are on hold until a decision can be made about the removal of the buried gas tanks.

New Business

Wendy Sizemore Kemp, President of the Blue Ridge Elementary School PTO, came and talked about the PTO showing movies in the park. She said they had donated equipment consisting of a projector, sound system, screen, and everything they needed to begin showing movies. They are working on getting the money needed to pay for the rights to show the movies. She asked if GLAD would be interested in helping make these events happen this summer. They are planning on having the movies once a month during May, June, and July. This would be a fundraiser for the PTO selling popcorn and snacks.

A reminder was given about the April 2nd "Keep Ashe Beautiful" litter sweep.

A move to adjourn was made by Anita Greenwood, seconded by James Littlejohn. Motion carried.