



DEXTER FRIENDS OF THE PARK COMMITTEE

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The next regularly scheduled meeting of the DEXTER FRIENDS OF THE PARK COMMITTEE will be held at 5:30pm, Wednesday, March 5, 2025, in the conference room at the Dexter Parks and Recreation office, located at 500 Fairground Drive in Dexter.

Agenda

1. **Call to Order** *Vicki Windham, President*
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting**
4. **Public Comments** (At this time someone who has pre-registered with a committee officer or through the park department prior to the beginning of the committee meeting to present a position on a specific agenda item, or is pre-registered with a committee officer or through the park department in writing at least 5 business days prior to the beginning of the committee meeting to present a general comment about a non-agenda item will be given time for presentation to the committee. Each speaker is limited to 5 minutes. A maximum of 15 minutes is allowed for this public comment section. Please, just one spokesperson per group; individuals may speak only once per meeting; time regulated by committee president. Note: Individuals wishing to convey a complaint about procedures, regulations/policy, or personnel will not be scheduled to address the committee until all avenues with the park office have been exhausted; complaints directed at specific personnel will not be heard in open session.)
5. **Old Business**
 - a. 501(c)3 updates *Melinda Sweeney, Non-Profit Coordinator*
 - b. Story Walk update *Vicki Windham, President*
 - c. Equipment purchase *Jamie Rowe, Park Liaison*
6. **New Business**

There is no new business scheduled at this time. This is subject to change prior to the meeting.
7. **Discussion Items**
 - a. Ongoing fundraisers
 - i. The Amazing Dexter fundraiser *Vicki Windham, President*
 - ii. Art fundraiser *Jamie Rowe, Park Liaison*
 - b. Dexter parks update *Jerrica Cecil, Vice President*
 - c. Social media update *Jamie Rowe, Park Liaison*
 - d. Financial update *Jansen Williams, Communications Director*
 - e. New fundraiser ideas *Jennifer Brown, Treasurer*
 - f. Other business
8. **Adjourn**

****Agenda is TENTATIVE as of 2/5/2025 and subject to change prior to the meeting.***

FRIENDS OF THE PARK COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Committee Members Present: Jerrica Cecil, Adam Clark, Jamie Rowe, Melinda Sweeney, Vicki Windham

Guests Present: None

1, 2. Call to Order/Roll Call: The board president announces that the meeting is to begin and determines the presence or absence of committee members. President Vicki Windham called the meeting to order on **Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 5:30pm.**

3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting: Vicki reviewed the minutes from the January meeting. The committee approved the minutes as presented.

4. Public Comments: There were no public comments made.

5. Old Business:

a. 501(c)3 Updates

- i. Non-profit coordinator Melinda Sweeney is finalizing the application for our Missouri tax exemption. The final component will be an update to the committee's bylaws, which will be presented and voted upon in new business.

b. Story Walk update

- i. Park Liaison Jamie Rowe has consulted with Keller Library Director Jordan Myers on the story walk project. He has located the company that provides the books for projects like this. Jordan and Jamie reviewed some titles, with Jordan suggesting that we change the books out based on different holidays and events.
- ii. The cost for the pedestals is \$302 each.

c. Equipment Purchase

- i. Park Liaison Jamie Rowe reported that the tetherball poles and teeter-totter have been ordered; the teeter-totter has already arrived. The tetherball poles have not been shipped yet.

6. New Business

a. Bylaw revisions

i. Addition of Dissolution Clause

1. Non-profit coordinator Melinda Sweeney presented a suggested bylaw revision adding a dissolution clause to our bylaws. This is a required addition for our application for a Missouri tax exemption letter. The proposed language reads:

- a. **ARTICLE VIII: DISSOLUTION CLAUSE:** Upon dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner,

or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, as the Board of Directors shall determine.) Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

2. Park Liaison Jamie Rowe suggested amending the proposed language to specify the Stoddard County circuit court. The revised language was approved. A copy of the revised bylaws will be attached to these minutes.
- ii. Modification of Purpose (Mission Statement)
1. Secretary Adam Clark proposed an addition to the purpose of the committee as stated in Article I of the bylaws. With the committee moving toward projects that do not directly involve equipment purchases, he felt that the purpose and mission statement should be modified to reflect a broader direction for Friends of the Park. The proposed addition would come at the end of the purpose statement and would add this sentence:
 - a. ...and to support ongoing community projects and initiatives related to the management, care, and development of parks and recreational space in and around the city of Dexter, Missouri.
 2. The revised language was approved as presented. A copy of the revised bylaws will be attached to these minutes.

7. Discussion Items

a. Ongoing fundraising plans

- i. The Amazing Dexter fundraiser
 1. The Amazing Dexter has been moved to Saturday, March 8. Advertisement began this week and it is already generating positive comments in the community. The businesses participating in the event are excited and looking forward to it. Committee members were asked to volunteer to help and several indicated that they would be available to participate.
- ii. Trivia Night fundraiser
 1. Secretary Adam Clark reported that trivia night was a big success, with eleven teams participating despite the winter weather that hit Dexter the day before. We collected \$1,039 between trivia night registrations and dollar game participation. After expenses, total profit from trivia night was \$912.88.
- iii. Art Fundraiser
 1. Vice President Jerrica Cecil reported that 139 students are participating in the art fundraiser. She has the supplies and is waiting

on new labels to be shipped from the company to identify each student's artwork.

b. Dexter Parks Update

- i. Park Liaison Jamie Rowe updated the committee on projects occurring at the city parks:

1. Construction of the new walking trail is underway. Concrete has already been laid in front of Central Elementary. Secretary Adam Clark reported that despite delays due to weather, the construction crew has kicked into high gear in the last two weeks and the project is progressing steadily.

c. Social Media Update

- i. Secretary Adam Clark reported that our Facebook post honoring John Stephens has generated a lot of shares and positive comments. We are also publicizing the Amazing Dexter fundraiser.

d. Financial Update

- i. Treasurer Jennifer Brown submitted her report through email. Our current balance is \$10,261.64.
- ii. Deposits were made in January for \$108.00 from Corner Cottage donations, \$95.00 from our t-shirt fundraiser, and \$1,039.00 from trivia night.
- iii. Checks went out for trivia night supplies.

e. New Fundraiser Ideas

- i. No new fundraiser ideas were presented at tonight's meeting.

f. Other Business

- i. President Vicki Windham would like committee members to think of ideas for a way to recognize volunteers who have donated time and effort to supporting the committee's efforts. Discussion ensued; an idea was suggested for a "Volunteer of the Month" award (or something similar).
- ii. Secretary Adam Clark asked the committee to approve purchase of a memorial bench dedicated to John Stephens, who passed away last weekend. John was a devoted supporter of Friends of the Park who wrote, directed, and acted in all three of our dinner theater fundraisers.
- iii. Park Liaison Jamie Rowe recommended placing the bench at Bell Park, across the street from Carillo's Martial Arts, where John taught martial arts for many years.
 1. Committee members enthusiastically agreed with purchasing the bench and discussed the text that should appear. After discussing "John quotes," it was decided that the bench should read "In Memory of John Stephens. Don't call him Shirley." This is based on a movie quote that John used constantly in conversation.
 2. The cost of the bench with two rows of text is \$1,300. A vote was taken and the committee unanimously approved purchase of the memorial bench.

Our next scheduled meeting will be **Wednesday, March 5 at 5:30pm**. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10:pm.

Respectfully submitted,

