

Sept 2023 Eastwood TNT Meeting began at 7:07pm.
Officials: Peggy Chase, Lieutenant Abbot
Parks: Josh Wilcox and new commissioner Tony Williams

Josh Wilcox spoke first about Splash Pad Project:

- Eastwood received 460k towards parks
- Cummings field splash pad coming
- 300k went to splash pad
- backlog with contractor
- should start construction spring 2024, finish and open summer 2024
- age group: toddler to 12
- they are using fieldhouse for baseball team; basement is rough and needs a lot of work to fix plumbing in this area.

Suggestion for tables and benches for splash pad area

- Josh says sure, we would take support through funds from anyone and any organization
- There is a multi-year plan for things like swings, a bathroom maybe

Basketball court at Huntington is near completion

- first hexagon court in city and possibly state/region
- will be done in 3-4 weeks max

Skate Park

- no timeline for increased work, looking at more grants and studying plans

Could we ever get a pavilion with electricity at Eastwood Heights?

- how? Outside grants, Support from ENA/TNT, all work together - Work with Parks on location and format layout with ENA Community Garden. Style it after the Community Garden, possibly a little more rustic design. Evaluate a possible location in the park and then establish a budget and timeline. Parks would also work with Parks Conservancy on this type of addition to Eastwood Heights Park.

Dog park has opened in Lincoln Park

Commissioner Tony Williams speaks

- Notes that the city has more standardized policies for benches and products they purchase now
- Is excited to begin working with us all
- Wants questions for Parks on separate email and sent to his attention.

Questions:

Can a formal list of standardized benches, tables and other park equipment (Ex. Pickle Ball Court, 20' by 20' Pavilion, ect.) with prices be made available to TNT so if someone or a group wants to sponsor a piece of equipment or building, they could go to a list for reference?

What programs are going to be implemented for Winter in Eastwood using any Eastwood Parks Venue?

How long will it take to get the ENA Skate Park addition up and running. Is it possible to establish a timeline that could reviewed by ENA & discussed at TNT.

Can the Syracuse Parks Dept. works with City Schools to establish special programs in Eastwood for kids ages 7-high school? Possible to work with New Principal at Huntington; Dan Killenbec.

Is there going to be a ribbon cutting and soft opening in Spring 2024 for Eastwood Splash Pad; Growing Good Works and TNT should be included in plans since this was introduced and fostered with Parks.

ENA and TNT have had recent discussions with reps from Parks Dept. for needed work on all trails in Sunnycrest Park and all Stone Stairs, starting with Clifton Place. Small maintenance issues have already started with mulch being dropped off at Mariani Garden but what more can be done. Is a budget and exploratory review underway? What more is required from ENA or TNT? Do we need to form a Focus group for Sunnycrest Park?

ENA Becky Jackson who manages the Community Garden at Eastwood Heights has had numerous talks with Park personnel and provided a vision for next steps at Garden. Can a timeline be created with budget and basic understanding with what is next for Community Garden so if there is fundraising that needs to be done, can understand what will be needed to get this next phase accomplished?

Possibly Eastwood Parks needs a published 5-year plan that covers all aspects of Eastwood Green Space. TNT, ENA and Growing Good Works could participate...

Lieutenant Abbot speaks

- Stats show decrease almost everywhere from 2022 to 2023 but not in motor vehicle theft which is up from 29 currently in 2022, to 74 currently.
- Warns of increase in theft as holidays near. An annual increase always happens at this time, be prepared, send packages to work or get lock boxes.
- city putting out proactive OT detail
- new city schedule has more police working at the same time to lessen wait times and tackle consistent problems
- If there is a known speeding or area where stop signs are being blown, let him know and he will unleash ticket writing cops to that area
- As we know, police will not chase motorcycles, but will follow by air. Police having much success cracking down on dirt bikes. Will grab them and take them in with large fines (not worth paying to get the bike back) This law is thanks to the common council.
- mailboxes were broken into. Abbot said this is being investigated by other agencies and spd and that he does not have any further information, but it's being tackled aggressively.
- Is skatepark becoming an issue? Abbot said he has not heard of any problems. Neighbor says they have been loud this year and rowdy.

-Will there be an Eastwood crime meeting? Jimmy Monto working on putting this together.

Some upcoming events:

-Sheridan Park clean-up

-vote for Eastwood businesses in the syrdotcom contest

Other

-Anna (volunteer) worked with Bill Rapp to get Eastwood sign taken care of on Burnet (LISA)

-28 affordable units being built in former American Legion on James (LISA)

-\$100k was given by county to peace building on Sunnycrest (PEGGY)

-500 block of Caleb needs better lightening – possible high crime prevention (AMY)