

Recreation Board Meeting:

- The Recreation Board met on Wed., Feb. 7th at 530p at City Hall.
 - Items discussed included:
 - Into The Woods Festival – 2023 recap and request for approval for a Sept. 29, 2024 date at Jeffrey Park.
 - The board will consider the request at the March meeting.
 - Pickleball lights discussion – Area neighbors asked the board to consider the addition of lights on the pickleball courts to provide for more access.
 - Commonwealth Park Public Workshop Presentation – Mayor Kessler provided the Recreation Board with a streamlined Commonwealth Park Public Workshop Presentation.
 - There was a lot of discussion about next steps in an effort to consider the unification of Commonwealth Park. Ultimately, the administration asked the Recreation Board to support the unification approach, which the board supported unanimously.

Bexley Community Ice Rink:

- Well it was a short season, but still a lot of fun.
- Mother Nature only allowed for an 8 day season from Jan. 14th-21st.
- During this short season, we had 563 skaters enjoy the ice rink.
- We received a lot of positive feedback on the new location behind Jeffrey Mansion. It did make for some spectacular pictures.
- Thank you to all of the staff for their hard work and for the continued support of the Bexley Community Foundation.



Photo Taken by: Barb Jenks Triffon

Skate Park Public Workshop:

- We held a public workshop on Wed., Jan. 18th to review the current draft skate park design.
- We had a very strong turnout with roughly 40 or so in attendance. Our design team at Hunger Skateparks presented two draft designs.
- Feedback was overwhelmingly positive on both designs. Attendees had an opportunity to post notes on both plans about what they liked, disliked and any suggested changes or enhancements.
- The committee has met with Hunger to incorporate the feedback from the workshop into the final design. We are hopeful to have the committee vote on a final design in the coming weeks.
- After committee approves a final design, we will present said design to the various boards and commissions for support.



Commonwealth Park Public Workshop:

- We held a public workshop on Wed., Jan. 24th to consider the unification of Commonwealth Park East and West.
- Council chambers were fairly full with roughly 50 or so residents in attendance.
- The workshop started with a presentation on the history of the park including the 2018 Master Plan and work that had recently been completed like the athletic fields and pond.
- The presentation also included design effort done on a streetscape plaza improvement. There was discussion on the drawbacks of the plaza approach which included safety concerns and cost concerns.
- We also reviewed some very high level conceptual drawings of what a unified park might look like.
- Overall the workshop went very well and provided a great opportunity to continue to discuss with residents potential improvements to Commonwealth.
- The administration, along with support from the Recreation Board, is asking City Council to consider a resolution supporting the park unification.

Jeffrey Park Preservation and Enhancement Public Workshop:

- We held a public workshop to review the draft Jeffrey Park Preservation and Enhancement plan that has been developed by the Preservation and Enhancement Committee with support from planning firm OHM.
- While the workshop numbers were a bit lighter than we would hope, the feedback on the draft plan was very positive, nearly across the board.
- OHM and the committee will consider the public feedback and discuss any potential changes to the draft before voting to recommend the plan to the Recreation Board.
- Once the plan comes out of committee, the Recreation Board will consider adoption for the plan for Jeffrey Park. We would then like to present the plan to City Council for a resolution of adoption in the coming months.



Jeffrey Woods Festival – Saturday, March 2nd:

- The Annual Jeffrey Woods Festival will be held on Sat., March 2nd starting at 8a at Jeffrey Park by the pool parking lot.
- The event will include ample syrup production, the wood chop shop, a sawmill demonstration, and a handful of outdoor themed activities.
- Please feel free to come and go as this will be a nearly all day event.