



Public Buildings & Parks Committee Agenda **November 30, 2022 at 4:00 PM**

Public Buildings & Parks **Committee**

Keely Paul, Chair
Ben Hunt
Dara Wood

Staff Liason

Scot Lahrmer, Village Manager
Wes Brown, Zoning and Project
Administrator
Chris Fritsch, Zoning and Project
Administrator
Tim Schmidtgoessling, Sergeant

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes: November 7, 2022

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

1. Review leash regulations at Amberley Green
2. Revising tennis court regulations
3. Background information on ballfield scheduling

ADJOURNMENT

Amberley Village Council

Public Buildings & Parks Committee -- Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2022 at 5:15PM



Attendance

Committee

Keely Paul, Chair
Ben Hunt
Dara Wood

Staff Liaisons

Scot Lahrmer, Village Manager
Wes Brown, Zoning and Project
Administrator
Chris Fritsch, Zoning and Project
Administrator

Guests

Cincinnati Nature Center
✍ Cory Christopher
AV Council
✍ Tom Muething, Mayor
AV WeTHRIVE! Health & Wellness
Committee
✍ Cherie Logan
AV Environmental Stewardship
Committee
✍ Barbara Henshaw
Resident
✍ Jeff Zipkin
✍ Shelly Gerson
✍ Roger Toennis

Prior Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting on August 31, 2022 were unanimously accepted without corrections.

Handouts

Agenda and past Meeting Minutes
Pickleball Review from WeTHRIVE! Health & Wellness Committee
Amberley Prairie Presentation from Cincinnati Nature Center

Amberley Prairie Proposal

This is the second presentation from CNC. In May, the prairie idea was brought to committee for the first time. Mayor Tom Muething followed up with Cory Christopher, Cincinnati Nature Center, and they walked the site that was proposed. Today's presentation was detailed towards the proposed site.

The benefits of prairies towards the native fauna and to residents “sense of place” were discussed. There is a more detailed breakdown in the May 17, 2022 minutes. We agreed that there are strong benefits from a prairie, both to wildlife and people.

Cory Christopher presented a detailed breakdown of the project costs, the timeline, the plants used, and a schematic of the proposed site.

Prairie Plan

The site is the Fairway of the old Third Hole, west of the community garden and pond. Please see the presentation for a detailed schematic. There will be a path along the north side with four (4) seating areas. Two of the areas will have signage.

The path is created by mowing it, and traffic will pack down the surface over time. We might ask local running groups to run the area to help speed up the process. Reading and Mount Notre Dame track have both used the Green in the past.

Keyhole mowing can be used to create space for gatherings, e.g. weddings.

CNC volunteer group, Green Spades, can be engaged to help with the maintenance, also the local community is welcome to work with Green Spades.

As discussed in May, the prairie needs to be mown when it gets to 18” in Years 1 and 2. After that it only requires one annual mowing.

Q&A

Deer

Deer do graze the area, but it isn’t noticeable. Deer prefer turfed areas.

Pollinators

Prairie is excellent for pollinators. Also, adult monarch butterflies eat most things and the prairie is a good food source for them.

Seedbank

CNC does have a seedbank, but it is smaller and mostly for use at CNC. The seeds for this proposed project would come from the Ohio Prairie Nursery, <https://www.opnseed.com/>

Optimal Prairie Size

Needs to be greater than 2 acres, but greater than 5 acres is best. The proposed area is 6.25 acres.

Prairie Spread

The prairie will spread around 6 feet a year if not tended. Mowing around the outer edge will prevent spread.

Timeline

CNC can start the project on a short timeline, “2 weeks notice”.

Next Steps

Funding

Search for funding grants like WeTHRIVE!, Clean Ohio and Duke Energy grants

Benches

Need benches for the proposed seating areas and it would be nice to improve the existing seating area next to the Community Garden. Contact the Boy Scouts. Eagle Scouts often do projects like this and could be a win-win for both of us.

Pickup Pickleball Review

Cherie Logan and Ben Hunt presented a review of the 2022 season. Please see the handout for full details.

The WeTHRIVE Committee asked for permission to run Pickup Pickleball on Tuesday night during the 2022 summer. This conflicted with some of the tennis court rules, so this committee gave them permission for this season.

They played 9 of the 13 Tuesdays, 4 were called due to weather. Past August, some players were still going unofficially. Cherie arranged for a pro bono instructor to come on the first night. That instructor decided not to return. Cherie arranged for a different pro bono instructor to come, and that person greatly enjoyed it and came for the rest of the summer.

29 people came at least once, they had at least one new player every week, and averaged 10-12 players each night. Pickleball plays 4 to a court. They did play on the unlined tennis courts on occasion. Only one tennis group came to play during pickup, they played on the regular courts without drama. One night there was a group playing pickleball, they moved down to the tennis courts, again without any drama.

This committee agreed that the season was a success.

Suggested Improvements

More lined courts

The most recent lining was done when the courts were resurfaced.

Pickleball nets

Probably not an option. The nets can be adjusted, but there have been abuses in the past, so the cranks are kept locked up. Maintenance would have to come before and after each session to adjust the nets.

Two of the tennis courts in the Municipal Park are lined for Pickleball. They are not regulation and the nets are fixed at tennis height, 42", versus pickleball height, 36".

Indoor Play and Court Lights

Our community doesn't have an indoor facility, and court lights would need funding. WeTHRIVE! should reach out to places with indoor courts and could also seek funding for court lights.

Old Business

PlayCore Addition for Municipal Park

Installed

Salt Barn repair

Completed

Sign for North Site entrance

Foundation is in

AC for Municipal Building

Waiting for unit

Follow Ups

Prairie Funding

Search for funding grants like WeTHRIVE!, Clean Ohio and Duke Energy grants

Prairie Benches

Contact the Boy Scouts

Pickleball, more lined courts

Research the cost and process

Tennis Court Regulations and Signage

Update both

Adjourned

6:31PM

Prepared by: Keely Paul, Committee Chair

DRAFT

PASSED: July 12, 2021

BY: Conway

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-8

**ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING LEASH REGULATIONS
FOR AMBERLEY GREEN**

WHEREAS, Amberley Green has become an important and valued asset to members of the community because it provides green space with the opportunity for walking, exercising, and other activities;

WHEREAS, in recent years the popularity of walking dogs at Amberley Green has increased, as has the number of complaints received by the Village regarding unruly or aggressive dogs on the Amberley Green property;

WHEREAS, this is due in part to the Village's current regulations, which require that dogs on the Amberley Green property be "under control." The Village has encountered difficulty with enforcing compliance because the term "under control" does not provide enough specifics for police to enforce;

WHEREAS, in May 2019, the Village began communication efforts to clarify what "dogs under control" entails and to encourage people to supervise their dogs more closely at Amberley Green, however, this did not seem to correct the issues;

WHEREAS, the Public Buildings and Parks Committee has for two years considered numerous factors concerning the regulation of dogs on Amberley Green and proposes the leash regulations set forth below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE Council of Amberley Village, State of Ohio, six (6) members elected thereto concurring:

SECTION 1: Section 90.03 of the Amberley Village Municipal Code of Ordinances be amended, titled "Amberley Green Leash Regulations, and to include the following regulations regarding leashes for dogs on the Amberley Green property:

- A. Parking Lots - When in any parking lot at Amberley Green or any other areas designated as "on leash" by signage, dogs are required to be physically restrained on a leash by the dog's Owner or Caretaker at all times.
- B. Designate from dawn to 9:00 a.m. and one hour prior to dusk to allow dogs off leash. Owner/Caretaker - For purposes of the regulations in this chapter, the terms "Owner" or "Caretaker" shall mean any person who owns a dog, who permits a dog to be lodged or fed at the person's residence or appurtenant buildings, or who is hired or otherwise charged with walking, feeding, attending to, or otherwise caring for a dog owned by another.

- C. Maximum Number of Dogs – No Owner or Caretaker is permitted to bring more than three (3) dogs to Amberley Green at any one time. During time periods when dogs are permitted to be off-leash, Owners or Caretakers shall have no more than two (2) unleashed dogs at any one time.
- D. Under Control –A dog at Amberley Green that is not physically restrained on a leash must be under the control of its Owner or Caretaker. For the purposes of the regulations in this chapter, the term “Under Control” means that the dog:
- a. Is visible to the Owner or Caretaker;
 - b. Comes to the Owner’s or Caretaker’s side when called;
 - c. Stays by the Owner’s or Caretaker’s side when instructed to do so, under any circumstances;
 - d. Refrains from chasing wildlife, animals, or other dogs against the Owner’s or Caretaker’s commands;
 - e. Refrains from jumping on or attempting to contact other individuals who may be walking on paths, or who otherwise may be in close proximity to the dog.
- E. Any dog not capable of being kept Under Control by its Owner or Caretaker shall be kept physically restrained on a leash at all times when on any part of the Amberley Green premises. The Village retains the sole discretion in determining whether a dog is Under Control under these guidelines and may, at any time, direct an Owner or Caretaker to physically restrain a dog on a leash if the dog demonstrates an inability to be and remain Under Control.
- F. Disposal of Waste - Owners and Caretakers are required to collect and properly dispose of any fecal matter deposited by their dog(s). Fecal matter must be collected in an appropriate bag or receptacle and disposed of in designated containers located on the Amberley Green premises.
- G. Removal from Amberley Green - The Village retains the sole discretion in determining whether a dog is Under Control under these guidelines and if an Owner or Caretaker fails to maintain their dog(s) in such a manner, the Village may direct the Owner or Caretaker to leave the Amberley Green premises, or may prohibit the Caretaker or Owner from entering onto the Amberley Green property for a period of time or indefinitely.
- H. Liability – In accordance with Ohio law, any Owner or Caretaker will be liable for any injury, death, or loss of property caused by a dog’s actions.

I. Review - The Public Buildings and Parks Committee shall periodically review leash regulations not less than once per calendar year to ensure the health, welfare and safety of the Village is being upheld.

J. Modifications – The Village Manager has discretion to adjust, as necessary, the times for unleashed dogs.

K. Visible signage clearly welcoming guests and delineating the rules.

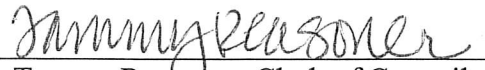
L. Penalty – An individual who fails to comply with Sections (A) – (F) of this section shall be fined not less than \$25 or more than \$100 on a first offense, and on each subsequent offense shall be fined not less than \$75 or more than \$250 and may be imprisoned for not more than 30 days.

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall take effect and be enforced from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed this 12th day of July, 2021.


Mayor Thomas C. Muething

Attest:


Tammy Reasoner, Clerk of Council

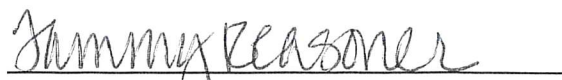
Ordinance Vote:

Moved: Conway

Seconded: Wolf

Muething	Aye
Wolf	Aye
Bardach	Aye
Conway	Aye
Hunt	Aye
Kamine	Aye
Warren	Nay

I, Clerk of Council of Amberley Village, Ohio, certify that on the 20th day of July, 2021, the foregoing Ordinance was published pursuant to Article IX of the Home Rule Charter by posting true copies of said Ordinance at all of the places of public notice as designed by Sec. 31.40(B), Code of Ordinances.


Tammy Reasoner, Clerk of Council

VILLAGE-OWNED TENNIS COURTS

§ 98.05 USE OF VILLAGE COURTS RESTRICTED TO RESIDENTS.

(A) Use of the Vvillage tennis and pickleball courts shall be restricted to Village residents and non-resident of Amberley Village holding current key cards issued by the village, and their guests, except as hereinafter provided.

(B) Each group using a tennis court shall have at least one cardholderresident as a part of that group.

(C) Use of Vvillage tennis courts may be extended to nonresidents as authorized by Village Council.

(Ord. C-424, passed 5-10-76; Am. Ord. 2009-15, passed 9-14-09) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 98.06 LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF GUESTS.

No cardholderresident using the tennis or pickleball courts shall bring more than three guests to the courts at any one time. The guests shall be restricted to the court used by the cardholder resident.

(Ord. C-424, passed 5-10-76) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 98.07 SHOES AND SHIRTS REQUIRED.

(A) Only regulation tennis shoes shall be worn on the Vvillage tennis courts.

(B) Appropriate attire at the courts shall include shirts to be worn at all times.

(Ord. C-424, passed 5-10-76) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 98.08 FOOD, BEVERAGES PROHIBITED ON COURTS.

No food or beverage shall be permitted on the Vvillage tennis courts.

(Ord. C-424, passed 5-10-76) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 98.09 PLAYING TIME RESTRICTED.

(A) Except as authorized by Council, when other players are waiting to play, players must limit their playing time to one hour maximum. To assure compliance with this rule, courts must be relinquished at "changeover time" regardless of the time the courts have been in use by the players occupying the courts. "Changeover time" is defined as the exact hour (i.e., 12:00 noon, 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and the like). ~~The clock in the village hall window is to be used for this purpose.~~ Waiting players have their choice of courts at "changeover time."

(B) Utilization of courts shall be restricted to daylight hours. No person shall enter the Vvillage tennis courts for any purpose during night-time hours.

(Ord. C-424, passed 5-10-76; Am. Ord. 2009-15, passed 9-14-09) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 98.10 TENSION ON NETS TO BE RELEASED.

Players shall release tension on the net when the court is not in use.

VILLAGE-OWNED TENNIS COURTS

§ 98.05 USE OF VILLAGE COURTS RESTRICTED TO RESIDENTS.

(A) Use of the village tennis courts shall be restricted to residents of Amberley Village holding current key cards issued by the village, and their guests, except as hereinafter provided.

(B) Each group using a tennis court shall have at least one resident as a part of that group.

(C) Use of village tennis courts may be extended to nonresidents as authorized by Village Council.

(Ord. C-424, passed 5-10-76; Am. Ord. 2009-15, passed 9-14-09) Penalty, see § [10.99](#)

§ 98.06 LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF GUESTS.

No resident using the tennis courts shall bring more than three guests to the courts at any one time. The guests shall be restricted to the court used by the resident.

(Ord. C-424, passed 5-10-76) Penalty, see § [10.99](#)

§ 98.07 SHOES AND SHIRTS REQUIRED.

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(Ord. C-424, passed 5-10-76) Penalty, see § [10.99](#)

§ 98.11 FEE FOR TENNIS KEYCARDS.

(A) The fee for a two-year tennis key card for village residents to access the village tennis courts is hereby established at \$50 per card; the fee for a second-year card only to be \$35. Two-year key cards will be valid for the season for which it was issued and the following season; and second-year key cards will be valid only for the single season in which it was issued.

(B) Pursuant to § 98.05(C), key cards shall be issued to persons who are not residents of the village for the use of the lower tennis courts located immediately south of Village Hall upon payment of \$100 for the two-year access, \$70 for the second year only access. Such key cards will be valid as outlined in division (A). A maximum limit of 25 key cards will be issued. Applicants must provide the village with a valid name, current address, phone number, and email address before a key card will be issued. Any nonresident with a valid key card may have up to three guests as part of the same group on the same court at any one time.

(C) The replacement fee for a lost or damaged key card is \$10. All fees herein are nonrefundable unless the village terminates the privilege granted by the issuance of a key card, in which event the village will reimburse the annual fee paid for that key card. The Village Manager may revoke the privileges granted herein at any time for a violation of any village rule, policy, or procedure relating to use of the tennis courts.

(Res. C-734, passed 3-13-89; Am. Res. C-804, passed 3-11-91; Am. Res. 1997-28, passed 5-12-97; Am. Res. 2003-12, passed 4-14-03; Am. Res. 2005-02, passed 4-11-05; Am. Res. 2007-05, passed 4-9-07; Am. Res. 2009-03, passed 4-13-09; Am. Res. 2011-02, passed 4-11-11; Am. Res. 2015-7, passed 3-9-15)