



CEC FY19 PROPOSED NEW INITIATIVE

DECEMBER 8, 2017

DEVELOPMENT OF A FITNESS AREA FOR SOUTH BETHANY PROPERTY OWNERS AND GUESTS

2017 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – GOAL 6

PROMOTE SOUTH BETHANY AS A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

What is a fitness area? – The proposed fitness area will be located in a shaded wooded area adjacent to the parking lot and left of the town hall. It will contain a number of pieces of fitness equipment that will encourage exercise and physical fitness for homeowners and visitors, and promote the town as a healthy community.

What information has CEC gathered? The CEC has spent the last 2 months researching information about potential products, companies, possible locations, insurance, liability, ADA compliance issues, speaking with other towns, professional input about appropriate pieces, maintenance, longevity, grants and costs.

- **Company:** CEC and town staff have met with Charlie Walker a representative with Liberty Parks and Recreation, a Delaware State approved contractor. We visited the proposed site and Mr. Walker considers the site suitable for the proposed plan. Design plans and costs were submitted by Liberty, including signage, equipment and site preparation.
- **Insurance:** Renee and Maureen have spoken with Trident's (Town insurance company) Risk Management division, other towns, and with Liberty. The estimated cost for insurance and liability is: *\$6 per piece of equipment*. Trident sent a list of recommendations such as signs, warnings, ADA access, inspections, age requirements, maintenance and warranties that have been discussed and are part of the design and implementation plan.
- **Site Preparation:** **FY18 funds (\$4,015)** set aside for a new initiative will be used to cover the costs of site preparation, including labor and required ground materials. Site preparation will be performed by Public Works prior to May 1, 2017. No trees will be removed for the fitness area. Normal tree and branch maintenance will continue as currently done. Public Works will build a bike rack to place at the site. **Cost: \$4,015. (FY18 funds)**
- **Equipment Type:** The CEC is recommending beginning this initiative with up to 4 pieces of equipment. Gradual development and expansion will provide an opportunity to seek grant funding (see grant section) for additional equipment as well access usage and equipment favorites. CEC members and town staff have explored other fitness equipment companies but recommend the option of working with a local company who is an approved and well known DE contractor. CEC met with a local Physical Therapist and Fitness Trainer to gather equipment recommendations that fit the demographics of our area and Liberty has listed the most frequently selected by Delaware towns for

their fitness areas. Public Works will install the equipment – Liberty noted that this is a common practice and that all warranties are still applicable.

- Signage: Each piece of equipment requires signage on proper use, safety warnings, liability disclaimers, etc. as mentioned in the insurance section.
Cost for Equipment (4) and Signs: \$4000. (FY19 funds)

- Grant Opportunities:

Bob Ehemann, Manager, Park Resources Office, Delaware State Parks confirmed that this proposed initiative would be an eligible applicant for a grant opportunity with his office. Bob suggested the following: 1) submit a pre-app letter in March 2018, describing the proposed initiative and documenting our investments as to how **FY18** town funds would be used to prepare the site and **FY19** funds would purchase a few pieces of equipment; 2) since this grant requires a match, both of these funds could then be used as the required match when an application is filed by South Bethany for a grant sometime in 2018. Upon receipt of the “pre-app” letter, the town receives a “letter of credit,” for our matching funds. Thus the town would seek a grant in the amount of \$8,000 to for fitness expansion.

