

RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF MCINTOSH MEMORIAL PARK

WHEREAS, the Ravenswood Municipal Code 2.16.030 specifies that “the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners shall provide, conduct and supervise public playgrounds, parks, play fields, indoor recreation centers and other recreation areas and facilities owned or controlled by the city;” and,

WHEREAS, the “Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners may make recommendations to the Common Council for construction of any form of recreation or cultural activity that will employ the leisure time of the people in a constructive and wholesome manner;” and,

WHEREAS, lots 127, 128, and 129 containing the McIntosh House were deeded to the City on February 19th, 1936 to be used for a public park and “if the said town should ever fail or refuse in the future to own, maintain, or operate the said land and buildings thereon [sic] as a public park and herein and conveyed as a public park or community gathering place, then the interest conveyed herein shall revert to the grantor F. F. McIntosh Sr., or his heirs and assigns;” and,

WHEREAS, the McIntosh house and NYA served as the community building for 89 years; and,

WHEREAS, the McIntosh house was severely damaged in fire June 3rd of 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City gained \$6,700,000 from an insurance claim and the City now has \$4,110,150 from said insurance claim; and,

WHEREAS, McIntosh Memorial Park provided a center for collaboration, celebration, meeting spaces, and recreational activities; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED unanimously by the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners of Ravenswood, West Virginia as follows:

1. **INSURANCE PROCEEDS:**

The City shall deposit all funds generated by the McIntosh Community Park into an interest-bearing account separate from the general fund with a unique accounting code. The accounting code will set limits and track expenditures for a dedicated purpose as stated in #4.

2. **CURRENT SITE:**

The Board of Parks and Recreation met on 28 July 2025 and concluded that it is not practical or affordable to remodel the existing house and NYA Hall and therefore recommends demolition.

3. SITE DEMOLITION:

The Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners recommends preparing a site demolition and remediation plan removing all debris and preparing the site for future construction. Plan must be approved and publicly bid for the McIntosh House and NYA Hall.

4. BUILDING REPLACEMENT:

The Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners has reviewed options for said property and recommends the construction of a new community building for the benefit of the entire community.

- The new building should be in keeping with the historic nature of the site and be constructed of brick and clapboard recalling the McIntosh House
- The new building should be constructed with high ceilings and incorporate original architectural features to include the grand entrance doors, other interior doors, exterior mouldings, lintels, donated original furnishings from McIntosh heirs and all that can be salvaged
- The new building could repurpose architectural features from the 1887 School and the Ravenswood House currently displayed at the Great Bend Museum
- The new building should provide a large ball room for celebratory events such as proms and wedding receptions
- The new building shall be constructed following current codes and be ADA compliant and should be one level
- The new building should contain a commercial kitchen
- The new building should have smaller meeting spaces to welcome back the various organizations which have been displaced after the fire
- The exterior of the new building should have distinguished porches that can be used for all seasons
- The site could include an outdoor fireplace with a chimney to recall the shape and stacked masonry design of the original McIntosh House
- NPS style signage should be placed with images of the original buildings and verbiage to recall the history of the site
- The construction of a new building will serve as a model of community cooperation and renewal by recalling the past but planning for the future

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioner has met and approved a recommendation for the replacement of the McIntosh Memorial Park with a new community building that shall continue to be known as McIntosh Memorial Park.

DONE IN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED on 4 August 2025.

BY Kendra Palmer Chairperson, Kendra Palmer

Jeff Weiss Secretary, Jeff Weiss

S.C. Tucker Treasurer, Steve Tucker

Craig Greening Commissioner, Craig Greening

Nicole Salser Commissioner, Nicole Salser

Joe Marra Commissioner, Joe Marra

Gary Cross Commissioner, Gary Cross

Katrena Ramsey Superintendent, Katrena Ramsey

