



Proposal to establish a *Renew Colvard Park Fund*.

Background:

- Carl Franklin Colvard, Jr. Memorial Park is a beautiful riverside site of 6.327 acres, owned by the Village on the New HOA, where members of the HOA and their guests are free and encouraged to use.
- Colvard Park extends along the New River to the River Walking Trail by a strip of land bounding the river, extending to the boundary between lots 22 and 48 which then joins the River Walking Trail, which is accessed from Village Pine Drive between lots 53 and 68, and which crosses a small creek over a HOA-maintained footbridge to join the park property which runs along the New River back to the main part of the Park.
- Colvard Park also adjoins a natural and undeveloped area containing 7.977 +/- acres, purchased by the HOA in 2015. It is possible that a Nature Trail/Wildlife Observation Trail could be established in this area for residents and their guests to use at some time in the future.
- Colvard Park contains four picnic shelters, four picnic tables, a deck/pier on the river, and an extensive rail fence, which needs extensive repair/replacement/removal. There is a large area for recreation for both children and adults.
- It is bounded by the New River and Roan Creek and extends to the River Walking Trail.
- When the property was deeded to the HOA, the developer was required to establish a memorial on the tract honoring the memory of Carl Franklin Colvard, Jr. It is thought that a rock stack in the southeast corner of the park near Roan Creek is the remains of the memorial, which if it is, has not been maintained.
- In the 20+ years that it has been in existence, the park has generally been mowed and it has a good cover of grass.
- Recently, a stand of fir trees was removed as they had been infested with insects which were slowly killing them.
- A repair was recently completed to help deal with sinkholes which have periodically appeared.
- A water spring has appeared in the last 3-4 years on the lower level of the park.
- Periodic flooding of the New River has resulted in erosion of the banks of the river, which reduces the amount of land in the park.

Proposal:

Rationale:

With more and more homes being built in the Village on the New community, and with Colvard Park being one of the focal points of the community, use of the park area by families and individuals will likely increase. Renewing the park from Roan Creek to the River Walking Trail will enhance the appearance of the park and collaterally will enhance property values in the community.

Funding:

Perhaps the Board of Directors would consider establishing a **Renew Colvard Park Fund** to begin the work of renewing Colvard Park. Such a fund, if established by the Board, would be funded by VOLUNTARY contributions by HOA members, supplemented by additional funds provided by the board, and such a fund could only be used for the specific purpose of RENEWING the park. It would likely be an effective strategy to bring the **Renew Colvard Park Fund** to the attention of the HOA Annual Meeting attendees, and to communicate to all members in an email message to follow up the announcement.

Target Projects:

A study, completed in 2021 and presented to the Board of Directors at that time, included a list of repair items to be completed at the park. Two of the items on that list appear to have been completed and another partially completed. Others may also have been completed. There may be other issues that have surfaced in the intervening years.

Project Management:

IF a **Renew Colvard Park Fund** is established, the Board of Directors would review and prioritize projects from this list and others added since the 2021 list was compiled, to maximize the impact of any funds made available. The Maintenance Committee could be tasked with directing the Renewal project.



Addendum:

List of Colvard Park improvements from the 2021 Property Study:

	1. Remove the old park sign at circular driveway and replace with new sign at entrance to park with official park name on it.
	2. Work with New River Conservancy on stream bank restoration.
Completed	3. Repair sinkholes – locate culvert on north side of street between transformer and circular driveway.
Completed	4. Remove dead firs and other trees along fence line and throughout park area; included are dead limbs on healthy trees.
	5. Remove walnut tree (down) next to dock and overgrown bushes there; remove other downed trees
Partially completed	6. Refloor dock/pier and make new wider steps.
	7. Need to get advice on dealing with approx. 40’ oval spring area near dock.
	8. Remove area light and electrical wire on tree.
	9. Remove picnic table at circular drive and replace with new table placed under existing picnic shelter.
	10. Install solar powered lighting at picnic shelters.
	11. Bush-hog perimeter of park 20’ on Roan Creek boundary and also on boundary to natural area.
	12. Locate and repair the original sign honoring Carl Franklin Colvard, Jr. if it exists.
	13. Repair/Replace rail fence in park.
	14. Rebuild fireplace/monument in SW corner of park.
	15. Cut/trim overhanging branches on riverfront right of way between park and River Trail.

NOTE: This list is not prioritized