

Parks and Recreation Board (PRB) Minutes

Springfield Township, Bucks County

2320 Township Road

Quakertown, PA 18951

610-346-6700

www.springfieldbucks.org

Meeting Date: July 10, 2017

1.) Attendees:

PRB Members Present: Sue Ziegler (Chairperson), Frank Hollenbach, Bill Ryker, Sandy Rice (Recording Secretary)
Also Present: Michael Brown (Township Manager) Absent: Doug Litzenberger

2.) Call to Order – Chairperson Ziegler called the meeting to order.

3.) Pledge of Allegiance

4.) Minutes: The June minutes were approved with corrections made.

5.) Manager's report: Mr. Brown said that out of 5 vendors he received 3 responses for the scope of the work for the lime kiln. Two vendors replied with cost between \$4300 and \$16,000 and change. The BOS will vote on it at their next meeting. Mr. Brown went with Mr. Wozniak to the lime kiln site. Mr. Wozniak suggested that the PRB should consider having the kiln opening braced before there was any vegetation removal. The bracing of the kiln would act as a type of insurance policy for any more damage to the kiln while the tree and vegetation removal takes place. Mr. Brown said it would add to the cost of the kiln but it would be worth the extra money. Mr. Brown said he would follow up with Mr. Fisher about the buttressing. Mr. Brown and Mrs. Ziegler went to the Wildlands Conservatory to look at their boardwalk. They discussed the maintenance of the IPE wood that was used in its building. The board walk consisted of concrete piers and a South American hardwood. The board walk must be kept dry and clean to prevent deterioration. They spend about \$4000 a year for new IPE and then use volunteers to replace any boards that are in need for replacement. The conservatory also used the same hardwood for the stringers. They will also sister in pressure treated wood for the stringers where needed. The county said that we are using concrete piers option for our boardwalk. As far as the top of the boardwalk they will decide in the future whether it will be pressure treated or IPE wood. The county is trying to keep the cost down because the cost is already at 1.2 million dollars.

6.) Chairman's comments: Mrs. Ziegler told the board that volunteer mower said that there was some damage to the grass area from tire tracks. He also said that the quality of some of the grass in one area of the park is not good, perhaps it needs to be reseeded or new dirt applied. This is something that the PRB will discuss in the future.

7.) Public Comment: Mr. Zack Boyd (The eagle scout that made the trail through the woods.) wanted to thank the board. He also said that the Key Club at the high school is an active organization who may be a group to contact for a youth outreach program. He stated that Mr. Jeremy Wolfe runs the program at the high school. He passed on his contact # 212-263-7433 or email address as jwolfe@palisadedsd.org. He stated that he may have people that can help with the park. The National Honor Society may also be an organization at the high school who might be used to get volunteers. Mrs. Mette is their advisor. Mr. Ryker questioned if the high school still has volunteer services. Mr. Boyd replied that they are increasing the volunteer hours to 6 for the middle school and 10 hours for the high school as a graduation requirement. Zack Boyd also inquired about naming the trail. This is something else the board needs to discuss.

8.) Township Anniversary: Members of the Anniversary committee were present to discuss some of their ideas for the upcoming 275th township anniversary celebration. They discussed having 3 core celebrations. 1. Freedom Day would be at the Springtown Rod and Gun Club. This celebration would take place June 9, 2018. It would be

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some sort of historical re-enactment. The 2nd core event would be Community Day Event. This would take place Saturday September 22, 2018. The start time of the event would be later in the day and end with a fireworks display. This event would take place at Sliver Creek. The Third core event would be some type of activity at Peppermint Park. Mr. Jim Nielson has some ideas for activities for the park. They want to show case the assets of the community Past, Present and Future. Mr. Hopkins is the chairman for this event. He would like the PRB to chair the future piece at the Park. Mrs. Ziegler and Mrs. Rice volunteered to come up with a plan for this event. Money needs would come from the 275th Anniversary Budget.

- 9.) Kiosk Eagle Project; Luke Passerini will be working on this project. He brought his plans for the kiosk. He discussed the materials and the size that he wanted the kiosk to be. After some discussion Mr. Ryker volunteered to look into different locking cases that could be incorporated into the kiosk for use in posting rules etc. Mr. Hollenbach made a motion to approve the kiosk plan. Mr. Ryker seconded the motion, the motion carried.
- 10.) Park Usage Rules: Mrs. Ziegler led a discussion on a political sign that was posted on the park grounds. There was also an issue with someone using the park as a parking lot during the day. The park presently has no rules for either of these issues Mr. Brown suggested that we would allow the car to park there and readdress the issue if it became problematic. The PRB did decide to add another rule for the park about signage. Rule #15 will state "All signs except those established by Springfield Township are prohibited." Mr. Ryker made a motion to pass the new rule and Mrs. Rice seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- 11.) Park Usage Data: Mr. Long has asked the PRB to come up with some data about how many people actually use the park. Mrs. Ziegler and Mrs. Rice will decide on how to do the survey. They will bring back a plan for the survey to the next meeting.
- 12.) Lime Kiln Update: Mr. Hollenbach made an addition contact at BCCC with Catherine Auerbach who is a professor at the school. The men who do the metal detecting will be at our August Meeting.
- 13.) Lime Kiln Update: Mr. Hollenbach forwarded the material list to Richland, Coopersburg, Upper Saucon Trail committees. The train station and other places off mine road could also be places for trail heads. The OSC is wondering about an access in back of Scotts Power Sports .
- 14.) PRB Comments: The comprehensive task force said that the PRB's question 1 and 2 will stay on the survey. The task force still feels that the survey is too long. There will also be a question about raising the EIT tax by 1/8th percent. Mr. Hollenbach expressed his concern about the fact that many people do not understand the open space. He is concerned that the park will be tied to this tax increase and open space and the park is the only place that people can really visit. He will suggest taking the wording of Peppermint Park out of the question.
- 15.) He doesn't want to have people think that their taxes are going up because of Parks and Rec.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Rice
Recording Secretary

Adjournment: Mr. Ryker made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Hollenbach seconded the motion.

Next Monthly PRB Meeting will be August 14, 2017

SR July 11, 2017