

I. OPENING

CALL TO ORDER: The General Business & Developer meeting of Lower Saucon Township Council was called to order on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 7:02 P.M., at 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA, with Mr. Glenn Kern, Council President, presiding.

ROLL CALL: Present – Glenn Kern, President; Tom Maxfield, Vice President, Sandra Yerger, Ron Horiszny, Council members; Jack Cahalan, Township Manager; Leslie Huhn, Assistant Township Manager; Brien Kocher, Township Engineer; Linc Treadwell, Township Solicitor; Judy Stern-Goldstein, Township Planner. Absent – Priscilla deLeon, Council member and Jr. Council member, Stephen Prager.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)

Mr. Kern said Council met in Executive Session this evening prior to the meeting. Attorney Treadwell said the Executive Session concerned the potential purchase of property for a trail head and also some open space. If you want to authorize the staff to obtain an appraisal, you should make a motion.

MOTION BY: Mrs. Yerger moved that we authorize staff to schedule an appraisal on the Skraban property, which has been evaluated by the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) Open Space Sub-Committee and the EAC is in favor of acquiring that easement on that property for open space.

SECOND BY: Mr. Maxfield

Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT/CITIZEN AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Kern said for citizen agenda items – Council operates under Robert’s Rules. What that means is during agenda items, Council will talk amongst themselves and amongst staff and the interested parties. At the conclusion of that, we open it up to the public for public comment. There is an opportunity for non-agenda items at the end of the meeting to discuss whatever your business might be. We do have a microphone and there are microphones up at the table. There is a sign-in sheet in the back of the room. Please print your name and address and email address. It is very helpful in transcribing the minutes. For those who want to receive emailed agendas, please give your email address to Leslie or Jack or call the Township office. Please state your name and address. If you can’t hear, please let us know. You can check the minutes on the website, which is www.lowersaucontownship.org. Mr. Kern asked if anything was taken off the agenda this evening? Mr. Cahalan said no.

III. PRESENTATIONS/HEARINGS

A. RESOLUTION #43-2009 – RECOGNIZING DIANE REPYNECK FOR HER SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

Mr. Kern said Resolution #43-2009 has been prepared to recognize Diane Repyneck for her years of dedicated community service

**RESOLUTION #43-2009
A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING
DIANE REPYNECK FOR HER SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, Diane Repyneck served as District Justice for Hellertown and Lower Saucon Township for the past twenty-three (23) years until her retirement on December 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS, after a period of employment as a police dispatcher for the Township, in 1985 at the age of twenty-six (26), Diane was first elected as the Northampton area District Justice; and

WHEREAS, Diane was re-elected to three (3) successive terms as District Justice and has seen the Court move from Hellertown to its current location in Lower Saucon Township; and

WHEREAS, Diane adjudicated thousands of cases ranging from speeding tickets to homicides with fairness and compassion during her years as District Justice; and

WHEREAS, during Diane's tenure she established alternative sentencing programs for juvenile offenders, truancy intervention programs with the County Department of Children and Youth, and mediation programs where offenders underwent behavioral counseling and face-to-face intervention with their victims; and

WHEREAS, Diane will be honored by the Saucon Valley Community Center on April 18, 2009 for her distinguished career as District Justice and for her public service to the Saucon Valley.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of Lower Saucon Township, Glenn Kern, President; Thomas Maxfield, Vice President; Priscilla deLeon, Council Member; Sandra Yerger, Council Member; and Ronald Horiszny, Council Member; wishes to recognize and commend Diane Repyneck for her service and dedication to the residents of Lower Saucon Township.

- MOTION BY:** Mrs. Yerger moved for approval of Resolution #43-2009.
SECOND BY: Mr. Maxfield
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

B. RESOLUTION #44-2009 – RECOGNIZING VICTORIA RIEGEL FOR RECEIVING THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

Mr. Kern said Resolution #44-2009 has been prepared recognizing Victoria Riegel.

**RESOLUTION #44-2009
A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING VICTORIA RIEGEL FOR
RECEIVING THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD**

WHEREAS, Victoria Riegel has been a member of the Girl Scouts Troop #8948 for the past thirteen (13) years; and

WHEREAS, Victoria earned numerous badges and awards with the Girl Scouts including the Girl Scout Bronze Award, the Girl Scout Silver Award and the God and Country Religious Award; and

WHEREAS, Victoria has been very active with athletics and extra-curricular activities at Saucon Valley High School where she is a senior; and

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WHEREAS, Victoria's project for the Gold Award was creating and organizing a two-day environmental fair for the community that provided activities and information concerning current environmental issues; and

WHEREAS, for her efforts Victoria has earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest girl honor in Girl Scouting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of Lower Saucon Township, Glenn Kern, President; Thomas Maxfield, Vice President; Priscilla deLeon, Council Member; Sandra Yerger, Council Member; and Ronald Horiszny, Council Member; wishes to recognize and commend Victoria Riegel for receiving her Girl Scout Gold Award.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved for approval of Resolution #44-2009.
SECOND BY: Mr. Horiszny
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

C. RESOLUTION #45-2009 – RECOGNIZING MARY BETH PASKEWICZ FOR RECEIVING THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

Mr. Kern said Resolution #45-2009 has been prepared recognizing Mary Beth Paskewicz.

**RESOLUTION #45-2009
A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARY BETH PASKEWICZ FOR RECEIVING THE
GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD**

WHEREAS, Mary Beth Paskewicz has been a member of the Girl Scouts Troop #8480 since she was five years old and joined the Daisy Girl Scouts; and

WHEREAS, Mary Beth earned numerous badges and awards with the Girl Scouts including the Girl Scout Silver Award; and

WHEREAS, Mary Beth was very active in athletics and band, and won several awards for her academic achievements at the Saucon Valley High School; and

WHEREAS, Mary Beth is now attending Penn State University where she is studying environmental engineering; and

WHEREAS, Mary Beth's project for the Gold Award was researching and creating interpretative signs at the Township's Heller Homestead Park that provide information about the flora and fauna found in the Nature Loop Trail area; and

WHEREAS, for her efforts Mary Beth has earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest girl honor in Girl Scouting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of Lower Saucon Township, Glenn Kern, President; Thomas Maxfield, Vice President; Priscilla deLeon, Council Member; Sandra Yerger, Council Member; and Ronald Horiszny, Council Member; wishes to recognize and commend Mary Beth Paskewicz for receiving her Girl Scout Gold Award.

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MOTION BY: Mr. Horiszny moved for approval of Resolution #45-2009.
SECOND BY: Mrs. Yerger
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

D. RESOLUTION #46-2009 – RECOGNIZING VANESSA SEGALINE FOR RECEIVING THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

Mr. Kern said Resolution #46-2009 has been prepared recognizing Vanessa Segaline.

**RESOLUTION #46-2009
A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING VANESSA SEGALINE FOR RECEIVING THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD**

WHEREAS, Vanessa Segaline has been a member of the Girl Scouts Troop #8480 for the past fourteen (14) years; and

WHEREAS, Vanessa earned numerous badges and awards with the Girl Scouts including the Girl Scout Bronze Award, the Girl Scout Silver Award, the Great Valley Girl Scout Distinguished Award and the Margaret E. Estey Award; and

WHEREAS, Vanessa was very active in extra-curricular activities and won several awards for her academic achievements at the Saucon Valley High School; and

WHEREAS, Vanessa is now attending Northampton Community College and plans to major in early childhood education; and

WHEREAS, Vanessa's project for the Gold Award was creating a Teen Advisory Board at the Hellertown Area Library which planned and sponsored activities for area teens and youngsters; and

WHEREAS, for her efforts Vanessa has earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest girl honor in Girl Scouting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of Lower Saucon Township, Glenn Kern, President; Thomas Maxfield, Vice President; Priscilla deLeon, Council Member; Sandra Yerger, Council Member; and Ronald Horiszny, Council Member; wishes to recognize and commend Vanessa Segaline for receiving her Girl Scout Gold Award.

Mr. Kern said Vanessa was very active with the Council as Jr. Council person, and she was one of the best.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved for approval of Resolution #46-2009.
SECOND BY: Mr. Horiszny
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

E. RESOLUTION #47-2009 – RECOGNIZING NICHOLAS YOUNG FOR RECEIVING THE EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

Mr. Kern said Resolution #47-2009 has been prepared recognizing Nicholas Young.

**RESOLUTION #47-2009
A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING
NICHOLAS YOUNG FOR RECEIVING THE EAGLE SCOUT AWARD**

WHEREAS, Nicholas Young been a member of Boy Scout Troop #319 since 2002 where he has served as a Senior Patrol Leader and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas earned 34 merit badges and awards with the Boy Scouts including two (2) “50-miler” awards for completing 50-mile high adventure trips; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas has been very active in soccer at Saucon Valley High School where he is a senior, and was named to the 2nd Team Colonial League and All-Area All-Stars for his outstanding play this past season; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas’s project for the Eagle Scout Award was building a foot bridge across the mill run at Hellertown’s Grist Mill Park; and

WHEREAS, for his efforts Nicholas has earned the Eagle Scout Award, the highest honor in Boy Scouting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of Lower Saucon Township, Glenn Kern, President; Thomas Maxfield, Vice President; Priscilla deLeon, Council Member; Sandra Yerger, Council Member; and Ronald Horiszny, Council Member; wishes to recognize and commend Nicholas Young for receiving his Eagle Scout Award.

MOTION BY: Mr. Horiszny moved for approval of Resolution #47-2009.
SECOND BY: Mr. Maxfield
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

F. RESOLUTION #48-2009 – RECOGNIZING SCOTT YOUNG FOR RECEIVING THE EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

Mr. Kern said Resolution #48-2009 has been prepared recognizing Scott Young.

**RESOLUTION #48-2009
A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SCOTT YOUNG
FOR RECEIVING THE EAGLE SCOUT AWARD**

WHEREAS, Scott Young been a member of the Boy Scout Troop #319 since 2002 where he has served as Patrol Leader and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster; and

WHEREAS, Scott earned 30 merit badges and awards with the Boy Scouts including two (2) “50-miler” awards for completing 50-mile high adventure trips; and

WHEREAS, Scott has been very active in soccer at Saucon Valley High School where he is a senior, and was named to the 2nd Team Colonial League and All-Area All-Stars for his outstanding play this past season; and

WHEREAS, Scott’s project for the Eagle Scout Award was proving, assembling and installing two (2) sets of bleachers at Hellertown’s Grist Mill Park soccer fields; and

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WHEREAS, for his efforts Scott has earned the Eagle Scout Award, the highest honor in Boy Scouting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of Lower Saucon Township, Glenn Kern, President; Thomas Maxfield, Vice President; Priscilla deLeon, Council Member; Sandra Yerger, Council Member; and Ronald Horiszny, Council Member; wishes to recognize and commend Scott Young for receiving his Eagle Scout Award.

MOTION BY: Mrs. Yerger moved for approval of Resolution #48-2009.
SECOND BY: Mr. Horiszny
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

Mr. Kern said congratulations to you all. Good job.

IV. DEVELOPER ITEMS

A. ZONING HEARING BOARD VARIANCES

1. KEVIN & KATHY MCGOVERN – 4260 LOWER SAUCON ROAD – VARIANCE REQUEST OF FRONT YARD SETBACK TO INSTALL TEMPORARY TRAILER

Mr. Kern said the applicant is leasing a small portion of the property in order to install a temporary portable office trailer for use by PennDOT for monitoring the replacement of a bridge on Lower Saucon Road. They are requesting approximately 45 ft. of relief of the front yard setback. The applicant wasn't present.

Mr. Maxfield said we might want to make one recommendation. I imagine there is going to be power to the trailer, have that the power pole be removed once the trailer is removed.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved that we take no action, but make that recommendation as stated above to the Zoning Hearing Board.
SECOND BY: Mrs. Yerger
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

2. THOMAS & CHRISTINE GURO – 2188 SILVER CREEK ROAD – VARIANCE REQUEST OF SIDE YARD SETBACK OF ROOF OVERHANG

Mr. Kern said the applicant has constructed a modular home with the roof overhang extending approximately 6" into the side yard setback. The foundation is within the setback. They are seeking 6" of relief from the required 10' setback.

Mr. Thomas Guro was present. He said I thought it was kind of ridiculous myself. We put up a modular home and the next door neighbor sold me the property and when we dug the foundation, it's a narrow lot to begin with, we hit the old cesspool from the neighbor's property. I had to shift the thing about 6". The foundation is still 6" to the good, but with the 11" overhang, I'm over, and the neighbor went to Chris and complained so that's why I have to go to the Zoning Hearing Board. I am asking for relief for the 6" of overhang on the roof.

Mr. Maxfield said I would say that we support this application as 6" is ridiculous.

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MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved to support this application.
SECOND BY: Mr. Horiszny
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon - Absent)

3. STEPHEN & BONNIE KUTZERA – 2560 WASSERGASS ROAD – VARIANCE REQUEST OF REAR YARD SETBACK TO CONSTRUCT SHED

Mr. Kern said The applicant is proposing to construct a shed and due to the irregularly shaped parcel, they are requesting approximately 25' of relief from the rear yard setback.

Mr. Stephen Kutzera was present. Council had no comments. Council took no action.

4. TIMOTHY & KORI LANNON – 1834 VIOLA LANE – VARIANCE REQUEST OF REAR YARD SETBACK TO CONSTRUCT DECK/PATIO

Mr. Kern said The applicant is proposing to construct approximately 500 sq. ft. of deck and patio. They are seeking relief of approximately 9.25 ft of the rear yard setback. They are not exceeding the allowable impervious coverage.

Mr. Timothy Lannon was present. He said he has pictures of the way the yard exists as of now. This is the way they left us with the deck or patio when we bought the house for the setback. He put these shovels up, where the deck would end. There's a good 300' to the next house behind us. He stated that he does not feel that they are infringing on anybody's privacy going toward the property line in that direction. It's a rather modest deck, 20' x 15', and he has drawings here. We're just trying to get a functional back yard deck with a patio just off to the side of that. I have followed the code for the weight bearing structure.

Mrs. Yerger said you said it's a 300 square foot deck, 20' x 15'. Mr. Lannon said the deck will be 300 square feet. Mr. Kern said it's deck and patio. Council took no action.

5. JOSHUA NEWMAN – 1392 W. UNIVERSITY AVENUE – VARIANCE REQUEST OF FRONT YARD SETBACK TO CONSTRUCT DECK/PORCH

Mr. Kern said the applicant is proposing to construct a deck/porch on the front of the existing dwelling and they are seeking relief of approximately 10 ft. of the front yard setback.

Mr. Newman was present. He said he brought along a photograph of the plan. It's really a deck designed to look like a porch. The main problem with the house is that the step from the front of the house, up to the front door, is actually 9-1/2" to 10" from the existing concrete into the door which is actually out of code. He was told it's supposed to be 7-3/4" for a riser, so he's trying to bring it into code, and in addition, his mother has difficulty getting in and out of his house when she comes to visit so that's why he'd like to construct his patio or porch in that way.

Mr. Horiszny said wasn't a list of neighbors supposed to be on this application? Mr. Garges said everyone was notified. Council took no action.

V. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS

A. REVIEW OF STEEL CITY PARK DESIGN

Mr. Kern said Boucher & James has produced a sketch plan detailing proposed improvements to the 1.8 acre Steel City Park that proposes to refurbish the park into a neighborhood park that meets the needs of the residents of Steel City.

Ms. Stern Goldstein said I believe since there were some email malfunctions, and you haven't received a copy of the plan, I have two large copies with me and can lay them in front of the group.

Ms. Stern Goldstein said last year on August 4, 2008, we had a visioning meeting with the residents of Steel City at the fire hall, and we went through a nice session that evening and learned what the residents do and do not like about the existing park and what they do and do not want to see in a future park. We had some interesting information. We took those results, tabulated them, Jack took them back to the Park and Recreation board, and we came up with some alternate sketches – three or four versions, and the Park and Recreation board then reviewed those. This was developed into a final sketch plan, that they have also looked at. I'll just take you through a couple of the main points. Starting at the bottom left of the plan, there is a ball field. There is an existing ball field on the site, and this would give them one of the domed backstops, to really keep the foul balls from ending up in the resident's lawns, cars and front areas. This would never be a regulation Little League field. It's not one they use for competition, but it's a good practice field. It's a good field for the neighborhood. It may or may not have the full skinned infield, that's to come later. By moving the existing pavilion out of the center of the park, and relocating it to the sort of top center, there's a brown rectangular area labeled "proposed pavilion". That gives more room for that ball field and we would have fencing. To the left of the new pavilion would be a tot lot area and playground, so parents and caretakers could sit in the pavilion and have shade and still watch the children in the playground. To the right of the pavilion, would be the relocated sports court. Right now the sports court is used quite extensively, but it has a severe grade change in it in the middle of it, kind of a little hill, the drainage doesn't work, it's in sad condition, but it is used, so we don't want to do away with it, but we're relocating it to an area that makes sense. As you look at the plan just below the sports court, you see sand volleyball. That actually came out from the firemen. Apparently, there's quite a sand volleyball league and they had desire to utilize that and the neighbors also liked that idea. Our challenge, as designers, is to make sure the sand volleyball doesn't turn into one giant litter box. With how it's cared for and the maintenance of it, that's something that is developed further. That is an issue.

Mr. Kern said there is a sand court in Hellertown, how do they handle that? Ms. Stern Goldstein said I don't know how they handle that, but we also have sand courts in other municipalities and they are usually handled with the edge treatment and just how big it is and not having it adjacent to the residents. If you notice, it's not in the area across the street from the major residents as the cats tend to stay closer to their homes. Mrs. Yerger said the one in Hellertown is in a more open setting, so it's a pretty far distance from most residents. This is going to be a little closer, but I have to say, the one in Hellertown is used extensively. Ms. Stern Goldstein said the level of use keeps the cat issue down, and also the proximity to the sports court, and noise from the basketball, you are not going to see cats hanging out there.

Ms. Stern Goldstein said another feature of the plan is the walking trail that sort of circumnavigates the entire park and cuts through the park also. Something we heard from the residents was that there's no where for them to walk. This would be a paved walking trail. The residents can walk with or without kids and sort of be part of the park. I envision families going to the park and doing different activities at the same time.

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Ms. Stern Goldstein said the last feature of the park is dealing with parking. Parking on this plan is in two areas. There's the parallel parking on Riverside Drive, across from the fire house, and that was nine spaces total. The other parking area is one where it says parking area or potential picnic grove. That's an area where, if additional parking was determined, as needed, by the Township, it would go in, or that area could remain as an open picnic grove. We heard mixed opinions when we were at the visioning meeting. Some people just thought there wasn't enough parking and that's why the park wasn't used. Other people felt that parking on Riverside Drive would be sufficient because most of the park users do live in the neighborhood and could walk. Those that can't, could park along Riverside. That's the area that is up on the air. It could easily be a picnic grove and we could add a couple more shade trees to that area and some picnic tables.

Ms. Stern Goldstein said there is landscaping proposed where we could soften the area and add a buffer to the ball field and to the residents, and then also, as you look to the left, add some more shade trees and bring some more shade into the park. Now, it's a park that is used, but it's a little tired, and we can add some more opportunities for shade and greening it up while we still have the active recreation. There's a place for it all to stay together.

Mr. Kern said as a liaison to the Parks and Recreation (P&R) board, I wanted to pass on a comment that they made when they reviewed this plan at the last meeting regarding the parking. They thought the optional parking was not needed and it would be best served as a picnic grove or just a green area and to somehow have Schwab Avenue for parking. Mr. Cahalan said that was one of the reasons that Schwab was put in there. Ms. Stern Goldstein said there are two sides to that. People park on Schwab, no big deal. Some say if people are parking on Schwab, we do not have enough parking. Mr. Kern said one of the ideas that came up at the P&R meeting was to have diagonal parking on Schwab Avenue and to explore if that was actually a legal option. Mr. Cahalan said I think they meant Riverside. Mr. Kern said as opposed to the parallel parking. Mr. Cahalan said yes, the head in parking. Mr. Maxfield said I think the traffic codes prohibit any kind of parking, where you have to back out on a road. Mr. Cahalan said that was just as suggestion. Ms. Stern Goldstein said the parallel parking would be permitted under current ordinances. Mr. Kern said what about Schwab Avenue as far as parallel parking? Mr. Maxfield said can they legally park on Schwab now? Mr. Cahalan said yes. Mr. Maxfield said there is Matthew's too. Mrs. Yerger said isn't the fire hall across the street? There could be parking here, but obviously, you would have to get permission. Mr. Cahalan said that's all worked out. Mrs. Yerger said Riverside Drive isn't that heavily full of traffic. Mr. Cahalan said we would make some safety improvements. Ms. Stern Goldstein said on the plan, the upper left shows a crosswalk proposed. One of the things now with the park, is it's not very inviting. Right now, if you look at the park, and you were there, you wouldn't even think you could enter from Riverside. There's nothing that would invite you into the park. Part of this would have parallel parking along Riverside. The proposed crosswalk connecting the park, and then it would be the baseball association would let people know that there is parking at the fire hall, and they will park wherever they want to park anyway.

Mr. Horiszny said have you ever had any experience with back-in parking being required? Ms. Stern Goldstein said she has in some of the smaller boroughs. Not as much in Southeastern or Eastern Pennsylvania, but a lot of the smaller boroughs in other areas have it so you pull up, you back in. It's sort of a reverse angle parking, so that when you are pulling out, you are pulling out straight ahead. Mr. Cahalan said the City of Bethlehem has that around City Hall. Ms. Stern Goldstein said you don't see that in much of the cities, you see it in more urban settings.

Mrs. Yerger said I realize this is urban, suburban, but it seems there is a lot of impervious coverage here. Ms. Stern Goldstein said there is. Mrs. Yerger said is there going to be a storm water issue with this and where is it going to go? Mr. Cahalan said the basketball courts right now probably take up a tremendous amount, but that will be reduced. Ms. Stern Goldstein said right now we

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have a pavilion. The basketball court is significantly larger now than it will be. The sand volleyball would be pervious, by nature, and if we do or don't add the additional parking, where it starts coming in. If we do add that parking, that parking shouldn't be used all that much and could be pervious and we could look to see if infiltration would work. That's the thought without consulting the engineer extensively. Ms. Stern Goldstein said we are not looking at a significant increase in impervious and doing some things a little better than they are now. Mrs. Yerger said I'm not real familiar with the site, so it was just a question.

Mr. Kern said for my own edification, on Schwab Avenue, is it even an option to do parallel parking up into the green area? Mr. Kocher said you can, the more you do that, the more green area we take away. There's not a whole lot of room by the edge of the street. Mr. Maxfield said I don't know if parking is permitted on the other side of the street, on Schwab, but it certainly looks like Matthews is more of a substantial road. Is there any sort of planned fencing opening on Matthews's entrance? Ms. Stern Goldstein said I believe there is. Mr. Maxfield said it seems as long as you had access somewhere from Matthew's to the baseball field, that would make the most sense because that's when Matthew's would be being used. Ms. Stern Goldstein said if there's not an entrance, then there should be one and there can be one. There was one down at Riverside and one at Schwab and there should be one in the middle of Matthew's. I have to tell you I'm a little concerned with telling people or encouraging people to park along side of roads that are adjacent to ball fields. Just in the last two games of high school softball, there have been two windshields that have been shattered. It's the parents that are parking there, it's their choice.

Mr. Maxfield said I had a couple other questions. Currently right now, they said there was one bulb that was stuck on the pavilion, a light. Are there any lights planned for this? Ms. Stern Goldstein said at this point, we haven't addressed lighting significantly. I have to tell you that the ball court is lit. There was mixed reactions at the visioning meeting. Some thought it wasn't lit, it wasn't lit all the time, others thought it was lit way too much and it was an attractive nuisance too late at night. The lights in that park had been on later than other parks, when we looked at it. It just wasn't amazingly bright.

Mr. Maxfield said when you mentioned where the tot lot was going, do we have any sort of protective measures we can take for the kids in the tot lot so they aren't whacked by balls? It seems like some of these other functions that mostly adults would be participating in, they can get out of the way of something, but a baby, is not going to be able to get out of the way. Ms. Stern Goldstein said we can put more evergreens in, and that's what is going to do it because you aren't playing ball during much of the leaf down area. Mr. Kern said it is a T-ball field. Ms. Stern Goldstein said T-ball traditionally doesn't hit that far as there is no speed on the ball coming in. It's just sort of sitting there. Mr. Kern said currently they said they were using it for Little League practice. Ms. Stern Goldstein said it's their last choice field. Mr. Cahalan said it's pretty rough in the infield and you have some obstructions on the outfield. Mr. Maxfield said that will be gone then. Ms. Stern Goldstein said we have two new fields in Polk Valley Park that they aren't using yet either. Mr. Cahalan said for Dimmick Park, they indicated to us that they like to stay near their concession area. Ms. Stern Goldstein said this is for the neighborhood pick up games and for anyone who may be renting out the pavilions. Mrs. Yerger said that's what I was thinking. If you would have teenagers or whatever, for the informal pick up game, that is going to be more inclined to hit it out. Mr. Maxfield said or if someone hit it out for Little League, it could be a coach hitting balls and it could fly the wrong way. Ms. Stern Goldstein said we could beef that up with some more landscaping and create a placement of the play structures itself. Mr. Maxfield said we are just going to move the pavilion, it's just the same size? Ms. Stern Goldstein said it's the same size as the existing one. That could be moved or depending what you want to do with the pavilion, you could do a different one. That pavilion is in very good shape.

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Mr. Horiszny said what is the trail surface going to be? Ms. Stern Goldstein said we are looking at some sort of paved surface right now, whether that becomes an impervious or pervious surface depends on what we have available for infiltration and how well we are doing with the porous concrete.

Mr. Kern said one other recommendation from P&R was for the chain link fence to be green. Ms. Stern Goldstein said that's an interesting thing. I wish I had a chance to talk to them. The green actually jumps out at you. The black on the chain link recedes into the distance and has the effect that they are looking for, but the green always ends up being brighter than anything in nature. If they are looking for it to blend in, I'd respectfully suggest black. Mr. Kern said we could prepare a memo to the P&R regarding the color of the chain link fence. Mr. Cahalan said okay. Mr. Maxfield said they are always talking about things that have colors not found in nature, they could be a green and someone would think it's going to blend in and it doesn't, it just pops out.

Mrs. Yerger said I do like the idea that if potentially they decide to use this area as a parking area as opposed to a picnic grove - I do like the idea of using the pervious concrete again since it won't be used everyday. Ms. Stern Goldstein said that one, I'm not actually sure we could do it in the pervious concrete because of the way they are putting it down with the trail width, it might be porous asphalt, I'm not sure what it would be. Roger developed that technique of doing the trail, it was his paving machine, and that was sort of the width of it, so we were receiving all form work. Usually there is a lot of form work with the concrete. Mrs. Yerger said that's fine. Mr. Maxfield said what is the proposed width of the trail? Ms. Stern Goldstein said it is 6' wide, ¼ mile of walking trails. Mr. Maxfield said 6' is good. Mr. Cahalan said we moved the port-a-johns in the one area. Ms. Stern Goldstein said yes, the port-a-johns are in the middle of the plan, diagonally, and maybe a little enclosure for them – a little privacy.

Mrs. Yerger said do you need anything formally from us? Mr. Cahalan said no, we just wanted to get this out. Mrs. Yerger said it looks good. Mr. Cahalan said this is something we've been working on. It follows after Polk Valley Park and Kingston Park. We probably will not be able to do any of this, this year because of our schedule, but we wanted everyone to take a look at it. After it goes around a couple of times, we will bring Judy back with a final design plan and then we'll be ready to go forward with that.

Mr. Kern asked if there was any comment before we move on? No one raised their hand.

B. JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON PROGRAM REVISION

Mr. Kern said Council requested at their last meeting that the requirements for the Junior Council Person Program be revised to permit high school sophomores (10th grade) to participate in the program.

Mr. Cahalan said we made the changes to this that would allow the 10th graders, the Sophomores to join the program and they are limited to the Planning Commission, Environmental Advisory Council and the Township Park & Recreation board. Mrs. Yerger said that's good.

MOTION BY: Mrs. Yerger moved for approval of the revised Junior Council person program.
SECOND BY: Mr. Maxfield
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

C. SELECTION AND ENDORSEMENT OF TOWNSHIP REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY GAMING REVENUE & REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Mr. Kern said Northampton County Council Ordinance #552 creating the Northampton County Gaming Revenue and Economic Development Authority directs that a representative from Lower Saucon Township be appointed as one of the nine (9) members of this body which will be charged with the responsibility of disbursing the gaming funds that Northampton County will be receiving starting in 2009 as the Host County to the Sands Beth Works Casino in Bethlehem, PA.

Mr. Cahalan said we gave you a copy of that ordinance that was adopted by the County Council forming the authority, a nine member authority. There would be one representative from each of the contiguous municipalities, and in addition, there would be the President of the County Council, the Northampton County Controller, and also the County Executive. I did speak to the County Executive, and the process is that he is asking for a representative to be sanctioned or to be endorsed by each of the municipalities, and then he is going to pass that on to the County Council and they will do the appointing to this body. In the other municipalities so far, they have either appointed a council member or a mayor as their representative. I believe you also received a copy from a resident indicating that he was interested in becoming the representative to this body. Mr. Kern said he would like to suggest that Priscilla deLeon be the representative from Council as it's important for someone who has been involved with the process from the beginning to have continuity throughout. I'm sorry Priscilla is not here tonight to hear my praise for her, but without her participation in this in the very beginning, there wouldn't be a contiguous clause in the gaming statute because she was the one who insisted on meeting with Senator Boscola and I was present at the meeting along with Jack and without her calling that meeting, and insisting on the contiguous municipalities getting first preference to the gaming money, none of this language would have been in there, so I'd like to see Priscilla on this because of the history involved in this. Mrs. Yerger said is that a formal nomination? Mr. Kern said yes, it is.

- MOTION BY:** Mr. Kern moved to appoint Priscilla deLeon as township representative from Council to the Northampton County Gaming Revenue and Redevelopment Authority.
- SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger
- Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
- ROLL CALL:**

Mr. Maxfield said the set up of the way the meetings will run, the other thing on the same note was what Glenn was talking about, about people who have been involved from the very beginning. If we are going to appoint someone, would we be able to send our staff members along for support for this person. In other words, could Jack go along to support Priscilla with information. Jack and Charlie Luthar have been knee deep in this thing, and I'd hate to see that stop also. I would also like to send Priscilla as the official representative, and Jack, if he is willing, as her staff. Mr. Horiszny said these have to be public meetings? Mr. Cahalan said yes. Mr. Kern said good.

- MOTION BY:** Mr. Kern revised his previous motion to appoint Priscilla deLeon as township representative from Council to the Northampton County Gaming Revenue and Redevelopment Authority and have Mr. Cahalan go along to the meetings, as staff support.
- SECOND BY:** Mrs. Yerger amended her second
- Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
- ROLL CALL:** 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

Mr. Cahalan said he will notify the County Executive.

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D. APPROVAL OF UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICER CONTRACT

Mr. Kern said the Police Officers have ratified their contract and it is now before Council for their approval.

Mr. Cahalan said it's been ratified, it's being passed around for the police officers to sign, and we'll get you a copy of it. I think you know details, three year contract, it was a very productive negotiation with the police officers. They are shifting to a twelve hour schedule with this contract, and I think both sides are satisfied. I think we addressed some of the concerns going into the negotiations. It's ready for your approval this evening.

Mr. Maxfield said at what point will the contract become public? Mr. Cahalan said the terms of the contract, we'll try to get out in a press release tomorrow morning, and we'll send that out to everybody. The actual contract, as soon as it's ready, will be a public document.

Mr. Kern said he'd like to thank the police officers for their participation in this. It could have easily gone to arbitration and because of their support and involvement in this, it worked out well for both sides, which is good in a negotiation, when you can say that. I'd like to thank the police for what they did in this.

Mr. Maxfield said I agree. Everybody seemed to be working towards the goal of avoiding the real messy way of doing it and I agree it was a rewarding experience and we got to see a whole lot of the world through the eyes of the police that we had no idea of before, and it was a good thing.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved to approve the uniformed police contract.
SECOND BY: Mr. Kern
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

VI. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF MARCH 18, 2009 MINUTES

Mr. Kern said the minutes of the March 18, 2009 Council meeting have been prepared and are ready for Council's review and approval.

MOTION BY: Mrs. Yerger moved for approval of the March 18, 2009 Council meeting minutes.
SECOND BY: Mr. Maxfield
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 3-1 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent; Mr. Horiszny – No)

B. FEBRUARY 2009 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Kern said The February 2009 Financial Reports have been prepared and are ready for Council's review and approval.

MOTION BY: Mr. Horiszny moved for approval of the February 2009 financial reports
SECOND BY: Mrs. Yerger
Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.
ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

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VII. PUBLIC COMMENT/CITIZEN NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

VI. COUNCIL AND STAFF REPORTS

A. TOWNSHIP MANAGER

- Mr. Cahalan said in your packet is a letter of interest from a Ms. Chiharu Tokura. She's interested in filling one of the vacant slots on the Environmental Advisory Council. She is involved with the Alliance for Sustainable Communities in the Lehigh Valley, who is working with us on the E House project. She would be filling in a vacant, non-voting slot whose term runs until December 31, 2011. I'm recommending the appointment of Chiharu Tokura for the vacant, non-voting position on the EAC and the term expiring 12/31/2011.

MOTION BY: Mrs. Yerger moved to approve Jack's appointment of Chiharu Tokura.

SECOND BY: Mr. Maxfield

Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

- Mr. Cahalan said we received notice from Northampton County that we were approved for \$10,000 for the TreeVitalize program. That's a DCNR program. We submitted that for the landscaping improvements at Polk Valley Park, so that will help defray the cost of the tree planting there. They indicated you could have received up to \$25,000, but there were limited funds, so they wanted to spread it around what they had on this round to all the applicants, that's why it was the reduced amount. This does obligate us for the tree tender training, the EAC representatives and a township Public Works member has to attend training, and that's being put on by DCNR. There will be a program in Lehigh County on June 11. I don't know the location, but will keep you posted on that. I do need authorization for the Council President to execute the grant agreement for this funding.

MOTION BY: Mrs. Yerger moved to approve for authorization for the Council President to sign for the TreeVitalize grant.

SECOND BY: Mr. Maxfield

Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? Mrs. Yerger said she just wanted to thank Jack and Judy and her staff. We kind of pulled this out of the hat again at the last minute, and they worked very diligently for four days pulling this together, so again, I wanted to publicly thank them. We found out about it and weren't sure if we fully qualified for it, and when they did get back to us that we did qualify, we didn't have a whole lot of time. They did a great job. Mr. Maxfield said as co-signers, can Saucon Creek Watershed Association go for the training also? Mrs. Yerger said we have to send so many people, so they will be obligated. It will be Terry Boos and Keri Maxfield and then yourself and me for the EAC. Mr. Maxfield said Terry has hurt himself, so they may have to send someone else. Terry fell out of a tree. Mr. Cahalan said I'll keep you up to date on that location.

ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

- Mr. Cahalan said lastly, this is something that you'll be interested in. We received a letter from the Lower Saucon Sportsman's Club indicating they were interesting in adopting Ringhoffer Road as an "Adopt a Highway" program, and they will periodically clean up the litter along the road. It's a township road, not a PennDOT road. PennDOT has an "Adopt a Highway" program, but I think with Council's agreement, we can set up and support them in this endeavor by providing them with a recognition signs, work signs, the bags to pick up the litter and any safety vests that are needed. If you support this, it would be subject to the Solicitor and the insurance consultant looking into this, reviewing it and approving it. I think that would be good if you have a group like this looking out for

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Ringhoffer Road for any littering that is along there. It would be approval to support the Sportsman cleanup subject to review by the Solicitor and insurance consultant. Mr. Maxfield said I think they would have to work this out with the City, as parts of the road that go into Bethlehem they are going to have to work out an agreement.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved that we accept their offer.

SECOND BY: Mr. Horiszny

Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

B. COUNCIL/JR. COUNCIL

Stephen Prager

Absent

Mr. Maxfield

- He said it's just an oversight, he's been up at Polk Valley Park the last couple of weeks, and there are little bits of porous concrete left here and there. There's some in the infiltration rocks at the top parking lot, some along sides of the paths, here and there. I know it's not done yet, and maybe a clean up is scheduled for afterwards, but I just want to keep this one on the radar.

Mrs. Yerger

- As an FYI, we are moving forward with the bat exclusion at Lutz-Franklin that is taking place next week on Aril 6 and 7, and at the same time, what they will do, they will be putting in the footers for the mini bat condo in Kingston Park where Judy has helped select the site. That project is moving forward and we are real pleased with that. We'll be able to add that to education for the curriculum for visitors and the students that go to the Lutz-Franklin schoolhouse. Mr. Horiszny said they did have the first class of the year there today. Mrs. Yerger said they are having their open house on May 10 and we encourage everyone to come as the mini condo will be up, and hopefully, it will have bats and we will hopefully be talking about them. We just need to have the bats in there.

Mr. Horiszny

- He said I was going to mention the volunteer appreciation, but I see we have a memo on that at this time.
- He said there was an article in the PSATs April newsletter that has some comments on minutes. In case we ever discuss them again, I'm going to pass each one of you a copy.
- Mr. Cahalan said do you want to add anything to the volunteer appreciation event we handed out? Ms. Huhn said there are different scenarios. We could do a volunteer dinner, picnic, or buffet. Mr. Horiszny said I had thought when Township Government week had been celebrated, that might be a time, but it might be closer at hand than we have time for. Mr. Maxfield said we should email suggestions to you, Leslie? Ms. Huhn said yes.
- The Historical Society has a fundraising vintage fashion show on April 24, 2009. If anyone is interested, contact the Historical Society, and please come, they need support.

Mr. Kern

None

Mrs. deLeon

Absent

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E. ENGINEER
None

F. SOLICITOR
None

G. PLANNER
➤ Ms. Stern Goldstein said yesterday in Harrisburg, it was declared that April will be Pennsylvania State Children and Nature Awareness month in support of the No Child Left Inside initiative, which I am a member of the Bucks County coalition. I wanted you to know that. In addition to being Landscape Architectural month, it's National Children Awareness month and Earth Day will be coming up later in the month also.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Mr. Maxfield moved for adjournment. The time was 8:10 PM.

SECOND BY: Mr. Horiszny

Mr. Kern asked if anyone had any questions? No one raised their hand.

ROLL CALL: 4-0 (Mrs. deLeon – Absent)

Submitted by:

Jack Cahalan
Township Manager

Glenn Kern
President of Council