
Lower Saucon Township
Parks & Recreation Board

Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2016

1. **Meeting Called To Order** – The meeting was called to order by Dave Spirk at 7:03 PM at Town Hall Park.
2. **Roll Call**
Present – Dave Spirk, Tom Butera, Niloofar Aflatooni, Priscilla Oren, Gary Gorman, members; Ron Horiszny, Council Liaison. **Absent:** Katrina Schreefer
3. **Nomination of Officers:**
 - **Chair** – Motion by Tom to nominate Dave as Chair. Second by Priscilla. All in favor.
 - **Vice Chair** – Motion by Dave to nominate as Tom as Vice Chair. Second by Gary. All in favor.
4. **Approval of November 7, 2015 Minutes** – Priscilla moved for approval of the November 7, 2015 minutes, second by Tom. All in favor.
4. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items** – Roger Jurszak, President of Saucon Valley Conservancy (SVC) was present along with David Hausman, VP and Sarah Imes, Board Member. Roger said they wanted to go over some improvements at the Heller Homestead Park (HH). He explained how they want to advance the restoration of the barn ruins and signage on the property and wanted Parks & Recreation comments as to how they should move forward. The SVC has a fair amount of money available so they could restore more of the barn ruins. They don't necessarily want the Township to pay for it, but want to know if there should be a joint venture between the Township and the SVC.

Dave S. said their Board talks about how it's going to serve our community, not about cost-effectiveness and thinks it's a great idea. He suggested putting up a pavilion, but said the park is not used by the public, but by the HH and SVC. David H. said there are a fair amount of people using the park there and went over the events for 2016. Dave S. said he doesn't know that the Parks & Recreation Board have a say over the ruins, but can pass it on to Council. David H. said when it gets to the Township, the SVC wants to know if the SVC has the right to raise capital funds to accomplish this. Dave S. said you have to raise money to do the planning and then you need an engineer and an architect and then it needs to go to Zoning. David H. said they have all those services in place.

Dave S. asked if it was their intention to build this building as a fundraiser? Roger said yes, it will help their organization and make the buildings a viable aspect. David H. said the SVC is rejuvenated with lots of people from different walks of life. Tom asked where the SVC wanted to put a pavilion? Roger said over the actual ruins. He said the question is will this concept benefit the community and an enhancement of the park and offset the entire cost of the entire project. Priscilla questioned the liability. David H. said that would have to be worked out

Motion by Priscilla that the Parks & Recreation Board likes and approves the concept for future restorations at the Heller Homestead as described by the SVC; and in the future would like to see some plans. Second by Dave. All in favor.

Dave S. said they would have to talk about the signs. They talked about alcohol in the parks if there were weddings there. Priscilla had concerns about the high rate of cars on that road and bathroom use. Roger said they hire the LST PD to slow down traffic and they rent port-a-potties. David H. spoke of the Arts Festival for June 4, 2016 and said they expect 75 tents and over 1,000 people in attendance and told the P&R Board to come out and see how it's set up.

5. **Projects**

- **Town Hall Park** – No update
- **Southeastern Park** – No update
- **Steel City Park** – No update
- **Heller Homestead** – No update
- **Polk Valley Park** – No update
- **Kingston Park** – No update
- **Easton Road Fields** – No update
- **Saucon Rail Trail** – No update
- **Draveczech Parcels** – No update
- **Grants** – No update
- **Woodland Hills Preserve** – No update
- **Volunteer/Scout Projects** – No update

6. **Old Business:**

- **Parks, Recreation and Open Space Survey** – Dave S. said he has a draft Leslie put together. They want us to clarify some of the recommendations the Parks & Rec Board made and there are some from B&J. He thinks everything B&J came up with was good in addition to the questions from P&R. This survey would go to citizens of LST with these questions by email. The P&R Board had no other comments.

7. **New Business**

- **Future of Saucon Valley Community Day** – Dave S. said Leslie is asking do we want to be involved and are there any individuals who want to be involved. This takes place in August. Priscilla wanted to know why the P&R would be involved. Dave S. said it's a big job to put everything together. Ron said a group has come forward and a board will be formed. Dave S. said excellent.
- **Recommendation for "At the Helm" Recreation Fee - \$8,275.00** – Ron said the funds could go to Steel City or Woodland Hills. Motion by Priscilla to put this money into the Steel City Park Fund. Second by Gary. All in favor.

8. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned, motion by Tom, second by Priscilla at 8:15 p.m.

9. **Next Meeting:** Monday, March 7, 2016 at 7:00 pm at Town Hall