
Lower Saucon Township
Parks & Recreation Board

Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2014

1. **Meeting Called To Order** – The meeting was called to order by Dave Spirk at 7:03 PM.
2. **Roll Call**
Present – Dave Spirk, Tom Butera, Alan Hall, and Gary Gorman, members; Matt Smith, Jr. Council member; Jack Cahalan, Staff Liaison. **Absent:** Priscilla Oren and Bill Ross
3. **Nomination of Officers:**
 - **Chair** – Gary moved to nominate Dave Spirk for Chair; second by Tom. All in favor.
 - **Vice Chair** – Dave moved to nominate Tom Butera as Vice Chair, second by Gary. All in favor.
4. **Approval of December 2013 Minutes** – Tom moved for approval of the December 2, 2013 minutes, second by Gary. All in favor.
- IV. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items** – Roger Jurczak was in attendance to speak about the Saucon Rail Trail and Heller Homestead items on the agenda
- V. **Projects:**
 - **Town Hall Park** – Jack said that the repairs to the pavilion have been completed.
 - **Southeastern Park** – Jack said there was nothing to report on Southeastern Park
 - **Steel City Park** – Jack said that unfortunately they will have to push the Steel City Park upgrades back, possibly until 2016. Because the majority of the construction on that project, which involves tearing up the paved basketball court surfaces and relocating the pavilion and play structures, will be done by our PW Department we would need to close down the park in the spring to allow them to do this work and then have enough time remaining to complete their road resurfacing projects. The problem the last two years has been that we still do not have approval from PennDOT to use a portion of Riverside Drive for stormwater infiltration nor do we have approval for a crosswalk that will connect the park to the Steel City Fire House. Based on this we had to push the project back another year and then the Black River Stormwater project came up this past year and we are currently doing the engineering on that and because it involves public safety it is a little more critical than the park so we may have PW do this next year and Steel City Park the following year.
 - **Heller Homestead** – Roger filled in the Board on the improvements that are planned for the parking lot and the area where the maintenance garage was taken down and the outbuildings that they planning to construct with the wood that the Township had been storing. The buildings will be used to store maintenance equipment for the garden which are now kept in the cellar of the main house.
 - **Polk Valley Park** – Jack said that as soon as the weather permits, Roger Rasich will be going out to the park with the Township Engineer to review the location and layouts for the tot lot and pavilion that have been approved for installation. As soon as that is completed and the weather allows it, PW will be installing those two features. They will also be looking for a location for

the composting toilet which has to be sited so that the solar power will work effectively as there is no electrical power at that park. Public Works will also be completing two small projects to install a pathway at the park entrance and fencing along the quarry pathway.

- **Kingston Park** – Jack said that this park is finished. There were a couple of minor problems with the composting toilet (screeching fan, leak in the bathroom units, and condensation on the interior walls) that we hope have been corrected. When the park opens in the spring they have a Girl Scout troop who will be caring for the garden.
- **Easton Road Fields** – Jack handed out copies of the final plan for the parking lot and pathways that the engineer and planner prepared. The parking lot will come in off of Easton Road and will provide 40 spaces and 2 handicapped spaces. An ADA paved pathway will connect the parking lot with areas on both sides of the field where we will locate bleacher areas with safety railings. The pathways allow a handicapped individual to reach the playing field and the dugouts. The parking lot will be gravel for now. Jack explained the background on the fields and the accessibility problem getting to the upper field which is why we have decided to focus only on improving the lower field for now. We will send the HLSLL a copy of the plan. IF this plan is approved by the Council we want PW to complete it this year. We will coordinate the construction with the HLSLL so it doesn't interfere with their baseball schedule.
- **Grants** – Nothing to report
- **Saucon Rail Trail** – Roger reported on the project that Frank Pazzaglia from Lehigh University would like to undertake to clear away the trees and brush from an outcropping along the SRT that is located between Meadows and Old Mill Roads. There was a discussion about signage and QR codes to provide information about the geologic significance of the outcropping.
- **Dravecz Parcels** – Jack said that they are still working on solving the parking issue for these parcels.
- **Volunteer/Scout Projects** – Roger said that a local Boy Scout has been approved to construct a kiosk at the Reading Drive Trailhead. He is assisting him with the plans and a local resident has agreed to contribute the funds to pay for the materials for kiosk.

7. **Old Business:**

- **Friends of Park** – No update on this.

8. **New Business**

- **Boy Scout Camp Out at Heller Homestead** – Jack handed out the Special Event Application for a Boy Scout camp out at the Heller Homestead Park on the week-end of April 25-27th which is when the Saucon Valley Conservancy will be holding their SV History Day events at the Homestead. Jack said that the scouts have done this for the past several years without any problems. The Board voted to recommend approval of the event.
- **Relay for Life 5K Race** – Jack handed out a Special Event Application that was received from the American Cancer Society Relay for a 5K race that they want to hold during their Relay for Life event at Dimmick Park on May 17th. The route of the race will take it onto Wassergass, Reservoir Roads and Panther Way. No road closures or police will be required for the event. The Board voted to recommend approval of the event.

- **Kreichelt Recreation Fee** – A recreation fee of \$3,310 was received from the approved subdivision. The Board voted to recommend that it be deposited in the Polk Valley Park Fund.

9. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

10. **Next Meeting:** Monday, April 7, 2014.