
Lower Saucon Township
Parks & Recreation Board

Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2013

1. **Meeting Called To Order** – The meeting was called to order by Dave Spirk at 7:05 PM.
2. **Roll Call**

Present – Dave Spirk, Tom Butera, Bill Ross, Gary Gorman, Bernadette Fong, members; Jack Cahalan, Staff Liaison. Absent: Priscilla Oren

Guest – Jack introduced Alan Hall who was interested in becoming a member of the Board. Alan spoke briefly about his background.
3. **Approval of February 2013 Minutes** – Bill moved for approval of the February minutes, second by Tom. All in favor.
4. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items** – None
5. **Projects:**
 - **Town Hall Park** – Jack said the only thing he has is a request from an individual, Judy Illingworth, who has reserved the pavilion in Town Hall Park for a graduation party on Saturday, June 29, 2013. She is asking approval to have a live band perform from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Jack advised that the park ordinance prohibits any amplified sound and she would need the Council's approval for the music. The Board felt that if it ended by 7 p.m. they would have no problem with the music and unanimously made that motion.
 - **Southeastern Park** – No update
 - **Steel City Park** – Jack handed out the press statement that indicated that the park construction was going to be postponed until 2014 because of delays in obtaining approval and permits from PennDOT for our use of the state property bordering Riverside Drive.
 - **Heller Homestead** – Jack said we have two (2) Special Event Requests for the Heller Homestead Park. The first request is from Boy Scout Troop #319 who would like to have 12 scouts and leaders camp out at the park on March 23-25, 2013. Jack said that the scouts have camped out there several times before and know what the routine is. The second request is from a group of Civil War re-enactors, the 153rd Pennsylvania Volunteers, who will be participating in the Saucon Valley History events at the Heller Homestead on April 27, 2013. They set up tents, have camp fires, and put on demonstrations of Civil War life. This is another group that has been approved previously for these events. The only new thing they are proposing are firing demonstrations with Civil War reproduction rifles. They will be using just black powder – no live ammunition. The Fire Marshall requested that they have fire extinguishers available and that they maintain control over the gun powder that will be used in the demonstrations. The Board recommended approval of both events.
 - **Polk Valley Park** – Jack said that we have started receiving requests from soccer and lacrosse for the use of the multi-purpose fields. Dave asked when the fields would be open for play? Jack advised it would be mid-March weather permitting. Dave said that is what Hellertown Borough told the HLSLL too. Jack said we still have to resolve the issues of the pavilion and tot lot location at the park and he needs to invite several of the Council members out there to view the proposed locations, and also to look at the future location for the composting toilet. After a short

discussion it was decided that we would try to do this in April, weather permitting, before our next meeting. Jack said he will set something up that will include the planner also.

- **Kingston Park** – Jack showed the members photos taken of the construction of the composting toilet at the Old Castle factory in Forks Township. He indicated that we are planning to excavate the space and have the underground vault and the restroom module delivered and set in place sometime within the next few weeks. We will then have the electricity hooked up to the toilet, the pathway lighting installed, and the pavilion erected. Jack advised that we are looking to have a local contractor assemble the pavilion. Once we have the toilet installed and operating at Kingston Park we will be looking to have the other two installed at PVP and Steel City Park, and possibly in the future at the Saucon Rail Trailhead site.
- **Easton Road Fields** – Jack said that our focus is on improving the lower field only and installing a parking lot off of Easton Road and pathways from that to the lower field to spectator areas on both sides with bleachers. He is still waiting on a plan for the parking lot from the engineer.
- **Grants** – Nothing to report
- **Saucon Rail Trail** – Jack said that the Reading Road Trailhead plan has been approved by Council and we are looking to begin construction on it this spring. Jack said that the Saucon Rail trail Oversight Commission is raising funds for a water fountain for pedestrians and dogs that will be located at this site.
- **Volunteer/Scout Projects** – No update.

7. **Old Business:**

- **Friends of Park** – No update on this. Jack said that discuss this when Priscilla gets back.
- **Northampton County Park Acquisition & Development Grant Program** – No update on this.

8. **New Business**

- **Map of Preserved Properties** – Jack handed out a copy of this map which he drafted to show the locations of the properties that have been preserved for open space in the Township. In addition the map shows the size, date acquired, and the amount and source of the funds used to acquire it. Jack said that it is going to be reviewed by the EAC and then it will be put on the Township website. Jack said that he is working on collecting more information about these properties so he can identify how the public can access the properties and what uses are permitted on the property so he can post this information for the public. Jack advised that Ron Horiszny, Alan Johnson from the EAC and a representative from Wildlands Conservancy wanted to walk the property to see where hiking trails could be located. Tom volunteered to go with them as the P & R representative. There was a discussion about how we could provide access and parking for the public who visited the property.
- **Re-dedication of Old Mill Bridge** – Jack handed out an article about the Old Mill Bridge rehabilitation and indicated that there will be a short re-dedication ceremony on April 17th at 5 p.m. down at the bridge.
- **Hellertown Park Improvements** – Jack discussed the improvements that Hellertown Borough was undertaking at Water Street and Dimmick Parks. There was a discussion about regional

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park assets such as the Hellertown Community Pool and the steps that the SV Recreation Partnership took towards creating a recreational authority to operate these assets.

9. **Adjournment**: The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.
10. **Next Meeting**: Monday, April 1, 2013.