
Lower Saucon Township
Parks & Recreation Board

Business Meeting

March 5, 2007

1. **Meeting Called To Order:** 7:05 pm Town Hall

2. **Roll Call:**

Present: Bill Ross, Chair; Dave Spirk, Vice-Chair; Michaelann Berger, Steve Zaharakis, members; Jack Cahalan Council Liaison.

Absent: Tom Butera, Scott Schanzenbach, Bernadette Fong,

3. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the Parks & Recreation Board meeting on February 5, 2007 were not approved as there was no quorum at the beginning of the meeting.

4. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items:** None

5. **Projects:**

- **Town Hall Park** - Jack reported there was no activity at the Park other than residents sleigh riding. There are Abitibi paper bins in the front of the playground which are being utilized by residents to drop off paper.
- **Southeastern Park** - no update
- **Steel City** - Jack stated that the legal issues with acquisition appear to be resolved and the Township should be taking possession of the small piece of property. The priority for this parcel will be off-street parking. Jack stated that when we put in the parking spaces we will also work on putting in the paved pathways in the interior of the park that were recommended in the Joint Upper/Lower Saucon Park & recreation Plan.
- **Heller Homestead** - no update
- **Polk Valley Park** - Jack stated that the Township is attempting to reach a settlement with the contractor so that the Township can bring in our own lawn care company to maintain the grounds during the 2007 growing in season. We have advertised a joint bid for lawn mowing services with Hellertown Borough for all of the parks including Polk Valley and those bids will be opened on March 15th. If the Township cannot resolve the issue with the contractor, the contractor will be responsible for the park maintenance through August of this year. Hellertown could on their own accept the bid for the lawn mowing for just their parks. The Board asked what the Council's reaction was to the recommendation to retain an agronomist? Jack stated that he has not heard any comments on this and will have to make another recommendation. Jack advised that the Township will be taking possession of the Nor Car Credit Union property adjacent to Polk Valley Park. Currently, Council has no plans for the use of the property. There was a discussion about the need for additional playing fields on that property. Jack suggested that this topic be discussed when we get together with the sports groups later this year. In addition, the Township and Hellertown Borough are moving ahead with a Joint Recycling Center on the Hellertown Farm property which is adjacent to Polk Valley Park and the Nor Car property.
- **Grants** - no word yet on the DCNR grant application submitted for the trail connector between the school district campus and Polk Valley Park
- **Volunteer Scout Projects** - Jack advised that there are two (2) scout projects at the Heller Homestead Park: the interpretive signs for the nature trail which the Township EAC and a Bill

Sweeney from Jacobsburg State Park will be helping the Girl Scout doing the project with the identification of the flora and fauna and the content of the signs, and a group of 50-100 local Girl Scouts will be doing a general park clean-up and planting flower beds for their Girls Go Green project on March 31, 2007.

6. **Old Business:**

- **Polk Valley Park Update** - covered under projects report
- **Kingston Park Walkthrough Scheduled for March 27th** - Jack stated there will be walkthrough meeting held at the Park on Tuesday March 27, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. Park & Recreation Board members are invited to attend. Council members will be there along with the Historical Society, Dr. Kingston and the Township consultants.
- **Signage for Heller Homestead Nature Trail** - covered under projects report
- **Saucon Valley Community Center Programs** - Michaelann indicated that she had issues with the care of her son who is in their Toddler program and spoke to Theresa, one of the Community Center's Directors, about this. Michaelann said she was concerned about the supervision provided by the Community Center since they will be running the pre-school program at the Township again this summer. Jack suggested that he, Michaelann and Bernadette meet with the Community Center representatives prior to the start-up of this program.

7. **New Business:**

- **Handouts** - Jack handed out material on bicycle routes and Greenways from the LVPC, and an updated field usage schedule. He advised that the HLSLL has now been scheduled for playing fields and, for the first time, a girl's softball group has been scheduled to use the Southeastern Park field which has been underutilized.
- **5-Year Plan** - Jack handed out a chart to Board members that he requested they fill out designating their goals for each of the parks over the next 5 years
- **Review Site Plans** - Plans for the Agentis Car Wash and the Roth Minor were reviewed.

8. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Jack Cahalan