
April 1, 2019

Lower Saucon Township
Park & Rec Minutes

7:00 P.M.

1. **Meeting Called to Order** – The meeting was called to order by David Spirk at 7:02 p.m. at Town Hall.
2. **Roll Call**
Present – David Spirk, Chairman; Tom Butera, Vice Chairman; Atom Kallen, Frank Thompson, Katrina Schreefer, Niloofar Aflatooni; Thomas Spirk – Junior Council Member; Diane Palik, Township Admin. Asst. **Absent** – Bill Ross, Ryan Stauffer, Council Liaison; Nicholas Snead & Ferris Abu-Ghosh, Jr. Council Members.
3. **Approval of February 4, 2019 Minutes** – Mr. Thompson moved for approval of the February 4, 2019 minutes, second by Mr. Butera. Motion passed 6-0 with Bill Ross absent.
4. **Presentations** – None
5. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items** – None
6. **Updates**
 - **Little Free Library Contest** – Mr. Spirk said Mr. Kallen represented us well at the Council meeting. There was some discussion about the fact that it should have a bit of historic element to it with regard to the Redington area of Steel City. Mrs. deLeon said we'd like to see a historic flare and natural areas included. Mrs. Louder agreed. The submission deadline is at the end of April. At the May meeting we will give our recommendations to Council and they will choose from there. To date, we have not received any submissions. Ms. Palik said it's on Facebook, will be going out in the newsletter, an email was sent to the teachers at SVHS, and the flyer was sent to the Hellertown Library.

Ms. Aflatooni said she will help Mr. Kallen with the Elementary and Middle Schools. She said maybe Mr. Kallen could speak or email the Principal and tell him you would like to give a 5-minute presentation to the Art Departments. Ms. Aflatooni said our Jr. Council member, Thomas Spirk, can help out also since he's a student at the SVHS. Mr. Spirk said it's open to any age citizen in the Saucon Valley School District. If we don't get any submission we'll have to maybe submit one as a fallback.
7. **Special Event Applications**
 - **Lower Saucon Township Historical Society Passport to History** – Mr. Spirk said there wasn't any discussion among the Police Chief or Fire Chief about the Lutz-Franklin Schoolhouse. Mr. Thompson said they are requesting a waiver of fees. Mr. Spirk said that's typical for the Township to do that.

Motion by Mr. Butera, second by Mr. Kallen to recommend to Council to approve the Historical Society's Passport to History and waive the fees for the event. Motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Ross absent.
 - **Saucon Creek Arts Festival** – Mr. Spirk said there was some back and forth about handicap parking, accessibility and the fire lane.

Motion by Mr. Spirk, second by Ms. Schreefer that the Parks & Recreation recommend to Council to approve the application, with the caveat that the Public Works Director, Fire Marshal and Police Chief that they are acceptable to all the provisions in their application. Motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Ross absent.

8. **New Business**

- **Glenn Kern Trail at Woodland Hills Preserve** – Mr. Spirk said Glenn Kern was very active in our community, was a long-time Council member and a long-time Planning Commission member. He was the President of Council for quite some time. He likes the idea of the trail. Mr. Spirk said it would be the ADA Trail at the Preserve.

Mr. Thompson said he was at Woodland Hills Preserve a couple of weeks ago and there is still no sign to tell you which driveway to go in. Mr. Spirk said the signs are ready, Public Works is just waiting for the ground to thaw out.

Mr. Thompson said at the Heller Homestead, there is a board there that tells you where it is and two containers that are supposed to have information about the park. He brought it up several times to individuals. There hasn't been a brochure in any of them for years. The Arts thing is coming in June, so he would request they put copies in there. This board oversees the Heller Homestead park portion, but the house and the kiosk is under the guise of the SV Conservancy. We may make a suggestion to Council that someone should look into that. Mr. Thompson said if you walk back in the park, there are supposed to be informational signs and they are falling apart also. Mr. Butera said maybe this could be a Boy Scout project. Ms. Schreefer asked if Ms. Palik could get a list of all the Boy Scout projects and email it to her. Mr. Spirk asked Ms. Palik to pass this information on to Mr. Stauffer.

Motion by Mr. Spirk, second by Mr. Thompson to recommend to Council to approve the "Glenn Kern Trail" at the Woodland Hills Preserve in Glenn Kern's name. Motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Ross absent.

- **Handicap Park Equipment at Polk Valley Park & Town Hall Park** – Mr. Spirk said the administration wants to request some grant money, to purchase some handicapped swings for Polk Valley and Town Hall Parks. The location at Polk Valley Park is right next to the baseball field. The one for Town Hall Park are with the toddler swings.

Ms. Schreefer said she works with people with disabilities, and asked if they are designed for children who are really young, and in a wheelchair. There are some you can actually put the wheelchair right on it. There could be an issue with a parent transferring the child to the swing because of the weight of the child. Mr. Spirk said he's seen them where there's a platform for the wheelchair. If you read minutes from the Council meeting, that's what was being proposed, for toddlers and then go from there.

Ms. Schreefer asked about the ground covering, as the plastic mulch would not work with a wheelchair, you want hard foam. Council wanted the Parks & Recreation to look at this. Ms. Aflatooni said this would be a very good start since we don't have anything like that in our parks. Ms. Schreefer said she'd like to talk to someone because it might only serve 5% of the population. Mr. Spirk said we should take it to Council and ask them what our next step is.

Motion by Mr. Spirk, second by Mr. Butera to recommend to Council to approve the idea of the playground equipment and move forward with the grant application. Motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Ross absent.

Mr. Kallen said he does have someone who might have some input on this equipment, and he'd like to share it. Mr. Spirk said when he and Mr. Butera started, there was no Polk Valley Park, so to come to this point, we are buying specific equipment for specific segments of our population is great. We keep moving forward and it's getting better and better and the Township is making strides constantly.

Mr. Spirk would also like to talk about the snack stand at Polk Valley Park. Hopefully by the May meeting, Ms. Palik could have an update on this. Ms. Schreefer said they'd like to know what the Planner's feedback was and inform Mr. Stauffer about the request. Mr. Spirk said if there is nothing, we will start over and tell them this is what we would like to see done and this is the timeframe.

- Park Locations for May, June, August & September Meetings – The Parks & Recreation Board discussed locations for the summer months and May will be at Woodland Hills Preserve, June at Town Hall Park to coordinate with the Volunteer Picnic if that is the date Council picks, July no meeting, August at Kingston Park – Ella's Garden; and September Steel City Park, all of these meetings start at 6:00 p.m.
- PPL Tree Program – Ms. Schreefer asked about the tree program. Ms. Palik said the information was sent to Council, the EAC and Parks & Recreation. Ms. Schreefer said she supports us moving forward with whatever it takes to be part of PPL's program and please take this to Ms. Huhn.

9. **Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn by Mr. Butera at 7:51 p.m.; second by Mr. Spirk; Motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Ross absent.

10. **Next Meeting** – Monday, May 6, 2019, at Woodland Hills Preserve at 6:00 p.m.