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Lower Saucon Township  
Parks & Recreation Board

Business Meeting

April 3, 2006

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1. **Meeting Called To Order:** 7:15 pm

2. **Roll Call:**

**Present:** Bill Ross, Chair; Dave Spirk, Vice-Chair; Steve Zaharakis, Scott Schanzenbach members; Peter Hertzog, Jr. Council Member; Jack Cahalan Council Liaison.

**Absent:** Michaelann Berger, Tom Butera, Bernadette Fong

3. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the Parks & Recreation Board meeting on February 6, 2006 and the amended minutes from the January 6, 2006 meeting were reviewed and approved.

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

5. **Projects:**

- **Town Hall Park** - Jack indicated that he had received a request from a Brian Schrader who is the coach of girls youth softball team in the LV American Softball Assn. Mr. Schrader requested that the Township install “safety bases” at the softball fields in Town Hall and Southeastern Parks. Safety bases are a double base unit that is installed at first base only; the runner’s portion of the base is orange colored and is in foul territory; the fielder’s portion is white and is in fair territory. The runner crosses the orange base and therefore avoids any collisions with the first baseman covering the bag. In order to install these bases we would have to dig up the concrete footing we installed on the fields several years ago and put in new footings to hold the double anchors needed for the safety bases. Jack said that he spoke to Mark Doklan, the head of the Hellertown Lower Saucon Township Little League, and Mark said that Mr. Schrader was not part of his organization and HLSLL did not need the safety bases for their girl’s softball teams who use the township’s fields. Jack said that Mr. Schrader had not registered with the Township to use any of our fields – the HLSLL may allow him to use the field on one of their open nights. Jack stated that it may be difficult to get these bases installed this year.
- **Southeastern Park** - Jack said that Larry Weaner’s staff has completed planting the meadow.
- **Steel City** - Jack advised that the Township is finalizing the acquisition of the .21 acre property adjacent to the park.
- **Heller Homestead** - Jack advised that the Township planted several buffer trees near Saucon Creek. The port-a-john was delivered to the park.
- **Polk Valley Park** - Jack advised that Judy Stern Goldstein, the Township Planner, will be in charge of the design and implementation of the Phase II and III improvements in the park such as landscaping, trails, play areas, etc. The Township is working with the SVSD to complete the trail connector between the school campus and park. The tentative plan is to run the trail down the east side of Polk Valley Road and build a pedestrian bridge over Polk Valley Run to connect with the paths in the park. Jack also advised that with the assistance of the Heritage Conservancy, Springfield Tree Farm donated approximately 200 sycamore and willow trees which the township will be planting in the parks and as buffer plantings along streams. Mike Keifer from Keifer Landscaping indicated that he would like to donate and plant a large oak tree in the park in honor of Andy Orban who

passed away recently. Jack reminded the Board that when the park is ready to be opened, one of the soccer fields is to be dedicated to the memory of Manny Tavormina. Bill Ross said that the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Board should be held out at Polk Valley Park and should begin at 6:30 pm.

- **Grants** - nothing to report
- **Volunteer Scout Projects** - nothing to report

#### 6. Old Business:

- **Public Release Draft Comprehensive Recreation & Open Space Plan** - Jack handed out copies of the public release draft of this report from Harry Roth. The Plan will be presented to a joint meeting of the Planning Commissions from both Townships on May 18, 2006 here in Lower Saucon Township and then it needs to be adopted by both Townships.
- **Goal & Objectives for 2006** - Jack reviewed the chart that was handed out previously and asked that members give him their recommendations as he will be forwarding this to the Council in May. There was a general discussion about long-term goals such as the need for bike/jogging paths in the township and the potential use of the Hellertown Farm property for walking/horse trails
- **Project 70 Properties in the Township** - Jack stated that the Council directed him to look into the use designation on these properties and he has asked the Township Solicitor to research the deeds on these properties at the Courthouse and he will advise the Board when he has a report from the Solicitor.
- **Names for Town Hall Parks** - Jack stated that he has received no recommendations for names for the upper and lower fields at Town Hall Park.

#### 7. New Business:

- **New Kingston Park Property** - Jack advised that the Township Planner, Judy Stern Goldstein, has been directed to come up with a design plan for the new property that the Township acquired that is adjacent to the Lutz-Franklin Schoolhouse. Judy cannot make the P & R meetings so Jack said that he will obtain recommendations from the Board to take back to Judy. Jack stated that Judy will also meet with the Lower Saucon Township Historical Society who leases the schoolhouse for their ideas on how the property should be used. Jack handed out photos and a map of the site. The property is 2.25 acres and is bordered by Route 78, Applebutter Road, Limpar Lane and the schoolhouse. There is no water or septic on the property. The priority need for the property is parking for cars and school buses who will be visiting the schoolhouse. Permanent restrooms for the schoolhouse will be needed in the future but the preferred location for them is not known at this time. Members asked if Dr. Kingston put any restrictions on the use of the property when he donated it to the Township. Jack stated that the deed says that it should "be limited to use as a recreation area or park in honor of the late Ella M. Kingston". Members felt that following the purpose for which it was transferred to the Township, the property should officially be designated a recreation park and put under the responsibility of the Park & Recreation Board. The consensus of the Board was that the property should contain a play area with playground equipment, benches, and picnic tables to be enjoyed by the residents in the area and by children who would be visiting the site with their parents.
- **Review Site Plans** (Church Hill Estates) There were no comments.

Submitted by Jack Cahalan