
Lower Saucon Township
Parks & Recreation Board

Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2017

1. **Meeting Called to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Tom Butera at 5:58 p.m. at Polk Valley Park Pavilion
2. **Roll Call**
Present – Tom Butera, Vice Chairman; Atom Kallen, Bill Ross, Frank Thompson, Members; Kal Sostarecz, Assistant to the Manager. **Absent** – Dave Spirk, Chairman; Niloofar Aflatooni, Katrina Schreefer, Members; Ron Horiszny, Council Liaison; Ryan Smith, Jr. Council Member
3. **Approval of April 3, 2017 Minutes** – Bill Ross moved for approval of the April 3, 2017 minutes, second by Atom Kallen. All in favor
4. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items** – None
5. **Projects**
 - **Dravec Property** – The Township Engineer is preparing a cost estimate to complete a subdivision of the property providing for three parcels: the existing home on one, a second small parcel for a new home, and the third larger parcel to be sold to the Township “fee simple” which would adjoin the property previously conserved.
 - **Steel City Park** – The Landscape Bid was withdrawn by Council due to cost estimate exceedances. Phone quotes are now being obtained with a target of providing them to Council at their May 17th meeting. Atom reported that the private Facebook group has again received several negative comments from a few people. He re-posted the Township Q&A which was provided earlier in the year addressing the comments.
 - **PVP Snack Bar** – No Update
 - **Easton Road Fields** –No Update
 - **Memorial Bench Program** – Two benches have been completed.
 - **Woodland Hills Preserve** – No update.
 - **Kingston Park – Ella’s Garden** – Girl Scouts will continue maintenance.
 - **Little Free Libraries** – Atom provided updates and asked several questions to help finalize the program proposal. He will be emailing out the draft to the group in the coming days.
 - **Adopt-a-Park** – Due to the expected difficulty in finding volunteers to participate in the program, as well as the general good condition of our parks, this topic will be tabled until a future time should it become necessary.
 - **Memorial Tree Program** – The group is in agreement that brass plaques should be mounted to large rocks and placed by trees. The tree species should be selected by the Township Planner and park locations should be chosen to increase the viability of the tree in that location. The program should be run similar to the bench program since it is so successful.
6. **Special Event Requests**
 - None
7. **Old Business** –
 - Town Hall Park: The stage roof will be removed by Public Works; quotes are being obtained for the painting of the pavilion roof; the outfield fence was repaired; the Nature Trail sign will be repaired by Public Works.
 - Regarding exercise stations, the consensus was that people utilizing the parks walk the trails but do not stop to use stations, even in parks with high quality equipment. At this time, no new stations are proposed, and the stations at Town Hall Park that are either missing in their entirety or missing pieces should completely be removed to eliminate liability.

8. New Business

- A check in the amount of \$3,310.00 was received for Park & Recreation fees from the Du Minor Subdivision. A recommendation was needed as to which park fund it should be deposited into.
Motion by Bill Ross, second by Frank Thompson, to direct the Park & Recreation fees from the Du Minor Subdivision be directed to the Polk Valley Park fund. All in favor.
- Bill Ross had spoken to some individuals playing basketball at the Town Hall Park who requested that a man gate be placed along the long fence running along the parking lot. The Township Planner should be consulted on whether or not it is feasible.
Motion by Bill Ross, second by Frank Thompson, to ask the Township Planner to determine the feasibility of placing a man gate in the fence at the Town Hall basketball court and to determine cost estimates.
- Bill Ross mentioned that Hellertown Borough Authority has water lines running down Polk Valley Road and it would be very easy to run water to the park for a snack stand. However, due to the elevation it may have to be pumped up, so perhaps drilling a well would be cheaper.
- Bill Ross mentioned that the grassy hill next to the tot lot leading down to the playing fields is very steep and difficult to walk on. Because it is a direct route from the parking area, people still use it instead of walking a greater distance, even though it would be easier. He has been requesting steps for many years and would like the Township Planner to determine if it is feasible due to the run and rise.
Motion by Bill Ross, second by Frank Thompson, to ask the Township Planner to determine the feasibility of installing steps leading down to the playing field at a location which is as close to the center of the hill as possible.
- The Townsend and Savitske properties were discussed as potential playing fields. The consensus was that unless we are approached by sports groups looking for more fields, we should not look to create more due to cost. Additionally, those properties would be an ideal location of a community center, due to the flat topography, easy access from Polk Valley Road, and their location across from the school district. We should wait until a need exists, then plan to develop the property appropriately as funds allow.
- Future meeting locations were set at the following parks beginning at 6:00 p.m.
June – Southeastern Park
August – Woodland Hills
September – Steel City

8. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Bill Ross; second by Tom Butera at 6:55 p.m. All in favor.

9. Next Meeting – Monday, June 5, 2017, 6:00 p.m. at Southeastern Park