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Lower Saucon Township  
Parks & Recreation Board

Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2013

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1. **Meeting Called To Order** – The meeting was called to order by Tom Butera at 7:00 PM at Polk Valley Park.

2. **Roll Call**

**Present** – Tom Butera, Gary Gorman, Priscilla Oren, Alan Hall, members; Tom Maxfield, Ron Horiszny, Council Members; Cathy Gorman, Director of Finance; Valerie Liggett, Planner, Boucher & James; Jack Cahalan, Staff Liaison.

**Absent:** Dave Spirk, Bill Ross, Bernadette Fong

3. **Projects:**

- **Polk Valley Park** – Jack and Valerie reviewed the layout and proposed location for the pavilion with the attendees. Jack explained that they had originally had the pavilion located closest to the pathway with the Manny Tavormina rock but the P & R Board felt that it would block the parent's view of their kids playing in the tot lot so we flip flopped the locations. We are planning to use the same Meramec type pavilion structure that we are using at Kingston Park. Jack advised that a pavilion not only provides a picnic area, which we will reserve and schedule like we do the pavilions at the other parks, but it is necessary as a shelter from inclement weather which we need if we are going to hold any recreational events like our summer recreational program at the park. Jack explained the cost reasons why we moved away from the Orlando model we had previously approved. Attendees had questions about how the pavilion would be sited on the slope – would fencing be needed due to the drop-off? Jack and Valerie advised that it would be graded so that there would be a gradual drop-off so no fencing or steps would be needed. Tom asked if the pathways depicted on the sketch plan were needed? Valerie stated they would need to meet ADA accessibility requirements for the pavilion. The members stated that they were interested in having several barbeque grills at the pavilion similar to what is up at Southeastern Park. The group then looked at the staked out dimensions for the proposed tot lot. Jack explained that the P & R Board was in favor of having a tot lot as parents have told them that they would like to have something to occupy the younger kids while the parents are watching the bigger kids play baseball, soccer or lacrosse. The group was shown depictions of two playground settings and they stated that they liked the idea of the playground structure and the swing set being separated by grass into two areas like it was shown in the pictures rather than having them both in one big large area. Jack said that they will be using rubberized mulch like we do at the other parks for the surfacing. Jack mentioned that we do have funds remaining from the Northampton County grant we received for the park. Most of that money went toward the bridge and connector trail. There were no questions from the group. Jack said that Valerie will put together drawings based on what was discussed tonight that we can bring back to the P & R Board and to Council with specifics on type, costs, etc. Jack then took the group over to the tree line next to the bulletin board and said that this could be a possible location for the composting toilet we are planning to install at the park. The reason he chose it was because there is a steep drop-off which would not require any excavation to install the underground vault and the top bathroom module could be installed level with the concrete pathway. The members felt that it would work well in this location and that it could fit in between the two large trees. Tom said he would not be against the cherry trees being removed to install it. The only concern he had was that there was a drainage swale at the bottom of the slope that came down from Hill Road which we could not disturb. Alan pointed out that the orientation of the building to the sun would work well for the solar power needed for the unit.

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Priscilla stated that she and Rett were up in the park last Sunday when a soccer match was being played on Field #3. She said that the gravel parking lot was full with dog park visitors and that there were many cars parked illegally along the road even though there were empty spaces in the middle and upper parking lots. In addition, they also observed two horses and riders coming up the road to the top of the park. Jack advised them that the next time they see something like this they should call the non-emergency number and report it to the police. We have gotten previous reports on the horses. The police need to cite them for being in the park.

Priscilla said that she would like the meetings in the parks to start at 6 p.m. rather than 7 p.m. Everyone agreed with this. We discussed having the June meeting in either Southeastern, Town Hall or Heller Homestead Park.

9. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.
10. **Next Meeting:** Monday, June 3, 2013.