

Minutes

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Lower Saucon Township  
Parks & Recreation Board

Business Meeting

June 1, 2009

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1. **Meeting Called To Order:** 7:00 pm Polk Valley Park
2. **Roll Call:**

**Present:** Dave Spirk, Chair; Tom Butera, Vice Chair; Bill Ross, Donna Bristol, Scott Schanzenbach, Members; Glenn Kern, Council Liaison; Jack Cahalan, Staff Liaison;

**Absent:** Sheri Herman, John Sweeney
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.
4. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items:** - Pete Kowalski joined the meeting and said that the SV Lacrosse through Ron Bracalente had requested the use of one of the multi-purpose fields. He discussed their request to hold a skills camp in June-July for area youth. Jack advised the P & R members that our facilities use policy, which is not yet officially adopted, states that the Township will only allow local non-profit organizations who are involved with SV youth sports to use the parks & athletic fields. After hearing Pete's presentation, the P & R Board were okay with them using Field #5 for this activity, provided they reserve it with Carol and provide the requisite insurance, etc. The P & R Board suggested to Pete that the SV Lacrosse organization collect any fees for the camp and that they pay for the services of any coaches, so that it will be SV Lacrosse that is running the camp. P & R also advised Pete that the fields could be closed for inclement weather per Roger's call.
5. **Projects:**
  - **Town Hall Park** - Jack reported that there were two (2) complaints received about a field closing decision made by Roger due to inclement weather. Roger had closed all of the fields one day and the softball team and a nearby resident had complained that in the past they were allowed to add dirt to the field from a pile that was kept behind the backstop and play when it was wet. The pile has since been removed. Roger advised that there was standing water on parts of the field when it was closed. A member of the other softball team who uses the field emailed that the closing was a "good call" as all of the field in Northampton County were closed that night.
  - **Southeastern Park** -Jack reported that a nearby resident had mowed part of the meadow. A letter has been sent to the homeowner advising them to curtail their tenant from mowing on Township property
  - **Steel City Park** - no update.
  - **Heller Homestead Park** - no update
  - **Polk Valley Park** - The Board members toured Polk Valley Park. Looked at the pervious concrete paths which look very good after making it through the freeze/thaw

of winter with no apparent problems. Jack pointed out the grass trails up along the top perimeter of the park that access Hill Road. Jack said that the Township will be awarding a bid for additional pervious concrete to finish the trails at PVP and for trails at Kingston Park at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting. PW will also be landscaping the trails with topsoil. Looked at the Dog Park. Jack advised that the dog park will be opened in the Fall, probably September. The turf has been re-seeded and looks like it is coming up nicely. Jack advised that the lower part of the Nor Car property along Polk Valley Road is being mowed as it may have to serve as overflow parking in the Fall if the Connector Trail is not finished by then. Walked down through the lower baseball field and observed a picnic table behind the backstop which Jack said he will have moved. The field looked in good shape. Jack said that the HLSLL is only using it for practices at present. Walked down through the lower detention basin and Jack showed where the naturalization would be done in the Phase II improvements. Jack pointed out the power pole that has a guy wire stuck into the side of the detention basin and advised that it is Verizon who still needs to move their wires off this pole to the new PPL pole before this pole and guy wire can be removed. Walked over to the front of the Herman property on Polk Valley Road. Jack advised that the Township has reached a settlement on the barn addition with the Herman's, so we will be scheduling the demolition of the garage addition. Jack showed the two trees in front of the farmhouse that will be protected by the Arborist proposal that Council is considering. Showed where the footbridge for the Connector Trail would cross Polk Valley Run. P & R Board felt that the trail and bridge would be very scenic and enhance the park. Walked up toward the Orban property and around the eastern detention basin this will also be naturalized. Walked past the three (3) storage sheds, which now includes the Township maintenance shed, and up the concrete trail to the three (3) multi-purpose fields. The turf on Field #5 was very lush and full. Jack showed where the fence additions on the north side of each of the three fields would go and also the fence cut-outs in the Phase II improvements. Walked over to Field #4 where the turf was showing some bare patches and the dirt was hard packed. Jack said that we held off on the overseeding in the spring because it conflicted with the application of the crabgrass pre-emergent. Walked over to Field #3 and Scott showed where the field does not drain and stays soggy after rain fall. Glenn felt that the northeast corner of the field maybe higher and maybe preventing any runoff. Dave spoke about some simple PVC drains that could be put just under the surface to drain off some of the water. Jack said that for now we will concentrate on the aeration and re-seeding in the Fall.

- **Kingston Park** - Jack said that Council will be reviewing the final design plans for Kingston Park at their June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
- **Grants** - no update
- **Volunteer Scout Projects** - no update.

6. **Old Business:**

- **Dog Park** - covered under Polk Valley Park inspection.
- **Draft Pest Management Policy** - not covered
- **Draft Policy for Use of Township Parks & Athletic Facilities** - not covered

- **RFP for Agronomist/Turf Management Specialist** - Jack handed out copies of a proposal received from Del Val Soil and Environmental Consultants, Inc. and indicated that this was the only proposal received so far. Dave asked if we would be extending the time period for responses? Jack said we would and would discuss this again at our July meeting. Jack stated that while the cost quoted by Del Val is high, a large portion would be only “one-time” costs.
- **PVP - SVSD Connector Trail** - covered under Polk Valley Park inspection.
- **SEPTA Rails to Trail Project** - Jack said we are not having any progress on the draft lease agreement with the SEPTA Legal Department. We scheduled a May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting with them and all the municipal representatives up here and they cancelled it at the last moment. Jack said that now that the trail is cleared that have been many more complaints about cars, ATVs, pedestrians using the trail and he will ask SEPTA once again to take steps to block off the entrances to prevent any vehicle traffic from getting on the trail. Jack said that he asked Roger to give him an estimate of what type of material he felt should be put down on top of the ballast. Roger recommended that a #9 stone that they use in the anti-skid be put down after the trail is graded and leveled in a 10’ wide path which he estimates would cost approximately \$17,820 for the Township’s 4-mile stretch.
- **Christ Lutheran Church Ball Fields** - No update

7. **New Business:**

- **Review Site Plans** - (Pavelcze Minor Subdivision) - did not review

8. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned. The time was 8:35 PM.

Submitted by Jack Cahalan