

# Minutes

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Lower Saucon Township  
Parks & Recreation Board

Business Meeting

June 7, 2010

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1. **Meeting Called To Order:** The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dave Spirk at 7:07 PM at the Grist Mill Park in Hellertown.
2. **Roll Call:**  
  
**Present:** Dave Spirk, Chair; Tom Butera, Vice Chair; Donna Bristol, Scott Schanzenbach, Judie Rossell, members; Jack Cahalan, Staff Liaison. **Absent:** Bill Ross, Sheri Herman and Jr. Council member, Stephen Prager.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The May meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.
4. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items:** None
5. **Projects:**
  - **Town Hall Park** – No update.
  - **Southeastern Park** – No update.
  - **Steel City Park** – Steel City Park Final Plan approved by Council at their May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - **Heller Homestead** – No update.
  - **Polk Valley Park** -
    1. Finalizing design plan for connector trail. Bridge style has been selected. Bid package being prepared for advertisement.
    2. PVP on 6-22-10 LV Sustainable Landscapes Bus Tour
  - **Kingston Park** – Paving and pervious concrete trails to be resumed shortly.
  - **Easton Road Fields** –
    1. Settlement finalized on April 5, 2010
    2. Township Engineer working on parking area off Easton Road and plan for access and parking off of Mockingbird Hill Road.
    3. Abutting property owners and Hellertown – Lower Saucon LL have been notified of Township ownership
    4. Port-a-john delivered to site
    5. Township PW will be working on cleaning up upper field – will be opened for play in 2011.
  - **Grants** - no update
  - **Volunteer/Scout Projects** – Bluebird boxes to be installed at Polk Valley Park. Kestrel and bat boxes will be mounted on utility poles.

- **Saucon Rail Trail** – Jack reviewed the Saucon Rail Trail Recommendations for Development with the members. After discussion, the Board made the following recommendations to the Township Council:
  1. Fencing for Bridge Crossings – the Parks & Recreation Board recommended that the wood (3-board) plank railing be installed on the bridge crossings in the Lower Saucon Township section of the trail.
  2. Rail Trail Surface – The Parks & Recreation Board reviewed and considered the three (3) surface options that have been presented (e.g. slag, crushcrete, #9 stone) and recommended that the #9 stone be used as the surface material for the Lower Saucon Township section of the trail.
  3. Rail Trail Access Management Gates - The Parks & Recreation Board reviewed and considered several options for access management gates that will be positioned at the road crossings and eventually at the future trailhead access site and they recommended the installation of a basic locking swing gate with bollards on both sides which will allow pedestrians and bicyclists to access the trail, will block motorized vehicles from entering the trail, and with the gate opening, will allow maintenance equipment and emergency vehicles to get onto the trail.
  4. Horses on Trail – The Parks & Recreation Board were advised by the Township Manager that once operational, the Rail Trail section in the Township would be considered as a Township “recreation space” and would fall under the same ordinance rules and regulations that govern other Township parks. These rules currently permit only canines in Township parks. The Parks & Recreation Board supports the prohibition of horses from all Township parks, however, they recommended that the Township Council consider allowing horses on the rail trail with the understanding that a separate side trail, running parallel to the pedestrian/bike surface, would be created with either wood chips or other natural material for use by horses (and by leashed dogs if the owner chooses). The Board is aware that this issue has been discussed at the meetings of the Saucon Rail Trail Advisory Committee and has received support, but due to the delay in approval of the committee by Upper Saucon Township and Coopersburg Borough, the Committee has not been able to obtain a formal committee position and recommendation on this usage from all four (4) municipalities.
  
- **Grants** – No update.
  
- **Volunteer/Scout Projects** – No update.

6. **Old Business:**

- **Joint Recreation Study Committee** – Low turnout again at last meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Working on putting together inventory of the athletic fields in the SV and the organizations that use them. Joe Hoffman from Barry Isett putting together a grant application to DCNR for peer consultant to work with the group. Working on draft memorandum of agreement.
- **Cyclocross Event** – The Parks & Recreation Board recommended that the Council approve this event at Town Hall Park.

7. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

8. **Next Meeting:** It was agreed that the next meeting date would be changed from July 5<sup>th</sup> to July 12<sup>th</sup> as the Township is closed for the Independence Day on July 5<sup>th</sup>. The meeting location will be the Heller Homestead Park.