
Lower Saucon Township
Parks & Recreation Board

Business Meeting

October 2, 2006

1. **Meeting Called To Order:** 7:00 pm Town Hall

2. **Roll Call:**

Present: Dave Spirk, Vice-Chair; Michaelann Berger, Tom Butera, Steve Zaharakis, Bernadette Fong, members; Jack Cahalan Council Liaison.

Absent: Bill Ross, Scott Schanzenbach

3. **Approval of Minutes:** No minutes to approve. There was no quorum in August and no meeting held in September

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

5. **Projects:**

- **Town Hall Park** - Jack advised that the geese are still an issue on the fields at Town Hall Park. There were several recommendations made to repel or deter them but none of these methods will work on a long term basis. There was a discussion about the goose droppings on the fields at the Grist Mill in Hellertown and the recent problem with the ducks who frequent the ponds dying. Jack stated that the dead ducks were tested by the State and found to have a botulism that was not dangerous to humans. Jack stated that the Federal government revised their regulations recently which will speed up the process that states have to go through to obtain permits to remove the geese. Jack said that the Township is not considering taking steps to have the geese removed at this point.
- **Southeastern Park** – no update
- **Steel City** – still nothing finalized on the acquisition of the adjacent property.
- **Heller Homestead** – no update
- **Polk Valley Park** – Jack stated that due to a combination of good weather and the contractor mobilizing his crew, the grass condition at the park has improved dramatically. We were out there within the last month with a private landscaper who we brought in for their opinion and they felt that the park's grass currently was in good shape at this point in time and with the additional growing in time next year they felt the grass will look great by 2008. Jack said that the Township has to decide who will maintain the park in 2007: the contractor, the township or another landscape firm. Jack said that before the park opens in 2008 he would like the Park & Recreation Board to convene meetings with the local sports groups to discuss the issues of scheduling, maintenance, equipment for these new fields so that we have an understanding on their usage before they open. Jack reported that there is still no finalization on the acquisition of the adjacent Nor-Car property. We are continuing to work with the school district on the trail connecting the school campus with the park property.
- **Grants** – Jack stated that we submitted a grant to DCNR for funding for the trail connecting the park and the school campus which includes a 20 ft. footbridge over Polk Valley Run and also for playground equipment for the park.
- **Volunteer Scout Projects** – Jack stated that Troop 319 scouts are working with Hellertown Borough and the Township to affix decals to the storm drain inlets in both municipalities as part of the public education portion of the NPDES requirements. There

are approximately 1,000 inlets in both municipalities and they are working on the first 250 of them.

6. Old Business:

- **Status of Polk Valley Park** - covered under projects report
- **Saucon Region Comprehensive Recreation and Open Space Plan** - Jack advised that the Supervisors from UST and the Council members from LST will be meeting in a joint session on October 24, 2006 in Upper Saucon Township where Harry Roth will be presenting this plan for its final adoption.
- **Kingston Park Update** – Jack advised that Judy Stern Goldstein will be doing a presentation on the Conceptual Sketch Plan for Kingston Park at the October 18, 2006 Council meeting. P & R members were encouraged to attend to hear the presentation.

7. New Business:

- **SEPTA Rail-to-Trail Discussions** – Jack advised that he and Charlie Luthar had a meeting with SEPTA representatives to discuss the feasibility of Township obtaining an easement to run the Leithsville area sewer line down the rail bed to the City of Bethlehem sewage treatment plant. We also wanted to talk to them about the possibility of converting the rail bed into a bike/pedestrian trail that the two communities could utilize. WE hope to have future meetings with the SEPTA representatives on these issues.
- **2007 Budget Recommendations** – Jack asked members for their recommendations for the 2007 budget
- **Hidden Meadows Estates 2 Recreation Fee** – The Board unanimously voted to recommend that the \$3,113 recreation fee paid by the developer be deposited in the Southeastern Park fund.
- **Review Site Plans** – Plans for Hidden Meadows Major Resubmission; McCloskey Avenue Minor; Filler Major; Dravitz Major; Hulett Minor; Estates at Stonehurst at Saucon Valley Major were reviewed with no comments

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by Jack Cahalan