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Lower Saucon Township  
Parks & Recreation Board

Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2014

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1. **Meeting Called To Order** – The meeting was called to order by Dave Spirk at 7:00 PM at Town Hall.
2. **Roll Call**  
**Present** – Dave Spirk, Tom Butera, Bill Ross, Priscilla Oren, Katrina Schreefer, Alan Hall, Gary Gorman, members; and Jason Cherry, Jr. Council member; Jack Cahalan, Staff Liaison.  
**Absent** –
3. **Approval of June Minutes** – Priscilla moved for approval of the September 8, 2014 minutes, second by Tom. All in favor.
4. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items** – None
5. **Projects**
  - **Town Hall Park** – Jack said that the sand volleyball court will be installed next spring.
  - **Southeastern Park** – Jack said the meadow in the park was mowed. Priscilla asked if it was showing any more color. Jack said that they took out some tall weedy growth with the mowing so it might next spring.
  - **Steel City Park** – Jack said that the construction has been postponed until 2016.
  - **Heller Homestead** – Jack said that we have been delayed on completing the plantings around the parking lot. Rett Oren asked how much property the Heller Homestead Park encompasses. Jack said that it is a total of 11 acres and does include property that slopes down to the creek.
  - **Polk Valley Park** – Jack said that the tot lot has been completed and Public Works is installing the rubberized mulch this week. Originally Public Works felt that they could not do the concrete pad for the pavilion so that had to be bid along with the installation of the pavilion, which we did this summer and the bids came back very high and we recommended that the Council reject the bids. Public Works has now indicated that they can do the concrete pad so they will begin working on that shortly and we should have the pavilion completed this year.

Dave asked if there was electricity at the park? Jack said that there wasn't any electric and that was why they were originally looking at the solar powered composting toilet which turned out to be too expensive which is why they switched the composting toilet to the Reading Drive Trailhead site. Jack said that they are going to look at the cost of running electric into the park from Hill Road north of the park. Dave said that the reason he asked was he has been moving the snack wagon up to the park on weekends for the FBLA. He takes it up there on Saturday morning and brings it back on Sunday afternoon. They have been doing pretty good selling water, soda and snacks to the people attending the soccer games. He was thinking that it would be a good idea if there was a shed located at the park that could be used by all of the sports organizations. If it had electric it could have a hot dog roller and popcorn machine. They would not need any stoves or grills to cook anything. The members thought that this was a good idea. Jack said that he will look into what is involved with getting the electric run in to the park. He also will be looking into the use of the wells that are drilled out there for water supply. All the composting toilet needs is electric; it does not need any water or sewer service.

- **Kingston Park** – Jack said that we think we have the weed issue under control with the help of the Girl Scouts doing weeding and in August we had some incoming students at PSU-LV working up there as part of their orientation program.
- **Easton Road Fields** – Jack said we are still waiting for approval of the driveway permit from PennDOT to begin work on this project and the delay may push this project off until next year.
- **Grants** – Jack said that the Township submitted grants to DCNR and to Northampton County for funding to help defray the cost of acquiring a property that was previously a golf course. The \$300,000 Open Space grant was approved by the County. We also anticipate receiving a \$700,000 grant from DCNR. Rett asked what would happen if we did not get the grant? Jack said that Open Space funds would be used. The owner has accepted the offer that the Township made on the property. They have to get the property subdivided as the clubhouse and parking lot is going to be sold to a religious organization and the lot in front with the house and two garages will also be sold off. We will not get the use of the driveway of parking lot so we will have to install a driveway and parking off of Countryside Lane. We expect the settlement on this property to be done sometime this month. Following that we will have PW mow some pathways so that we can walk around and look at the property. There are still some paved cart paths that can be used.
- **Saucon Rail Trail** – Jack said volunteers who planted the meadow are working on enlarging it.
- **Dravec Parcel** – Jack said the parking and access issues have been put off for now.
- **Volunteer/Scout Projects** – Jack showed a photograph of the finished kiosk that the Boy Scout did for the Reading Drive Trailhead for an Eagle Scout project. There will be a dedication ceremony to recognize him and the donor who provided the funds for the kiosk.

6. **Old Business:**

- **Friends of Park** – No update on this.
- **Dog Park Improvements** – Jack showed photographs of the areas where the turf is worn away by the people sitting on the benches. PW will be installing landscape ties and spreading gravel in this area as we can't maintain the grass due to the amount of foot traffic.

7. **New Business**

- **Special Event Request – Cub Scout Cub Car Rally** – Jack reviewed the Special Event Request submitted by Cub Pack 319 for their annual Cub Car Rally event scheduled for November 9, 2014 at Town Hall Park. Motion by Dave, second by Gary. Approved 7-0.
- **Review Site Plans** – None

8. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

9. **Next Meeting:** Monday, November 3, 2014 at 7:00 pm at Town Hall