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1. **Meeting Called to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Phil Spohn, Vice Chair at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall.
 2. **Roll Call – Present:** Members: Chairman - Phil Spohn, Vice Chair – Sandy Miller, Niloo Aflatooni, Robert Blasko, Jerry Holum, and Maia Simon (left at 7:37 p.m.); **Council Liaison:** Laura Ray & Priscilla deLeon (arrived at 6:36 p.m.) &; **Absent Jr. Council:** Cole Hubert, Noah Hubert & Violet Whitley; **Staff Liaison:** Carol Schneider; **Absent Members:** Shaun Yanchuk **Guests:** Christine Seitz.
 3. **Approval of February 3, 2025 Minutes**
Phil Spohn
First, let's approve the minutes of February 3rd, anyone?

Sandy Miller
I'll second.

Phil Spohn
Sandy, move second, second, my seconds. All in favor say aye.

Parks & Recreation
Aye.

Phil Spohn
So, it moves.

Phil Spohn
We accept the minutes.

MOTION: Sandy motioned to approve the minutes.
SECOND: Maia, passed 6-0-1 (Shaun absent).
 4. **Jr. Council:** (Cole Hubert, Noah Hubert & Violet Whitley were absent) - No Reports
 5. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items:** None
 6. **Special Event Applications:** None
 7. **Action Items:**
 1. **Phil - Drafted/Submitted Letter Supporting Initial Proposal Process for the Heller Barn Ruins Project**
Phil Spohn
Application I. Action items. Thank you, Sandy, for taking care of action items. It summarizes our minutes, and it makes it a lot easier to know what's happening. I drafted the letter on behalf of the team that we agreed upon that I had sent out.

Phil Spohn
Laura to provide budget summary details for Park and Recreation plans.
 2. **Laura - To Provide Budget Summary/Detail for Parks and Recreation Plans**
Phil Spohn
Laura will provide budget summary details for Park and Recreation plans.

Laura Ray
Yeah, this was like, requested or brought up at a prior meeting. I don't remember if it was the last meeting or the meeting before so and I don't remember who asked about it either.

Phil Spohn

Okay, I think that's on pages, or is this part of your proposal? The pages 30 proposed capital fund expenses? That's something different. That was part of correct.

Sandy Miller

Just a question. So, the first page is that statement of revenues and expenditures?

Laura Ray

Yes.

Sandy Miller

Then the second part is?

Phil Spohn

Page 35.

Laura Ray

Ours aren't numbered.

Sandy Miller

The proposed capital expenditures, okay? Thank you. I appreciate it.

Laura Ray

So, these just show what's in our budget based on information that we had from last year, projects that are going to be coming up for this year to do so. Cathy did try to explain to me how it all is.

Phil Spohn

Can I ask a question here? Okay, so, if so, you're saying this, I'm on page. What I have 35 and 36 let's look at 35 \$176,000 and you're telling me that's just for that's just for Parks and Rec, okay? Is that correct?

Laura Ray

Say that again. Sorry.

Phil Spohn

I see a total of on page the bottom page 35 \$176,000.

Laura Ray

Right? And this is really recreational expenses, so they're kind of itemized out there. These are the kinds of things that come up every year that are that we have to cover in our budget. So, the easiest ones to identify, or maybe...

Phil Spohn

I mean, I understand.

Laura Ray

So, this is money that's already budgeted. It's already earmarked for these different items.

Phil Spohn

I'm questioning, about the major equipment purchases, \$20,000, where does that come from? Did that come from this team, or is that I'm just, I don't remember coming from this group?

Laura Ray

Not necessarily. That might just be things that were identified that needed to be replaced or fixed.

Phil Spohn

By the staff here,

Laura Ray

Looking at this page, you really can't tell on the next pages, let's see the one page really is just not to do with us. It's just she just wanted to show you that all these numbers add up together to what we're going to see at the bottom somewhere. Well, the one right out. After, right after what we just looked at, not this one.

Phil Spohn

The one with five, \$497,000 at the bottom.

Laura Ray

Right. So, that number, yeah, really, I'm not the finance person for this. So, park improvements, I think it's more explained here. I think that's for the path paving that was, let me find, why don't I find the other page of this budget?

Phil Spohn

Well, there is a piece that seems to be inserted into again, I have everything numbered.

Laura Ray

All right, so the pages aren't kind of next to each other.

Sandy Miller

It's on the back page.

Laura Ray

There's one that has purple print on top, and then two pages later, purple print on top, yeah, and it's highlighted, right?

Phil Spohn

Something inserted.

Laura Ray

Numbers that start on the first page with the purple top heading add up to this. And that's where that \$3,845,000 comes from, which is all kinds of other stuff, plus our stuff. So, the stuff specific for Parks and Rec is the highlight it. So, the park improvement, they had already put aside money for paving the trail in Polk Valley Park, I believe, and then for the tot lot being replaced in Southeastern Park.

Phil Spohn

That's my question.

Laura Ray

That's what they have.

Priscilla deLeon

I apologize for being late to the conversation.

Laura Ray

We're just reviewing because somebody has asked in the past to see like, what budgeted amounts are for Parks and Rec? Yeah, so these are already tagged and earmarked for specific projects. So, it's not that it's available right now do something else.

Phil Spohn

It seems like these types of things are generated outside of this group. And if that's normal, I don't know what's normal.

Laura Ray

I mean, it's like what we talk about this year could maybe feed into what gets budgeted for next year. So, we said Park X has all the benches broken and all the equipment's broken. We could be talking about, well, let's get that part fixed up.

Priscilla deLeon

You can make recommendations.

Laura Ray

These may have rolled over from past recommendations.

Phil Spohn

I'm just wondering, like being here last year. I don't remember us talking about that, but if the if the staff is doing that, I guess, how do they communicate to this team that that's in the budget? I would say that would be a good, healthy thing to try to figure out. I had no idea there's \$500,000 that was being spent on that, then not against it or anything. I'm just wondering how that happens if staff have that ability to do that, I think that's fine.

Laura Ray

I guess some of it also comes from, like the public works guys that are out there walking around the stuff that they do in the parks, and they identify projects, some of them involve work they're going to be doing.

Phil Spohn

Could budget so, like the budget is, is finalized in what month?

Laura Ray

We start talking about it in October. It has to be finalized by December 30.

Priscilla deLeon

The 31st. Yes, but what I was going to say is, Cathy's probably preparing it now and like, I think she sends around an email, like, asking different groups, like, for submissions, like suggestions and like. So, I think that if this group would like to say, you know what we're looking at this park, and really it needs help, you know? You know what I'm saying that we would like to recommend X number, you know, or just looked into and see. And sometimes a grant will pop up, and Cathy will say, oh, this was on our wish list, and let's apply for it.

Laura Ray

And speaking of the wish list, that popped in my head. So, Cathy did say they're here somewhere. Is our chart of items that we are either working on, thinking of, working on, and want to work on. It's here somewhere. Yeah, it looks like that. What Carol held up. It has some colors on it. So, I know we went through that at some point, I'd say, so that's a place where they grab ideas from to see if it fits into the budget, like Priscilla said, if they see a grant that comes up that might match up to something we have on the wish list.

Phil Spohn

Yeah, etc., and like, how is that communicated to this team? Is that something that would get to me that we can make sure it gets on the agenda, so that we're aware of it? And, for instance, I and if we can do an action item, yeah, that, and I'll make note of it in I would say October, November, I'd want to be contacting Cathy to find out, well, I'd like to, but I'd like to know the final what's what is being recommended and where the expenditures for Parks and Rec are going to be, so that I could share that with this group. If we're not fully informed of that, I'd like to share it with this group.

Priscilla deLeon

It's October 15th. She has to give us the budget. Is that right? But it's somewhere there. But it's September.

Phil Spohn

Let's make it September that I'll contact Cathy to just get your first meeting in September to get a heads up on what might then the staff might be including in parks and rec.

Laura Ray

If we have something that is absolutely on our list, that you know, maybe we just add it to the list in the next month or two or three or something we want to bump up higher. Could tell her as soon as you can tell her, because then it has more chance of getting a grant lined up.

Phil Spohn

I wonder, could we put that that'd be a great thing to have on our standard agenda, is keeping a tally of our things throughout the year that we think could be on that wish list? Yep, that we'd have, like, maybe right after the or right after Park updates. We could, we could have a Carol, we could have a right there on and a running tally. How about we have a running tally of capital projects that we see that we need, and then we, you know, we'd have it in front of us every month and not lose track of that.

Carol Schneider

Okay.

Phil Spohn

can I have one other question, Laura, in between your report, at least the way I got, I don't know if it's a hard copy, but the one that I have digital, there's a whole Parks and Recreation spreadsheet fee in lieu of schedule.

Laura Ray

So, this is a different topic, so I'm not sure why the pages are like they are.

Phil Spohn

Can you talk into the mic there Jerry?

Jerry Holum

Improvement, also funding related to Saucon Valley Rail Trail. Which grant is award? What are we planning there for Saucon Valley?

Phil Spohn

Can you tell us, Jerry, where you are looking?

Laura Ray

The one with the purple top with the yellow highlighted, budget.

Jerry Holum

Post budget. It was highlighted.

Phil Spohn

Which pay, where, what number? Yeah, what number, like number, I'm saying 402,409, 410?

Jerry Holum

It's account, 452.

Phil Spohn

Okay.

Jerry Holum

On that one, it has also funding related to Saucon Valley Rail Trail, if granted.

Laura Ray

This has to do with the I believe this is for the bathroom on the rail trail head.

Jerry Holum

Well, our grant has already been, we received it.

Laura Ray

This was back in December, so maybe it wasn't finalized at that point, this piece of paper here, yeah, so that's why they put us. We put aside the money, assuming that we might get the grant, and now that we did, we need, I guess, matching funds, or, I'm not sure how that grant was, so that's what that is for, the bathroom there.

Jerry Holum

So, it's the Reading Trailhead.

Laura Ray

So somehow, between the three of those things, they, whoever figured out \$500,000, It wasn't me.

Phil Spohn

If anyone could give me off the top of their head of the Parks and Recreation right now? How many grants are in process or at work?

Jerry Holum

They're all on this list.

Phil Spohn

That's the very end, very close to the very end. I don't know, I see the ones in progress, but in progress is not necessarily a grant. It means that it's being worked on.

Jerry Holum

No, but there's a highlight. Oh, yeah.

Phil Spohn

No, no good.

Laura Ray

Yeah, there's a couple grant columns, grants available, grant application date.

Phil Spohn

Who generates this sheet? This wish list was just something that happened a while ago?

Carol Schneider

I think a few years ago, they developed what they wanted to have on the wish list. I believe your Parks and Rec Board tweaked last year. I highlighted in yellow projects that could be carried out by public works, and then in green, I have that Cathy said would be covered or eligible under the DCNR C2P2 grant that we had in the packet last month. So, these are some ideas, and I thought that I would include the wish list so that you could see the ideas that were approved last year from Park and Rec, so that maybe, you know, you might give Cathy a heads up and say, hey, you know, we're really interested in following through on this, this item, or this item or maybe one, two, maybe three, you know, then she can write up the grant for it. They are only ideas, that's all.

Phil Spohn

Good Jerry? Laura?

Jerry Holum

Yes.

3. Carol - 2024 Parks & Recreation Survey (March 3rd – March 26th)

Phil Spohn

Good three under action items. Carol, surveys, ready to?

Carol Schneider

The survey is ready to go. And we had talked in the past that we wanted to be done with the newsletter. The newsletter is hopefully going to be sent out at the latest Monday, but hopefully a little earlier, so the all the information I have written on there for the survey to go out to start on Wednesday, so I can have it, you know, start promoting it, and it'll be live. It's live now, but also promoting it on Wednesday, just so that we have the same information in the newsletter as, you know, going out. So, it'll go until the 26 and we'll have the results for the next meeting.

Phil Spohn

And can that QR code be put into something like Saucon source? Would Josh do that for nothing as another way to get that out into the community?

Carol Schneider

He usually does take the information that we put out and repost so I can, I can send it to him. Great. That'd be great. That way. It won't cost anything. You know, he wants to put it in there. It will go out on Facebook and Constant Contact. I'll send it out to everybody on constant contact we have. So that'll, that'll take place on Wednesday, but everybody else will get it with their newsletter.

Phil Spohn

Can we have an action item that next month we'll hopefully see there was, see results to that, and we want to be looking at that.

Maia Simon

When you say that it's live, where is it live?

Carol Schneider

The QR code. If you scan the QR code that I sent you in the email, you will see that you could take it.

Maia Simon

Thank you.

Carol Schneider

You could do it right away.

Maia Simon

Yeah, I didn't make the connection. Pardon me.

Jerry Holum

Okay. Can I interrupt you. Think it would be a good idea if we turned a survey over to our junior Councilman, so we get it out in the hands of students at the schools.

Carol Schneider

I sent it to them as well. So, yeah, everybody was on it. They everybody was on the way. You asked them to share it with insurance and stuff like that on their Facebook, yeah, yeah, whatever they use, yeah, it doesn't, and it's worded that way in the in the survey itself, you know, please, you know, you use the park, you know, as a student, you know, please participate.

4. Members - Submit Ideas for the DCNR Grants

Phil Spohn

Anything else? Carol good members submit ideas for the DCNR grants. I know, I'm not prepared to even know what gets covered or not. I guess that's one of my educational things I'd like to be more aware of Maia.

Maia Simon

I read a lot of the DCNR grant and I attended a webinar, and, oh, sorry, it it's astonishing how quickly I can be distracted. So, the grants that I'm looking for about removing invasive plants, there's no way we will have the information we need to apply for that for this coming year, there's a lot of information on the DCNR website, and of course, Cathy is the one who knows the most about what kind of grants are available. And there are minimum amounts that it has to be and, you know, you can't ask for a grant of \$500 or anything like that. You know, okay, so I think so you, you can, I could look it up. But basically, to improve your parks, if you're going to improve the park, improve access and improve access for disadvantaged communities. Those are all things that they really want to see. You know, removing invasive plants. They don't say anywhere they're interested in, but I know who I need to get in touch with to work on that when the time comes, that I learned from some zoom thing that I attended 7000 years ago anyway. So, yes, new parks, improving the parks. It's not about maintaining the parks. They don't give us grants to maintain the parks. They give us grants to improve the parks. I would argue that removing invasive plants improves the park.

Phil Spohn

Yeah, absolutely, yeah. In my well, sure a little bit right now about grants, because in the past, since the past meeting I went to, I think it's pronounced Archwild. You can Google them. They are like the native plant species germinator on the East Coast in Quakertown. And I went to look at all their greenhouses and the people, all the people working, I mean, I couldn't believe what I saw. And he said, anyone who's getting grants to replace native things that this is where they start, and they are really good at writing grants, because they know that's how most of their projects are going to get funded for public parks and things. So that is a would be a really good connection. And they're the ones that, when I was talking to you before they said, the first thing you have to do it at Sandra Yerger Park is removed before you can really do anything there you have to remove the invasive species and the what the pearl Bradford pares is like, they said it's just terrible there.

Maia Simon

Yeah.

Phil Spohn

They said there's states that don't allow it any longer.

Maia Simon

We don't, Pennsylvania doesn't allow it anymore, yeah, but you know, the cows out of the barn 15 years ago.

Phil Spohn

So, grants for me, I guess I need more education on what exactly is possible, and then to prioritize. What do you think we want to go after invasive species? Where do you want to go out? Where do we want to make it a priority?

Maia Simon

The way I have been thinking about it is Park by Park. But that might not be the best way it might be species by species, you know, to go out go for all the Bradford Pares in all the parks to go for all the Japanese Knotweed in all the parks to go for all the Japanese Stilt grass in all the parks. That's another approach that we could take, I'm not sure which is the best, but I started out thinking about it just park by Park. This business of trying to get an inventory of invasive plants in the parks, obviously, the idea that I had of trying to get volunteers to go out and identify stuff and record it. It just isn't happening. You know, I have about half of Heller homestead done, but so there are. I can't remember the name of these people, but I. The state is divided into all these different sections, and I have in my notes somewhere what section we're in and the

person who's in charge of that, but they help us do grants and know what's appropriate and what can be done. So, I'll dig that out and try to reach that person, the grant, it's a DCNR, just put down person. And the other thing that I will do, if you would like me to friends, is that I will send you a link to the page where DCNR talks about what they give grants for. Would you like me to do that?

Phil Spohn

That would be helpful, Yes.

Jerry Holum

I think we got information at the January meeting?

Laura Ray

There's probably more detail on online.

Jerry Holum

I understand.

Phil Spohn

Anything else, Maia?

Maia Simon

No.

Phil Spohn

Good. Anyone else on that?

Jerry Holum

Is this grants we're talking about, Phil?

Phil Spohn

Yes.

Jerry Holum

I'm sorry.

Phil Spohn

Specifically, we want to keep that in front of this group. If we're aware, the thing is to get aware of what grants might be available for what? And then again, it can go on our wish list, and through the year, we can evaluate, does that percolate to the top so that we can get budget money for it?

Jerry Holum

Would that presentation that we had at the last meeting be one that we should have on that wish list, Saucon Valley Conservancy?

Phil Spohn

What was that Saucon Valley Conservancy that isn't that coming up, isn't that coming up under, isn't that number two under new business? Isn't there? There's something to deal with the Saucon Valley Conservancy?

Laura Ray

Yes and no, right? It's a grant that popped up last minute because we started talking about the bigger project, okay? And it's one that the watershed groups going to put in for, if everybody's agreeable to it.

Sandy Miller

May I please ask question, you mentioned that they like to focus on, I think you were vulnerable populations. So, that would be something like, disability, accessibility type of thing be? What they're talking about, is okay? So wouldn't necessarily be...

Maia Simon

Well, I'm not sure we have this, you know, I'm new in town, but if we had a section of the township that had low-income people in it, you know, they would be interested in helping us provide a park.

Sandy Miller

Like Easton is doing something like that in one of their wards, and they're using that to put a playground. But we're pretty well covered, but some of our parks might not be accessible enough and that we could maybe use that grant. Okay, thank you for that clarification. I appreciate that.

Maia Simon

To improve the parks and to improve accessibility.

Sandy Miller

I appreciate that. Thank you.

Priscilla deLeon

We would look at it as all the parks no matter what the income level was. No, we would. I don't think that would matter to me. Do you know what I'm saying?

Maia Simon

I don't think we have that.

Priscilla deLeon

No, we don't.

Maia Simon

But you know, if we had a corner of the township that was low income and lacking resources. You know, that's the kind of thing they would offer grants for.

Phil Spohn

So, Jerry, any more on grants?

Jerry Holum

Yeah, it goes back to the stuff that Laura was talking about. Laura, just give you the page. It was a fee schedule. This is the page; it doesn't have a page number.

Laura Ray

So, we kind of skipped this when we were going through all the budget stuff. Remember, there was these pages in between. You have them? Yes. So, these are actually what happens when a development goes in in any part of the township. They're required to either pay whatever the fees, a developer fee, I don't know if that's the right name, or they have to donate land, open space land. So, this is from all the way back in 1996 on up. This money has come and gone, but this just gives you an idea of when the particular development went in the column on the right shows how much money that developer had to give to the township, and what Parks and Rec board does is you either designate it to the park that's closest to that development, or you, or you designated to go to a whether they call like the community park that services everybody, yeah, which is Polk Valley Park? Yeah, the district Park. So, either Town Hall Park, I think, qualifies under that, and Polk Valley Park.

Priscilla deLeon

Are they the only two?

Laura Ray

I think so, because other ones are just kind of more like pocket parks.

Robert Blasko

Town Hall, it says you're selected because it's the closest.

Laura Ray

So, the next time a development comes in, there's a, maybe a couple development projects.

Carol Schneider

We do have Sheetz on the list under business, you'll see that there's a Sheetz land development fee allocation.

Laura Ray

So, that's what this will be, yeah. So, we would either say, well, it's right across the street here. So, the natural park that you would put it for is Town Hall Park. But I guess if we had something big going on in Polk Valley Park, you could say now we think we should put it towards that.

Sandy Miller

May I ask, please. What the open grant bid means?

Laura Ray

You know, I'm not the finance director.

Sandy Miller

I'm sorry, Carol, do you happen to know?

Laura Ray

I'm filling in...

Phil Spohn

So, at the very end.

Laura Ray

Some of these are still things that are in the works.

Phil Spohn

2020, 2021 they're still in the works.

Laura Ray

There's still money available, I guess, I think gets spent up.

Priscilla deLeon

We have certain time limits to spend it.

Laura Ray

You do.

Priscilla deLeon

Or you have to give it back to the developer.

Laura Ray

But ever challenged.

Sandy Miller

It should be noted, then we should spell it if it's something that is there available for us.

Priscilla deLeon

We should have Cathy, check into it.

Laura Ray

I mean, you would think the Polk Valley Park ones would be easy to spend, because we have all kinds of projects going on up there that we're spending money on.

Phil Spohn

And is it written then it specifically goes to a park or recreation area?

Laura Ray

Yes.

Phil Spohn

Okay, so is it possible to have Cathy let us know what is what is pending? Yes, what's out there right now,

Priscilla deLeon

I'd like to know that too.

Laura Ray

Okay, what do you mean? What's out there, as far as what we're planning to spend it on?

Phil Spohn

No, what we're spending is, well, if, if there is a plan.

Robert Blasko

Polk Park is the split rail fence, that's, there are some places. Yes, there are some places where some pretty big gaps.

Phil Spohn

Speaking of mic.

Robert Blasko

One of the projects that's going on listed as in progress at Polk Valley Park has a split rail fencing. I mean, it is, it is an advantage for that to be repaired when they're playing ball there. There's also a metal fence that is attached to that to keep the balls from going down over the bank and on the roads and things like that, besides the fact that it's unsightly, but maybe that could be used for that.

Phil Spohn

So, let's find out what money is available for which Park, and if there is, if money is earmarked.

Robert Blasko

Well, the total in this recreation fee charge from Sheetz is \$6,600 is a little bit over.

Phil Spohn

I didn't see, is that going? Oh, it says Park. It's going to the....

Laura Ray

Yeah, that's what. That's what? Okay, okay, so all past ones that have happened and I think all the ones that say open mean there's still money available. I don't really understand the grant bid. What? What that meant.

Phil Spohn

We just have to ask Cathy about that.

Laura Ray

But everything above open, I'd say, is not.

Phil Spohn

Yeah, it's pretty old.

Jerry Holum

What you're saying, Phil, the ones that we see is open, we should, we should get on that?

Sandy Miller

Correct.

Phil Spohn

Let's find out. Let's get some information on what's available.

Jerry Holum

The last one, there's Society Hill. That is many years old. So, there's still money open here, and that could be used for this study that we heard the presentation last month about, right?

Laura Ray

Yep, well, we're going to use the space money for that, for the plan, the master plan.

Jerry Holum

Why wouldn't we use this?

Laura Ray

Because we can use this for work itself, or, yeah, you know what I mean.

Maia Simon

Maintaining and improving the...

Laura Ray

Yeah, the open space money, use it for, I'd say.

Sandy Miller

But she'd get this, and she'll know what she needs to.

Phil Spohn

I would think so too. Okay, can we move on?

Robert Blasko

The Sheetz money?

Phil Spohn

Can we move on to our next item?

Maia Simon

Before we do that, may I ask a question, could we establish a protocol that people only speak when recognized by the President, that we get have overlapping conversations and not the person who's talking doesn't have a mic, and that if we were to formalize it might work better, and friends don't agree. I am not going to fight it, that it's a suggestion.

Phil Spohn

We're trying to keep that order.

Carol Schneider

I'm sorry. So, you don't have any ideas for the DCNR grant? This closes on April 2. She has to have that information in.

Sandy Miller

May I ask for clarification, you all learned on the wish list, a few items in green, what do we have any idea what the amount of money that we're going to request? Because it will like there's, I love that there's a wish list, but it doesn't have any pricing on it. So, it'd be hard for me to say I recommend that we apply for the grant to get the restroom at Polk Valley. I have no idea how much the restroom costs and how much the grant is, but I would recommend that the based on the amount of money that Cathy deems appropriate, that we at least try to get items one or four, you know, or even five. Well, five is because you say it can be a grant or staff. So, I was uncertain, but those two items could be put, could be used for the grant that she wants to apply for, correct?

Carol Schneider

The paving of the nature trail. I know that in the past, somebody had mentioned that they wanted it mulch. Think it was Maia, perhaps?

Maia Simon

Not at Town Hall. No, okay, the one at Heller Homestead or I said needs mulch.

Carol Schneider

Someone in the past had said they wanted it mulch once a year, and then Roger had said that he would like to pave it. So I don't know how much that that would cost, one versus the other, okay, but I think Cathy's looking for ideas, and then she can research and see how much the items would cost.

Sandy Miller

Do we have any idea how expensive it is to put a bathroom in? We like to wait. Do we have any idea how much it cost the bathroom at Heller? Not at Heller. At Lutz Franklin is there.

Carol Schneider

That was the composting toilet.

Sandy Miller

But that's still the bathroom. That's I'm assuming that's what we probably would aim for at Polk Valley. I don't think we have sewer accessibility there. So, it would have to be probably that.

Robert Blasko

I believe, when it was discussed previously, I'm going to say in 2023 that there is, not to the park, but up the street by the park, as far as sewage and water. If I remember correctly, it was Mark that previously mentioned it.

Sandy Miller

I know there's some things that are around that area because of the school and they accept and what was available. Because I remember the Environmental Center, we had that conversation about what was there and what we could put and what we couldn't. I just don't remember any longer the details. So, it's hard to make a recommendation to you about what to apply for. But if we have a wish list and we have an idea of how much it would cost to do the bathroom they've done them, then that would be something that we might want to consider, since it's the number one priority listed on the list, and I think that's probably the most heavily used park at this stage in the in our list. So, I would recommend Polk Valley, I'm sorry I wasn't clear, they should be familiar with how much it costs because of the bathroom at Lutz Franklin, so they might have

a cost estimation that they can use, obviously, make it a little bit more because of inflation over time, use that as the estimate and then apply for the grant to cover that, would be my recommendation.

Phil Spohn

I agree with that.

Carol Schneider

The list was made up by Park and Rec. So that's why there's no cost. Yeah, available here. So that's something that you want to have researched. And then I can add a column on here.

Maia Simon

Well, you know, I think you can give Cathy this list, the whole wish list, if she sees, if she knows that, you know what might be available. I mean, these are all things we want.

Phil Spohn

And our survey is hopefully going to help us generate.

Maia Simon

We have an April 2 deadline, which is in a month.

Phil Spohn

April or when's the deadline?

Carol Schneider

I think it's April 2.

Phil Spohn

Is that always annually?

Maia Simon

No, it's again in the fall.

Carol Schneider

I don't know. This particular grant is April 2, so I don't know if it's a yearly if they do it every year or not. I don't know.

Phil Spohn

I'm trying to remember, what are the, what are the parameters of the grant?

Maia Simon

If she's looking at a specific grant, you know...

Phil Spohn

It can't be used for anything. I'm sure grants are all focused on something.

Sandy Miller

It was provided last meeting. That's what I'm looking for, my notes. And I didn't last month.

Priscilla deLeon

And when we got the grant for the Rail Trail. Is that a composting toilet? Does anybody think it was just, you don't remember that. It was just a regular, the usual toilet.

Laura Ray

Yeah.

Priscilla deLeon

I don't remember the cost of that.

Laura Ray

No, but it was, it's regular.

Priscilla deLeon

So, we did get a grant for that.

Carol Schneider

We did get a grant for that, and Hanover currently is, I guess they have to perk the area. That's where it is right now.

Sandy Miller

So, we went ahead and, excuse me, we went ahead and decided to put the rail, even though that wasn't as much of a priority to add that bathroom. We put that we went ahead with that one. Instead of prioritizing,

Carol Schneider

Cathy got a grant for that (back in 2023).

Sandy Miller

But Polk Valley could the grant couldn't be used for Polk Valley Park. It had to only be on the rail trail.

Carol Schneider

I don't know what the specifics were on the grant. I just know that it qualified for that area. I don't know what the qualifications were, but that's what she put in for, and then that was what was approved. I think it was a matching grant.

Sandy Miller

Okay, thank you for that information.

Phil Spohn

I don't know if that would be covered under this or not the bathroom, but if she, if she's able to if she's able to apply for our number one on our wish list, I would suggest she does that. And if that doesn't work, the town hall replaced stage near pavilion. I don't think it's going to cover that either.

Carol Schneider

Cathy did highlight in green what would be approved/eligible for this grant.

Phil Spohn

Let's go with number go with number one.

Sandy Miller

Yeah, keep our new number one, since it was ranked by someone, and the section that I thought from last meeting was under the Park rehabilitation and development, where it lists the rehabilitation or development of new Outdoor Recreation and Park facilities, examples, or playgrounds, ball fields, but they don't list. It just says and more. And I would think if you're in a park and we want it to be accessible, to have a bathroom, would be appropriate. That was my very vague remembrance of that meeting.

Maia Simon

Thank you.

Phil Spohn

Any other suggestions we'll go with number or number one? Can we move to number five? And that is, let's we need to make a or, I know Priscilla would like us to support a letter that's in the packet. But how about we go with Jerry.

5. Jerry - Discuss Easton Road Ballfield:

Phil Spohn

We're trying to keep that order. So, the number five, I have a feeling you have some say on that, and Jerry has some say. Can we combine your pictures and request with what Jerry's presenting too? Can we put these two together? They just have Easton ballpark. Go ahead.

Priscilla deLeon

There are two letters, one for the Lehigh Valley greenways. And then you talked about a draft letter for the Heller Homestead Open Space Plan and Barn Restoration.

Phil Spohn

One we accomplished.

Priscilla deLeon

Right.

Phil Spohn

So, let's go with Jerry, and you supported pictures too.

Priscilla deLeon

I did, let Jerry go first.

Jerry Holum

You can go first, you're a Council Member.

Priscilla deLeon

We work together Jerry.

Phil Spohn

Do you want to point out? I mean, you have pictures here. Do you want to you want to point those out? He said for you to go and then you can chime in.

Priscilla deLeon

Do you want me to show the picture. Thank you for getting these Carol. Okay, oh, wait, these are the same.

Phil Spohn

They were in the packets. So just use this one start page one the blue.

Priscilla deLeon

Are these the both sets of pictures I did?

Carol Schneider

Yes.

Priscilla deLeon

Okay, so the first page shows when you're up on top, on the top, please, and when you're up on the top, and you're by those double door, double gates, and the press box is next to that pole. There's a gap, there's a space over here, that actually a person can fit through there, and that's not good. I don't think that's good, because you don't want people, in my opinion, going on the field unwelcomed. I don't know, I don't play baseball, but I just think that that's a safety concern.

Jerry Holum

Let's stick with that one. What you're saying is a situation that children could crawl through there. That was my concern.

Priscilla deLeon

Well, children, I mean, my boyfriend, you know my boyfriend, he's built like, you know, he's tall, like Bob, and he fits through there. Yeah, so if he's going to fit through their, child's going to fit through there.

Jerry Holum

Well, what's going to happen in a baseball game is this, no one can stand behind the umpire. The umpire is going to be right in front of it. If an umpire sees somebody back there, an umpire has to move them out of direct vision of a picture, so I don't think this would be a problem. I mean, maybe we could put, yeah, put something up there, but it wouldn't take much to block them.

Priscilla deLeon

I think it should be blocked off. That's just my opinion. But somehow blocked off. The next picture is, it's hard to see in the picture, but the I beam juts out like that much. So, somebody could be walking, you know, past this and, you know, I don't get them. And a child, you know, hit them in the face. I didn't like that, so I don't know if that area there can be, like, kind of fenced off somehow. Oh, and by the way, I did talk to Brien today, and we went over some of these things, and he suggested that as a result of this meeting, you guys sent him a punch list of things that you want the township to look at, and then or send it to Cathy, and then she'll send, you know, let Brien look at it and do it that way.

Maia Simon

I'm sorry. Who is Brien.

Priscilla deLeon

Brien Kocher is our township engineer.

Maia Simon

Thank you.

Jerry Holum

Do you think the solution to that one would be to put that padding that they have around on the top of the fences they have all around. They put that padding on the edges of that. Do you think that would set a slide?

Priscilla deLeon

I can't answer that. But if, if you suggest that I'm not familiar with any of this stuff.

Jerry Holum

Oh, you're talking about the corner.

Priscilla deLeon

I mean, the top and bottom, it's an I beam, and that you don't want to walk into an I beam.

Sandy Miller

Clarification. We're speaking about that all the yellow that's like on the underneath it there, they could just cover that as well as across the railing. Is that what you're speaking of?

Jerry Holum

Yes. You could see the top?

Sandy Miller

Yep, you can see that.

Jerry Holum

That's fence that encloses the field, and that's across the top of it. I'm seeing if you use that. But though those points, as you point out, Bob, they jut out there. I think it's something that Hanover should look at.

Sandy Miller

He's talking about the remedy for it. I just wanted to write down at the remedy that he has suggested.

Maia Simon

I don't understand it.

Phil Spohn

It's this piece that sticks out right here?

Priscilla deLeon

Correct. A piece here.

Phil Spohn

This piece, this I beam that right the eye beam sticks out.

Priscilla deLeon

Yeah, correct, yeah.

Maia Simon

And then so let the rest of us see what you're pointing to.

Priscilla deLeon

Oh, I'm sorry. It's. This the I beam underneath, yeah, it sticks out.

Sandy Miller

That's what I circled, and then I wrote down.

Priscilla deLeon

And I don't think that should be.

Robert Blasko

If you talk about putting padding on that, that's something that's going to be constantly maintained. They could take a concrete drill up there with a carbide pool saw, go down through there, drop a post in there, right at the end of that and that would keep anybody from walking into it and hitting their hip or their leg, or a kid running into it. And if it projects on this side, most likely it projects on the other side, because if you look at the brace underneath, the brace runs all the way out to the end. They couldn't even trim that back, unless they redid the bracing also.

Sandy Miller

I'm writing down what we're putting on the punch list. So, would we recommend it?

Robert Blasko

Yeah, I would recommend getting in there with and, I mean, we used to do it a baluster Ballas post baluster.

Phil Spohn

That would be the quick solution.

Robert Blasko

And it's permanent.

Carol Schneider

Sandy. If I could have a copy of your notes then so that okay, that'll make it easier for me. Thank you.

Sandy Miller

Tape it up and give it to you like I did last time.

Priscilla deLeon

Okay, that's okay. So that's that we took so many lighting pictures. This one looks like the three are facing the field and the other one is facing the neighbors. So, I'm really unhappy with the lighting situation out there. I can't tell you on how unhappy I am. Those neighbors should not have to put up with this. So that needs to be looked at. And again, all of them need to be looked at. There's no, in my opinion, a lighting company should have had this figured out. And those little shutters or whatever should have been directed. Somebody told me, if you go to Quakertown ballfield and you go there and you and when the lights are on, here's the field. The lights are here. It does not go off the edge of the field. The lights go right there and stop. There's no bleeding of lights. And I don't see why our park has to have that. I think it's inappropriate.

Jerry Holum

There's five, five stanchions of lights in the outfield and along the first base and third base line. There are two of them all right. Now the problem is, unlike what I thought initially, the problem, it's called, I think it's called, the term is called over spray. Over spray, okay, yeah, that that goes over toward the neighbor's house, and it's from, it's from the lights that would be on the third base line. All right now, in talking had a meeting with Roger today, those are all compliant. The lights were checked and they're in compliance with state rules. So, what are you going to do? The only thing that can be done is council. It has to go to council, and council has to make a decision what should be done.

Priscilla deLeon

I'm ready to do that.

Phil Spohn

And if you have another park as an example, I mean, I'm sure I agree they have to have, there's a solution to that. You don't have to take down the lights.

Jerry Holum

Hanover Engineer, they did a study of it, and they tested it, and they're in compliance. They're in compliance. Yeah, Roger told me the only thing he can do you, and I think he discussed it at a council meeting, is put up arborvitaes up there. Now I spoke to both and I spoke to both of the landowners that have property over there, that have they're in the houses, and I spoke to him again today, and I said, you know, I checked into that. I spoke to Public Works and all the testing that they came out, did I said they're all in compliance state regulations. They said we're going to lawyer up and do what I got to do, whatever you have to do. But I'm not telling you. I'm just giving you my opinion, from what I heard. So, it's in the hands of Council.

Priscilla deLeon

All I remember is, was this little lady on Easton Road that lived by Cherry Lane, where it met Easton Road. And when the City of Bethlehem put in those townhouses, their lights were just spread out that they were they shined in those houses, and they came to us and complained and complained and complained, and the City of Bethlehem agreed to do something. And then there's a name for those little shutter things that they can direct them. And so that didn't what's the word over spray, over spray the property. And that solved the situation. Those people on Easton Road. So, let's put so I don't understand why that can't happen here.

Sandy Miller

That's what I put down.

Maia Simon

I was just going to say that whether it's in compliance or not is not the issue correct? The issue is that neighbors are being significantly inconvenienced and negatively impacted by the lights, and we need to fix it, even if it is in compliance.

Phil Spohn

I agree.

Jerry Holum

Well, I don't think there's a question about that. I know none of us would like to be next to the ballpark with light shining into your house, so I know that. But I'm just saying from a legal standpoint, that ball field is in compliance. Now Cherry Lane means different situation.

Priscilla deLeon

All right, so the next page, when you're at the back, stop, I think, and you look up, there's a wall, and then it steps down, and there's a fence that comes up behind the steps, and then it stops. And I don't know, maybe not this picture. There's one picture that shows, maybe it's on the next page.

Jerry Holum

Here, I have some Priscilla some better ones.

Priscilla deLeon

Do you have better ones? Okay, that shows that a kid can walk up those, those little, you know, steps, and they can climb up the fence and just kind of sit there. And the problem is, if we put up a fence behind the back, stop above the wall, kids will climb up that and sit there, and then when they fall, they'll even fall further. So, I think that there's a way to, well, I'd like the engineer. I don't want to say what I'd like to do. I'd like the engineers to tell me what to do. So, you see how that comes to the edge, and kids are just going to climb up there. These are better pictures. Yes, Jerry.

Phil Spohn

How would you frame that issue if we want to pass that on, Jerry and are you in agreement with that?

Jerry Holum

Oh, unquestionably. That's why I took the pictures. I think that's one of the safety hazards that we have out there, and that's probably close. In my estimation, it's close to the top. But it's not the only safety issue we have out there. It's high. It needs some attention. What they might do is....

Phil Spohn

We don't have to figure that out, right?

Sandy Miller

Let them figure it out.

Jerry Holum

Exactly. We want to point it out to Hanover Engineering. We're not the problem solver.

Phil Spohn

Where do you see the location? How would you describe the location?

Jerry Holum

It's behind a concession stand. Okay? That wall there, Phil is about seven feet high, and in the pictures, you can see it's almost a walking step, stairway, and on the other end, you can swing around the post.

Phil Spohn

Okay, good.

Jerry Holum

Priscilla, your boyfriend pointed out what's going to happen is their kids are going to kids are kids, and they're going to get up there after going to concession stand and watch the ball.

Carol Schneider

There is no concession stand at that park.

Sandy Miller

Well, whatever that building is, the press stand for equipment.

Carol Schneider

Oh, and the press stand.

Jerry Holum

According to the contract, you have the ability to sell, they'll have the ability to sell things if that can set, if that agreement is signed by council on Wednesday night. They'll have the ability to do that.

Phil Spohn

Okay, well, that's so, that's another issue. What's another?

Priscilla deLeon

Okay, so where are you now? I don't know where that red came from. I don't know. Okay, so this is the other side of that pole, when it shows this site, kind of shows how wide it is. And, like I said, you know, that's accessible. So anyway, so that's another picture of that. Then the other picture we just talked about with the wall and the fence. You know, there's only two handicapped parking spaces and safety concerns of and I don't know if you were talking to me about this, talk to many people about this. Supposedly, the church is allowing people to cross the street. It's going to be, you know, depending on the Park says open dawn to dusk. Well, if kids are there at night, and even when the lights are on, the light's not going to light up Easton Road for them to safely cross the street into that parking lot. So, to me, that's a danger, right there. You know, how are they going to cross the street? And it's only two handicapped spots. And the parking spaces, in my opinion, have not always been enough.

Jerry Holum

The idea of people crossing Easton Road is my biggest safety issue. That is bad because all the traffic on that road.

Priscilla deLeon

So, I was talking to you about that. Then bar me, I said, I think I was talking to you about that.

Jerry Holum

It's probably the biggest now, I can't see a solution, because there's no room next to the cemetery to put on the sidewalk and across the street to cross the street there, you couldn't put a sidewalk on the other side, because there's a COVID there. So, I'm not sure what the solution is, but I agree with you, it should be lit and there should be, should be a safer means of crossing. Hanover Engineer, I don't think will be responsible for that. It's something that council has to make a decision on.

Sandy Miller

Okay, okay.

Jerry Holum

I think it's a high priority. If it's not number one, it's certainly number two.

Robert Blasko

We're talking about crossing over to the church parking lot at the church. Okay, one thing that comes to mind it would be a constant cost, and that is police sitting there with their flashes on at each side when people are crossing. That's not really feasible. Blinking signs that when there's a ball part or a ball game in progress, maybe one on each sign, that might be a possibility.

Sandy Miller

Do we have the ability to put a cross walk there?

Priscilla deLeon

Like they have at the hill or homestead I was going to say.

Sandy Miller

Just, even just marking also the road and having something that's available.

Robert Blasko

Yeah, if you put a big yellow warning sign up, flashing light ball game in progress, slow down, or whatever.

Sandy Miller

At least as one to direct people to cross only at one location, so they're not scattered around crossing, and then two, as you know, alert drivers. Does that seem like a recommendation,

Priscilla deLeon

right? But my opinion, and you're not going to like this, is that until the lighting gets fixed, those lights aren't going to go on.

Sandy Miller

We're on a different topic now.

Priscilla deLeon

We're now, no, no, I'm just saying that there might not be a need for that, because the lights aren't going to be there.

Laura Ray

But if they're, if they're playing in the daytime.

Sandy Miller

If they're playing at five o'clock, right? That's going to be scary for them to try to cross with all the cars coming and going. So, they should still have that, even during the daytime.

Priscilla deLeon

Oh, I see what you're saying. Okay, right. That's not right. You're right.

Sandy Miller

They have overflow. You're going to need to have a safe.

Priscilla deLeon

I wasn't thinking far enough.

Robert Blasko

As far as directing them to cross at only one place. It wouldn't take much to put fencing there that this is the only place they can get across.

Jerry Holum

It won't work. The only reason it won't work, as you know, the cemetery abuts that property, and the cemetery wall almost goes out to the road. There's probably the berm, probably exaggerating three feet from the edge of the road to that stone wall. So that's a problem walking there. Can you see two kids next to each other, and a truck goes by there? All right? And they can't go straight across. They have to go on an angle. Well, there's a culvert there. It has to be looked at closely. I see it as a big problem. You'd almost have to have the crosswalk at an angle, okay, on Easton Road.

Maia Simon

So, are we describing something that's different than a standard pedestrian crosswalk with that, you know, push the button and the light changes?

Jerry Holum

Yes, because of the obstacles, you couldn't, you couldn't put a simple cross walk in.

Phil Spohn

Yeah. And at that location, you have problems on this side of the street and that side of street, okay, not going to get any, any government allowance to cross, right, anywhere there.

Jerry Holum

I don't know enough about that, but it sounds logical.

Priscilla deLeon

And it's a PennDOT Road.

Phil Spohn

We can raise a flag about it.

Jerry Holum

Yeah, a big flag about that, baby.

Maia Simon

Friends, I need to go. I'm running out of steam. Okay, thank you very much.

Phil Spohn

The next picture is the ramp.

Priscilla deLeon

Yes, so I think everybody's in agreement that a railing is needed on the other side. The reason why we can't put one, and I wanted to put it on both sides, is because I've had some health conditions, and I need railings on both sides, of course. You know, depending on what arm is affected, you need a handrail. You know what I'm saying, like you're walking down the weave. You know you're going to be like, crossing your body over the hold on to the handrail so you know, fall. I mean, it's, to me, it's so it was suggested today that, well, maybe they'll have golf carts, and they can escort the people, you know, back and forth, you know, if they need to. I'm just telling you what. I was told,

Maia Simon

Who's going to do that?

Phil Spohn

Are they going to store them there.

Priscilla deLeon

And who's going to do that? And how do you make reservation? This is a bad thing. And of course, the angle of the ramp meets all the criteria. And I said, you know, some of these people that make these rules should

sit in a wheelchair that wheel themselves up the ramp and down the ramp, and then they'll understand. But anyway, I'm very disappointed about that.

Phil Spohn

At least, but you're suggesting railing on the pathway.

Priscilla deLeon

At least on the on the on the stone.

Jerry Holum

At least on a wall site. And I was told, I don't remember what I was told by Hanover Engineering that they couldn't put one on the other side, but I think we should review that, because I think a handrail should be on both sides. Yeah, because that sidewalk going up there is not very wide.

Priscilla deLeon

No, it's not. I don't have any problems with putting it back on the list. I would like both sides to have rail. Yeah, let them tell us. Why not. This picture is the....

Sandy Miller

We're not finished.

Priscilla deLeon

I'm sorry.

Sandy Miller

Go ahead.

Robert Blasko

Why was it that they said they couldn't put one on the other side?

Jerry Holum

I think, and I'm not sure it had something to do with electricity, because if you see it in that picture, those are the light street side lighting that they have on there, and there's, there's electric cables. I think it's, well, it's, they can't, they couldn't put expansions into the rail. I think that's but I'm not sure.

Priscilla deLeon

I think that. I think Hanover is in agreement that a railing needs to be there. If we put one on the other side, your constricting the width of the pavement too much, and people will be able to go back and forth. Wheelchairs will be able to go back and forth. But equipment and golf carts and...

Sandy Miller

Emergency vehicles is what I'm concerned about. They're like, they're not able to get up that hill. I stood there, and I looked, there was a path that goes up the world.

Laura Ray

No, they're not going up that way. I was told, they just drive up the field.

Priscilla deLeon

They go in the where the parking lot is. If you look at the field in the center, there's gates. They're supposed to drive up on that bank, open up the gates and go in through the field to access if there's an emergency.

Sandy Miller

In the field, what about the people that are in the stands or in the press box they have to access it?

Priscilla deLeon

All I know is that I was told that emergency vehicles enter by those two gates, gates at the front of the field, at the front of the parking lot when they go in that way, this is not to be used for driving only little carts and stuff like that. Now I'm not saying I agree or not, but that's what they told me.

Jerry Holum

They would almost what they would have to do with take one of the carts that they have for monitor maintenance cart, because if somebody had heart attack in the stands, they could go through center field with the ambulance and stuff like they couldn't, well, can't have to go through the players gate and go outside and up into the stand.

Priscilla deLeon

It was not thought out well.

Phil Spohn

But what are our what's our checklist?

Sandy Miller

I have done railing on Wall side.

Jerry Holum

There's really no solution to that either.

Priscilla deLeon

We're just going to put railing on the opposite side? Question mark? I don't know, all right, so can I go to the next one? Then if you look at the next one, you see the press box on the left, and if you look at at the tippity top. You'll see, is this the picture? I think it's there's lights on the both corners. See there's two. I can't look upside down. There's one here on the very edge of the picture, and that's shining right in the people's house, right, right in there. So, that needs to be addressed. The lighting the neighbors house.

Jerry Holum

A reflection of that?

Priscilla deLeon

No, it, there's no, there's the reflector things aren't aimed down at the ground. They're aim straight ahead.

Sandy Miller

So, I'll have that checked, because during the day, you can't tell for sure yesterday, right, right. So I'll have to check it.

Priscilla deLeon

So, the next picture. I don't know why he took that picture. Probably the gate? Maybe he's showing the gates, the gates, because the parking lot is lit up. And then the other picture is probably the same thing. I guess that's it. I thought there were more pictures, but anyway, thank you for allowing me to do this and listen to me. Thank you, Jerry.

Phil Spohn

I'm sure it's not, if it's not all, it's not all going to be fixed at once, and I'm sure things are going to develop down the road that we noticed too.

Priscilla deLeon

Yeah, as we go, you use it. I don't know, Jerry, you probably have more stuff. I don't know.

Jerry Holum

What is that one picture of Easton Road. Why did they take that one?

Priscilla deLeon

Because it says dawn to dusk or the hours.

Jerry Holum

Okay, no, I think we discussed this prior and touch base with all of them. The parking is going to be a big problem. There's, there's 36 roughly 36-38 parking spots, two of them handicapped. What are you going to have? Rosters, or at least 14 ball players, two or three coaches, umpires, two umpires, sometimes three umpires, visiting team. You're going to have that lot filled, just with players, coaches and umpire, almost filled, I can't, you might have, I don't know, six, maybe six eight spots. So that problem we're crossing the street is going to be the biggest safety issue that I see, because we're going to be parking over in the church parking lot, and they're going to be walking across that street in that road. If you've ever been down Easton Road, and all those warehouses, there is a heck of a lot of traffic down there, and trucks you're going to have, you know, you're going to have concerns.

Priscilla deLeon

We have to, we had this agreement on Wednesday night that council has to look at and sign and vote to okay.

Carol Schneider

The parks aren't open yet. Mother Nature will take care of that. So that's probably in a few weeks, but we do have requests in from Lacrosse, from baseball, from softball, from soccer, trying to think if there's anything else. I think that it might be currently so for the ball field in particularly Easton Road, we have softball, we have baseball, and then we have another league that was interested that they would only plan play in practice on Sundays. So, that's what we have currently. But as far as games, they're still getting information in on games. That's usually the last thing that they work out.

Priscilla deLeon

Inaudible....

Carol Schneider

You're talking about other fields. I'm not talking she's not talking about Easton Road.

Priscilla deLeon

I'm talking about, yeah, I'd like to hear about Easton Road.

Jerry Holum

Easton Road is a different animal.

Carol Schneider

I did say we got agreements in for all the all the entities. However, I ended on Easton Road, and I said, currently we have requests from softball, baseball. And then I said, another league. They put in for that too.

Jerry Holum

Who put in for that Hellertown?

Carol Schneider

lower Saucon Little League HLSLL/SVDS correct.

Jerry Holum

Interesting.

Carol Schneider

I don't know what day they would do it if they're only talking about one game or not, but that's what I have.

Jerry Holum

Girls baseball is only 660

Robert Blasko

I think 54-60,

Carol Schneider

Perhaps they want to have at least one game on the big field. I don't know.

Sandy Miller

Nighttime with the lights.

Jerry Holum

Social activity.

Carol Schneider

I just know that they put in for that.

Phil Spohn

So, we got our list, checklist, are we good with that that?

Sandy Miller

They end up having, just so we know, and each item has a corresponding picture numbered, so that you'll know what I'm referring to. Great.

Phil Spohn

Thank you.

Sandy Miller

I have one of your pictures as...

Jerry Holum

We don't have a picture of the most important one. We all have a picture of that intersection going across from a baseball side.

Sandy Miller

I don't have an I don't have a picture of that.

Robert Blasko

That one that shows the east.

Sandy Miller

That's why I only have seven photos and eight items.

Jerry Holum

Okay, great.

Phil Spohn

Did Jerry say he's going to get that picture for us? Okay, Jerry's going to get that.

Carol Schneider

That sign is the old sign, which is why it says dawn to dusk. There were no lights there previously, so they put that old sign back up there. So, I guess we'll have to get a new sign. The sign that you took a picture of, it says dawn to dusk. That's the old sign. They just so it will have to be modified.

Laura Ray

Put a board over top of it to figure it.

Phil Spohn

Okay, so let's move on to our Well, do you want to bring it up under your your top, under your under Park updates, or go ahead, finish up. Finish. Let's finish that one we're skipping when it's Park Update.

Jerry Holum

There's some other things that need attention. I realized that my understanding the township pools 20% of the contract price. Correct me, if I'm wrong, 20% of the contract price for 18 months, and in that 18 months, if we see problems, we just go back to the contractor and get them rectified. I don't know how that works, so, yeah, I think, I think I read something on that somewhere, but whatever we do have, we do have the ability to have things corrected. Yeah, that are AB to call for leverage. Yes, correct. Because there's, there's some things that that need correct thing, it appears correct me, if I'm wrong, Carol, it appears that Hellertown Little League and Diamond Sports are going to be using that ballpark exclusively, exclusively, and they're going to do The maintenance. Excuse me, they're going to do the maintenance inside the fences. All right, the outside is going to be taken care of by the township. There are some things that I'm sure they baseball people will identify with the soil that was put down, because there's some areas where things have to be taking care of re sodded and such, not a lot of stuff. But there is the price that we paid for sod to have the field sod it certainly we should have sod that's in great shape. I'm not sure. I guess we would just let that in the hands of Diamond Sports come up with a solution, because they're going to have to take care of fertilizing and everything else like that. So, I'm sure that will be rectified by them, or at least, if you want me, Phil, I can talk to them about it. Yeah, I don't think I have to talk to the baseball people about the baseball field. I think, to her knowledge or whatnot.

Phil Spohn

Can we move to Park Update?

6. **Park Updates:**

1. **Town Hall (Niloo)** - No discussion.

2. **Southeastern Park (Sandy)**

Phil Spohn

Niloo, Sandy, anything new or anything interesting?

Sandy Miller

No, I didn't. I would like to know what the tot lot is, the tot lot. Yes, I walked all around it, and don't know what a tot lot was, and I would have looked at it if I knew what a tot lot was. It's at Town Hall. At Southeastern Park, it's listed as an item that's getting repaving of southeastern parks, top lot, and I don't know what I would have looked to see why it would need to be repaved. I don't know what a tot lot is at that park.

Priscilla deLeon

I never had kids, so I never took my kids to the park, but it would be children, infants, you know, like small, smaller children, size things to use at a park. So, tot lot, right?

Sandy Miller

All of the parks, have nice new equipment, and all of the mulch that's there is the appropriate mulch that goes under a park, like under for safety. It's all done. So, I don't know what would be paved. Except, yeah, I don't know. I don't know what the tot lot is versus not paving, because it seemed like it was in I just didn't know what it was. So, I know the difference.

Carol Schneider

I know the difference with the tot lot here at Town Hall. The tot lot is enclosed with the fence. It's just across from Public Works garage that was redone. And that's the tot lot here. And it's generally, I think, ages from, I don't know if it's like, one to five years old.

Sandy Miller

Specifically, maybe they're talking about paving a path to get to it, because right now you have to go on grass, and maybe if they have strollers or other things, it's not terribly accessible. So maybe that's what they want to pave to get to the top lot. I can't tell you, but I will look next time as soon as I know. But otherwise, it seems, you know, there's a couple things that I would recommend, but that would be minor. And then I went to Kingston Park, and that's the only concern I have, and I don't know if Lutz Franklin is part of that park. No one explained that to me. Is Lutz's Franklin school is part of my responsibility of Kingston Park, because there's safety hazard, not, though that's Franklin, they just they had it was all corded off with caution tape, and the caution tape is now gone. So, if they were trying to avoid people getting to like an area that looks like it's under work. It's all covered in plastic and wrapped like. Please don't come here and touch the winter. It's just the winter that they still want it to be a secure area they might want to put, we place the caution tape there that loves Franklin. But the bathrooms are all lovely. Everything else is fine.

Laura Ray

I don't know. Are they working on the shutters?

Sandy Miller

No, it's not attached to the building. If you go in the back corner of the building, so if you're facing the building, you go to the back, in the back corner, there's like, a big something. It's all covered in plastic, so you don't know what it is.

Laura Ray

A tree fell down.

Sandy Miller

There's something going on there, and it's all wrapped up, so you can't tell what they're covering, but all the caution tape that you had so that people didn't go back there, as has all fallen because of the weather. And now that it's getting nicer, there might be people that are walking around. It might be something to put back up just for safety.

Phil Spohn

Okay, we're Saucon Rail Trail. Jerry, Maia is not here. Anything happening with that?

Jerry Holum

Yeah, lot of activity, lots of activity. But as mentioned earlier, the toilet at the Reading Trail Head, Roger is expecting that it's going to be, it's high on his work priority. He's got to get some things from Hanover Engineering. And he may be Township, maybe putting it in themselves after they have Hanover Engineering, do some engineering things out there, so that should be done by the summer.

Niloo Aflatooni

Is that composting?

Jerry Holum

I think that he said perking, so it's the real thing. It's the real thing. Probably the only other good news is Bethlehem closed the deal with Northfolk Southern as it relates to the link between Hellertown and the Greenways up in Bethlehem. So, that'll open now. That'll open one mile at a trail, and it'll be linked up. It appears that that should be done sometime in the future. I can't get anything definite on everything I've read, it doesn't give you a date. It just says they have all the money. They have a grant for a half a million dollars, and they got another grant for \$2.7 million and they got money from the city recreation fund. So, they got

plenty of money to open that up from the green ways down to Saucon rail trail. And when they do that, it'll really be an explosion. Yeah, people from the Bethlehem area coming down and flooding through flooding through Heller town and lower Saucon, which leads me to the next thing that I talked about once before. I really think we should have a high priority of putting a lean to up on the portion of Saucon Rail Trail, a lean to the permit people when it's bad weather, especially in June and July, when it's a rainstorm that comes on all of a sudden, so they can seek a little shelter there. There's nothing else that we have in lower stock and that provides any shelter for the people that are walking around their bikes like I don't see why we can't get one up. It's not going to cost a hell of a lot of money to put up a lane to and maybe even put some low walls on it and put it.

Phil Spohn

Okay. In the location by the outhouse? The outhouse, as a matter of fact, that's the that's the closest protection they have from the border of Lower Saucon is out and Bingen, you know, but I would recommend that the link to be put between Meadows Road and Old Mill Road. That's would be the best choice.

Sandy Miller

That's item number six on the wish list, and it has and it has no color. So, if that's something that could easily be done, perhaps we should make it a yellow and have staff do it.

Jerry Holum

It could be easily done. And I think I talked to Bob about that once before, about it would be a great Eagle Scout project. I think we talked about it, if anybody's involved.

Phil Spohn

That would be, that would be a good Eagle Scout project. Any other, anything else with Saucon Rail Trail, Maia is not here.

3. Kingston Park (Sandy) - No discussion.

4. Sandra Yeager Community Recreation Area (Phil)

Phil Spohn

Okay, the Sandra Yerger, I mentioned that before, everything's good there.

5. Steel City (Shaun) - Shaun was absent.

6. Polk Valley Park (Robert)

Phil Spohn

Shaun's not here. Robert.

Robert Blasko

Park, yes, the dog owners have a complaint over there. They understand that the upper dog park has to be closed when it gets muddy, when the weather is file center, etc. But I've had some people that have been going there for years told me they've never seen the lower Park open. It's locked constantly. It's never been open. So, they closed the upper park because it's muddy, but then they are denied a part the taxpayers are dog owners and have no place else to go and or live in town whatever like to go out there to walk their dogs. And some of them are saying they've never seen that lower Park open. I mean, I can understand closing the one park to let it rejuvenate. But then at that point, open the lower park, so the people that have dogs that need to go and use it can still get into the lower Park. Or at that point, anyway,

Phil Spohn

I thought it was big dog, little dog.

Sandy Miller

That's what I thought it used to be.

Phil Spohn

Yeah, when I used to use it was big dog and little dog.

Robert Blasko

I don't know. I would almost guarantee the little dogs are going in with the big dogs. I've seen pictures.

Phil Spohn

Because the other one is closed. Yeah, it's a smaller one.

Robert Blasko

They don't, they don't ever open the other one. But, I mean, I've seen pictures of Beagles with grey hounds. Four or five dogs wrestling in the park, getting along fine, other parts not open.

Laura Ray

We can ask Cathy/Roger and put it on the list.

Carol Schneider

I thought that there was, and I used to take my dogs there. There was a small dog area to the to the left, and then the bigger one was to the right, and then below that, I believe there's another park. But they, they alternate. Now. They're closed right now because of the weather and w I mean, both parks would be closed anyway, but they are closed to everybody because of the mud. The mud, yeah, and if you wreck it now, you won't be able to use it later. So, I know we get complaints about that, and I put it out. People aren't happy about it, but we have to take care of it, or we won't have it so, but I'll check on the second one. I know there was an alternate. But I, you know, they keep that closed, because if the original ones get ruined, then they go to the alternate. But I, they're, they're not all open at the same time, but I'm pretty sure there is a small and there is a large that is open when it's open, and then the alternate is down below. Think that's how that is. I'll double check.

7. **Easton Road Ballfield (Jerry)** – Previously discussed.

8. **Heller Homestead Park (Maia)** - No discussion.

9. **Saucon Rail Trail (Maia/Jerry)**

Phil Spohn

Okay, we're Saucon Rail Trail. Jerry, Maia is not here. Anything happening with that?

Jerry Holum

Yeah, lot of activity, lots of activity. But as mentioned earlier, the toilet at the Reading head railroad, Roger is expecting that it's going to be, it's high on his work priority. He's got to get some things from Hanover Engineering. And he may be Township, may be putting it in themselves after they have Hanover Engineering, do some engineering things out there, so that should be done by the summer.

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really think we should have a high priority of putting a lean to up on the portion of Saucon Rail Trail, a lean to the permit people when it's bad weather, especially in June and July, when it's a rain storm that comes on all of a sudden, so they can seek a little shelter there. There's nothing else that we have in lower stock and that provides any shelter for the people that are walking around their bikes like I don't see why we can't get one up. It's it's not going to cost a hell of a lot of money to put up a lean to and maybe even put some low walls on it and put it.

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Phil Spohn

That would be, that would be a good Eagle Scout project. Any other, anything else with Saucon Rail Trail, Maia is not here. Events, new business. Let's move on to our new business Sheetz, fee allocation page, very end of the packet, \$6,620 and tell us what we have to choose one or two. Is that correct?

Robert Blasko

It has to be in the vicinity of Town Hall?

Phil Spohn

Well, if they're looking for, if I don't know if they need matching funds, if she's going to apply for number one, right? And if they do, that, could be used towards any matching funds for a grant, for the what is it the concession, the number one priority, the restrooms at Polk Valley. Why don't we, if it's our number one, why don't we try to start putting money towards that number one project and get that accomplished?

Sandy Miller

A motion? It makes sense if it's the number one priority to allocate for it. Do we have anything that seems I mean, we have all that other money that says open as well.

Phil Spohn

Which we need to find out about.

Sandy Miller

But there's a lot of money that said Town Hall on it.

Priscilla deLeon

So, there's no water at Polk Valley Park, correct?

Laura Ray

Right. It would be a composting bathroom that they have at Kingston.

Sandy Miller

Yeah, they have to put something there. There are so many people for it not to have one and other parks already have. It is just kind of crazy to me.

Phil Spohn

So, how about, how about we recommend that it goes to the Polk Valley Park and special and if possible, earmark it towards our desire to get the bathroom installed at Polk Valley Park. Good? Motion?

Laura Ray

You guys need a motion, probably make a motion.

Jerry Holum

I second it.

Phil Spohn

I'll make the motion of taking the \$6,620 from the recreation fee and put it towards Polk Valley Park and ear market, if possible, to the restroom.

Carol Schneider

Composting bathroom. Is that what it was? Yes. And then Jerry, you second?

Jerry Holum

Yeah, I'll second.

Maia Simon

All in favor?

Parks and Recreation Board

Aye.

Phil Spohn

Opposed? Motion carries

10. Invasive Plant Inventory (Maia) - No discussion.

7. Event Updates: None

8. New Business:

1. Sheetz Land Development Fee Allocation

Phil Spohn

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Carol Schneider

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Jerry Holum

Yeah, I'll second.

Maia Simon

All in favor?

Parks and Recreation Board

Aye.

Phil Spohn

Opposed? Motion carries.

MOTION: Phil motioned to earmark the \$6,620 recreation fee from Sheetz to add a composting toilet at Polk Valley Park.

SECOND: Jerry, 5-0 (Shaun & Maia absent)

2. Support for The Watershed Coalition of the Lehigh Valley and Saucon Creek Watershed Association Grant Application at the Heller Homestead Park (Laura)

Phil Spohn

Support for Watershed Coalition Lehigh Valley - Saucon Valley, Watershed Association grant at Heller Homestead. Laura.

Priscilla deLeon

While she's looking, when I was looking for supporters for the Heller Homestead project that was approved by Council the other week for the open space plan I was looking for stakeholders, whatever they stakeholders so, and they supported the concept and said, You know what? We have grants. We can, we can help this park out

too, and the mulch, like at the at the trail head, and all that stuff so that. So, I'll let Laura go then, but that's out. This all happened.

Phil Spohn

So, this is for a grant?

Priscilla deLeon

Correct.

Sandy Miller

Focused on native plants. The letter says, focus on native right?

Laura Ray

This is like, this is right up Maia's alley, yeah. So, the one, like I said, the one project, when we brought that up and started working on that the water shed, got interested, and they had a grant available that they could apply for, that they could do, start doing some things in the park, because it is in need of attention in all kinds of ways. So, we have a letter proposed. I actually sent a last second change because the name of the trail is not meadow loop trail so well, yeah, right. Here are so many, you know, it's wrong. Okay, there's so many letters and changes in emails. So, you know how much I know, but I had to make a copy for specifically for Parks and Rec and for EAC, so that it has, you know, on behalf of the right group name, and it has that name came from, I don't know. So, this is the letter, the one that was already originally in the packet. Like I said, all the words are the same, except for the name of the trail. And do you know? Do you have an idea what the grant is? I think the whole project, she said, was around \$7500 and the grant would be for half of it, and the other half would be the township can provide in kind services, with the mulching and things like that, people helping.

Priscilla deLeon

We don't really have to put out any money. It's kind of in-house.

Sandy Miller

But we would provide the labor, and they and they provide the materials, right?

Priscilla deLeon

So that was a plus, and the grant was due.

Laura Ray

It's due, like, next week or something. So, this why it's like, well, let's go for it, because we were already talking about getting started on this park.

Priscilla deLeon

So, they were very pleased with the open space work that we're going to be doing and the restoration of the barn.

Sandy Miller

So, I make a motion that we apply for this green waste grant?

Laura Ray

Well, we're actually not even the ones applying for it, the watershed people or coalition or whatever, they're actually applying. We're just writing a letter to support them applying.

Sandy Miller

Well, I make a motion there, the letter to support.

Phil Spohn

And the one you have in your hand.

Sandy Miller

The one I have in my hand, version number?

Laura Ray

46 nature trail.

Robert Blasko

I'll second.

Phil Spohn

All in favor?

Parks and Recreation Board

Aye.

Priscilla deLeon

I was all excited.

Phil Spohn

Anyone opposed? Great.

MOTION: Sandy motioned to approve a letter of support from the EAC

SECOND: Robert, 5-0 (Shaun & Maia absent)

Jerry Holum

Laura, can I ask you a dumb question about this? How far does that trail go up from the Heller Homestead along Saucon Creek. How far does that go up?

Priscilla deLeon

There's a map on the internet distance and it's a loop.

Jerry Holum

Oh, there's a loop.

Priscilla deLeon

Yeah, it's just loops around.

Laura Ray

Let's say it's not greatly marked, because when we walk the loop, we ended up in the up at the Society Hill, and we didn't know where we missed our turn to continue our loop.

Priscilla deLeon

That's the problem. It's great having Boy Scouts do these projects and put up signage, but the wood disintegrates, and people come and knock them over, and this grant is going to replace the signs and have better signage and connect the trail. But if you remember, the homestead sits on 2.2 acres, and the other 12 acres that goes out to Skibo Road you really can't get to because of rocks, because of the drainage area from Society Hill and four seasons. So, there could be future grants, and you can keep this in mind for your planning, that there could be future grants that could put a walkway over those stones and have it connect to the other side, where it's beautiful on the other side. So, there's a lot of possibilities out there.

Phil Spohn

Inaudible....Rail Trail.

Priscilla deLeon

It is, and that's why I wanted to support this other thing that I was here last week about because they're going to look at the 14 acres.

Phil Spohn

Okay, so that...

Jerry Holum

Laura, have they ever thought of putting any historic markers down there? There used to be a quarry, a hematite quarry, that's along that. Have they ever thought of putting a Historic marker along there to identify where their quarry was?

Priscilla deLeon

No but that's a good idea.

Laura Ray

Yeah, when we're doing the master Park plan.

Priscilla deLeon

Yep.

Laura Ray

If anybody knows about that..

Priscilla deLeon

Well, I know there used to be railroad tracks that ran in front of the hell or homestead, adjacent between the creek and the homestead. There was railroad tracks and that went to the quarry, and then it went to the Thomas Iron Works. So that shows, I showed up on a Sanborn map.

Jerry Holum

Where your rail trail is, was that rail line? That single rail line from the quarry, the limestone quarry down there. That would be another interesting marker to put their historic mark.

Sandy Miller

Excuse me, can you pass it back?

Priscilla deLeon

It's a hidden jewel nobody knows about it.

Phil Spohn

Laura, you saw the floor for Heritage Day, May 17th.

Christine Seitz

Oh, I didn't realize it looped.

Phil Spohn

It does on that map.

Carol Schneider

What is your name, I'm sorry.

Phil Spohn

Don't take it.

Carol Schneider

Your name for the record.

Christine Seitz

Oh, Chris. Christine.

Carol Schneider

Okay. And did you sign in? So that I had a spelling, okay? If you could do that before you leave, that would be great. Thank you, Christine.

Christine Seitz

Inaudible.

Priscilla deLeon

I didn't hear what she said.

3. **Discuss Participation on Heritage Day, May 17th 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Heller Homestead Park**
(Laura)

Phil Spohn

Laura, do you want? So, what do you want to say about the Heritage Day? The whole thing up. Any further? Comments on the grant application. We're good, all right. Laura, Heritage Day.

Laura Ray

I lost my mic. Okay? May 17, yeah, I asked to put this one on as well because we could consider whether we're interested or not interested in doing anything as Parks and Rec down at the Heller Homestead, when Heritage Day is so could be information, information about all our parks projects we're working on. It might be a good way to get you to know, like we're doing the survey right now. Maybe it's people that didn't participate in the survey, you can Q A with people, so if we're interested, we could think of some ideas and talk about them next time.

Priscilla deLeon

Carol, does the township have a tent?

Carol Schneider

We have a canopy.

Priscilla deLeon

Yeah, maybe they can use it?

Carol Schneider

Sure. I mean, you just, I would say, I would say, send an email asking to use it.

Priscilla deLeon

They might, we can borrow it.

Phil Spohn

Well, the issue would do? We have people who are interested in that, and what you might do to represent Parks and Rec, that's that would be the issue. I have a child, unlimited workday that day, I'm not going to be around.

Sandy Miller

I guess my question is what would be the purpose of us being like? I would need to know, like, if we're just going to sit at the table and hand out papers?

Laura Ray

That would be up for Parks and Rec board to come up with an idea if you think it would be worthwhile or useful. I know last year, Maia herself set up on the porch on the widow's house and had information about native plants and whatever.

Phil Spohn

And maybe she wants to do that again.

Laura Ray

It can be, you know, like I said, people can maybe think of ideas.

Phil Spohn

And maybe get her input if she thought it was worthwhile at our next meeting,

Sandy Miller

Yes, because I can't cover five hours. So, I would need to, like, I mean, you want this done, then it would need to be a team effort. And I would need to know.

Laura Ray

It's not meant to be a solo project for one person.

Phil Spohn

How about we just put that on the agenda and make it an action item.

Laura Ray

People had some time to think about it.

Phil Spohn

Well, you want to decide what you're doing there. Are you handing something out? What do you want to get across? It would be interesting here Maia, whether or not she felt that it was worth her time. So, how about can we put that as an action item, and we'll put it on the agenda for April?

Priscilla deLeon

I think the people at the Greenway, the people that did this, I think they're coming and putting up a tent, because they want to talk about the creek and stuff.

Laura Ray

Yeah, I think the Watershed groups will be there.

Phil Spohn

Yeah, they presented a few places.

Sandy Miller

Is there a deadline for letting them know we're participating?

Laura Ray

Not really, because the Saucon Valley Conservancy itself, I guess, is, I don't know how that application goes. I guess they want to know who's setting up what and where with tents.

Sandy Miller

They'd have to be, we'll check in the process.

Phil Spohn

They're definitely in the know that they're in the process of getting it approved.

Laura Ray

Yes, yeah.

Priscilla deLeon

The Saucon Valley Conservancy is interested, and whoever wants to come and put up a tent to about the community, about, you know, whatever, and you just have to watch, because there's electricity, electric lines running different places, so you can't nail your tent in wherever you want. There's a map.

Sandy Miller

We'll figure it out.

Jerry Holum

Priscilla did you ask the Saucon Valley Rail Trail? Did you ask the Rail Trail Committee about, about attending it.

Sandy Miller

Well, their one of the four hosts.

Jerry Holum

The Rail Trail?

Sandy Miller

Yes, the Historical Society, the Hellertown Historical Society, Lower Saucon Township Historical Society, Saucon Rail Trail and Saucon Valley Conservancy join our four organizations for our annual celebration.

Phil Spohn

Yeah, that would be very good for them to especially with the new prospect of being connected.

4. Set Date for Movies in the Park Movie Survey (Carol)

Phil Spohn

Yeah, that would be very good for them to especially with the new prospect of being connected. But Movies in the Park survey.

Carol Schneider

We didn't do the survey yet. I didn't know if I should do that in conjunction with the other survey, or if I should wait. That's why I wanted to get a date. Should I wait? Or these are the questions that I want to ask. I need to get the movie selections in sooner rather than later, because we need to purchase the rights, and they only allow so many in different locations. I need to know that.

Phil Spohn

How did we do?

Niloo Aflatooni

We should add movies in the park, all in one survey.

Phil Spohn

Oh, that's about point.

Carol Schneider

Into the survey itself. I mean, I can, I can incorporate.

Phil Spohn

Can you speak into the mic?

Niloo Aflatooni

It's about Yeah. I think you should ask, you know, if they like the movie, movie nights in our parks or not.

Phil Spohn

How would you word that question?

Laura Ray

It's just separate.

Niloo Aflatooni

How do you participate? One of the questions, have they participated on the any of within past three years? Yes, we did yes past three years. Have you know, participated in any movie nights? What's your recommendations? Do you want it? Yes or no questions.

Laura Ray

I think Carol probably has a pretty good idea of the attendance.

Carol Schneider

The attendance at Polk Valley Park was good. The year before was a little low, but the first year was good too. I have a breakdown, but last year's attendance was good for all three parks.

Niloo Aflatooni

Can we ask them what type of movies they want? Or we are limited?

Carol Schneider

I have that on the survey. I do have a breakdown of specific movies, because I need titles.

Phil Spohn

You know what? Just because we spent time on the survey, I think it's a finished that's a finished product. I think two separate putting too much in at this late last minute. Okay, so how have you, how have you solicited this, this survey before?

Carol Schneider

Generally, I would do it in January, but it's been too crazy, and with this, I didn't, I didn't know if we wanted to do both. So, I can put it out the day after it's. In the newsletter. It's not something that I post. It's usually on our website. And then I do Constant Contact, and I send it out there. I give it like two weeks, and then people get back, and then I take that information and move forward.

Phil Spohn

And do you have tentative dates?

Carol Schneider

It's general I don't have tentative dates. The problem with that is the gentleman who donates the screen, I go by his availability.

Phil Spohn

I'm trying to think, Is it always a certain night? Is it a Friday night?

Carol Schneider

It's generally a Friday night, which I did in the survey last year. I asked days of the week, what was, what was best? So, Friday nights generally work out best.

Phil Spohn

Okay, so we all know more about the survey at the next meeting.

Carol Schneider

I just needed date. So, if I, if you want me to wait until the day after, which will be the current survey goes from the fifth through the 26th so I can run this Movies in the Park survey, and I can put something in the current survey, and just say that there will be a survey for Movies in the Park. Keep your eye out for it, or I can even put dates on it. But I could start the Movies in the Park survey on the 27th, run it for two weeks so that I have my information. And, you know, pay for the movies and so on.

Phil Spohn

Good.

Carol Schneider

I also wanted to note next month you will have two special event applications. I have one now for Saucon Valley LAX Day. But it wasn't enough time to put it on the agenda. So, I will be putting that on next month's agenda. And information was sent for the Heritage Day. They need to get information as well. Yes, so you will have those definitely Saucon Valley LAX, and hopefully Heritage Day for next month's meeting.

Sandy Miller

This will be the 20th inaugural year.

Phil Spohn

Anything any other business, are we good to go?

Jerry Holum

Yeah, I have something.

Phil Spohn

Uh oh. Jerry, always Jerry's got something.

Jerry Holum

Let me ask a question. I didn't want to bring it up, under the ballfield. Let me ask the group, who do you think could be able to play on that ball field?

Robert Blasko

Guys who play ball. People, it doesn't matter to me. Really doesn't matter. I don't know that much about baseball. I was a fishing and hunting guy.

Phil Spohn

Are there restrictions on Polk Valley Park, on what groups can use for soccer. Or are you aware of?

Carol Schneider

Saucon Valley Youth Sports has a priority. So that's youth Lacrosse, youth baseball, you softball, you soccer.

Phil Spohn

Yeah. Okay.

Jerry Holum

So, who can use it? What do you think, Phil, who can use it?

Phil Spohn

I have no idea who's who has an interest.

Jerry Holum

No. I mean besides the league. So, I mean, besides the structured leagues, who should be able to use it? Are you talking about priorities? No. Priorities, obviously, go to the people that have agreements. But can other kids walk on there and play if, if a game's not at the link?

Phil Spohn

I would anticipate it. Why wouldn't that be it's not locked up, is it?

Jerry Holum

Yes, there's a lot of things that are going to be happening here, and it's going to be happening at the next council, because there's, I talked briefly or Priscilla about it. This, this agreement that's going to be brought up at the council meeting, deals with the Easton Road ball field. And I'm not a lawyer, but in reading it, it appears to me Hellertown, H, L, S, Heller town, Little League and diamond sports have the exclusive rights for that field. All right. If anybody else wants to go on there, they have to get back and get permission from Saucon Valley Diamondbacks and in conjunction with the town. Township. But if you wanted to take, take your neighborhood boys and go up there and play, it appears you're not going to be able to do that. In addition to that, how you get onto the field is through a gated man. A gated man gate. That gate appears, according to this agreement, the keys are going to be held by Saucon Valley diamond sports and Hellertown Little League, as well as the township. But if you wanted to walk on and play, you wouldn't be able to get on the field.

Phil Spohn

We don't have any other parks that are locked?

Jerry Holum

No, this will be the only park that we have, that is gated.

Sandy Miller

Do they have an exclusive agreement, that only they have, or that only they can use it?

Jerry Holum

Exclusive no. Unless Carol is aware of it.

Sandy Miller

Because they're responsible for maintaining the interior of the field, they don't want anyone else to mess with their perfect field is that or damage it?

Carol Schneider

Going back to keys. We have keys that we have made for the box down here at Town Hall, where they keep the equipment, just like they do at any other field. It must be locked up so that nobody wrecks it. But I mean, in the past, we've never had a problem. In fact, Easton Road right now, as I stated before Hellertown, I don't know the exact name Hellertown Goats is another team that has always had Sundays at Easton Road ballfield. It's mainly college students who get together who are approved and are insured, so we need to have all that paperwork, you know, ahead of time. And this has always been like an agreement between both organizations, the Hellertown Lower Saucon Township Little League and the Hellertown Goats. They use the field on Sundays from 9am until 3pm, I think that's what the agreement is now. So, it was okayed by Hellertown Lower Saucon Township Little League, and then, you know, they gave permission for them to do that so that they're not on the field that day. And then they must get their paperwork to us and get approval. If anybody wants to have, you know, time on the field, it's got to be scheduled in such a way that, you know, it's okay with the entity that's there full time, so to speak, and then with the township.

Jerry Holum

That isn't in their agreement.

Carol Schneider

I don't know what's in the agreement.

Jerry Holum

This is going to be in the agreement that they're they, they'll have exclusive rights for that field. Exclusive rights over overridden, obviously, by the township, but they'll have exclusive rights for the way I read it.

Carol Schneider

As of right now, I know that I was going back and forth with the president of Hellertown Lower Saucon Little League, and they said that Sundays were okay, that that's always been, and that's, you know that they've always given permission for them to be on the field for Sundays. We have a group that's been down here at Town Hall Park for longer than I've been here over 22 years on a Wednesday. So, Hellertown Lower Saucon Township Little League can't be there on a Wednesday (to practice or have a game). That has always been so I don't know, it's generally, it's worked out if a team needs to get on there, other than Hellertown Lower Saucon Township Little League or Diamond Sports. It's usually worked out between three entities, us, the Hellertown Lower Saucon Township Little League and then the other entity coming in.

Phil Spohn

But for instance, if I wanted to use Polk Valley Park with my kids on the soccer fields, which I used to do, I knew when games were so I would not do it at that time. It doesn't seem like you're allowed to even use that field outside of organized recreation. If it's locked.

Robert Blasko

Individual citizens do not need insurance to go on to the soccer field and play.

Sandy Miller

Carol just said that they have to have insurance.

Carol Schneider

If it's during a time that it's already, we already have an agreement, then they would have to leave.

Robert Blasko

Yeah, other than that, no, that's not the question. That's not the question.

Sandy Miller

What happens if you want to have a birthday party and you want to bring a bunch of kids to that baseball field, if I don't have insurance...

Carol Schneider

Renting the pavilion, and this has happened Town Hall, they are renting the pavilion, and there's a game going on down below. They can't, obviously, use the field, but if the if the league leaves and it's open, they can use it.

Sandy Miller

That's fine, because that's but we're saying, if we're at the new field, if it's exclusive use, then it's not going to be open to anybody but Lower Saucon and except if they deem, they're allowing the Sunday group to go and Can I ask why this? This, this agreements going into place?

Jerry Holum

Well, it's gone before Council. I hope Council brings up these points, because there's a lot of other points that I would bring up if I was on council, I would be interested in things like, what happens in Hellertown Little League. Hellertown Little League has lights on it. Hellertown literally pays for that electricity. The borough of Hellertown doesn't pay for it unless things changed since I was involved in it.

Carol Schneider

I don't know how they break that down, but their contracts are different. In Hellertown, all of field space is paid for. Where it's not here. Well, they pay for field space, though, too. The entities baseball, football, you don't know the amount. My husband was involved in football, so I know that they had a contract at the beginning of the year, and they had to pay so much, I think, per game or what.

Robert Blasko

I think the question is, why is this ball field locked all the times that at times when it's not being used by these other teams? Why can't other tax paying Citizens that paid for this going on three and a half million ball field

send their children over there to play baseball. Why is this field locked? If this field is locked, why isn't every other field in the township, the way.

Jerry Holum

The way I read the contract is going to be locked. It appears that these are going to be held by them in the township. So that would mean all the keys, the keys to the field house, the equipment, room and stuff, makes sense. But the field itself gates on the field. You can't jump those fences and play. You got to go through the gates, and appears that they're going to be locked, and the keys are going to be held by those two groups Township.

Christine Seitz

I have a question, yes, is this a public park, we're talking about?

Phil Spohn

It is a public park.

Christine Seitz

\$3.7 million. I would I get that it has to be closed certain days for maintenance and to let it rest, that I get Monday through Thursday. But then, like you said, if these groups aren't playing, why can't I bring my kids over and throw a ball around. That's a public part to me.

Phil Spohn

I agree.

Jerry Holum

That's why I began with the question.

Phil Spohn

So, Laura, this is coming up at the next council meeting.

Laura Ray

Yeah, there's an agreement. There's a the agreement at Diamond Sports and Hellertown Little League want to enter into.

Phil Spohn

An exclusive agreement of some sort?

Laura Ray

Yeah, what Jerry was referring to, yes, it's, I mean, it's exclusive, except for when they're not having it booked, which I'm not sure doesn't sound like that's too often that it not being booked.

Phil Spohn

Well, yeah, I guess I have no problem with that, but I...

Laura Ray

Yeah, well, this other stuff though about it being locked...

Phil Spohn

If it's not booked, it should be definitely open.

Priscilla deLeon

The agreement. Agreements online, on the on our board docs.

Laura Ray

Yeah, for the agenda item for the council meeting. It's a two-page thing. I did call the solicitor today with questions on that too, we'll see.

Phil Spohn

I would say, we'd all have concerns with public park being locked and not being open to the public, outside of the outside of the use of whether it's a soccer team or, you know, yep, approve schedule. We want to, we definitely want to help the organized sports teams. But if it's not being utilized, it should not be locked. So please take that to council.

Priscilla deLeon

I feel that because of the lights, I don't know what the lights is going to cost, but I think somebody should be contributing, because they're using the field. I remember them coming before Council, and they said that they were going to do fundraisers to help with the cost I haven't heard any fundraisers, or any of that.

Jerry Holum

It doesn't have anything as a regard to like Carol was pointing out, what Hellertown has. They're not they're not going to be paying anything toward the field. They're going to be taking care of it, but they're not going to be paying for anything like Hellertown midget sport stuff.

Phil Spohn

Would it be wise to find out what Hellertown or even Upper Saucon charges, if they charge?

Jerry Holum

I think that's in the hands of the council.

Phil Spohn

Well, we can make a recommendation. We could do online research, make a recommendation.

Jerry Holum

It wasn't brought before us. Phil, it wasn't brought before us. I don't think we want to get involved. I just bring it on, because I saw what the council was going on a council meeting, and I know it related to the ballfield, but my personal feeling is we don't want to get involved into the council.

Phil Spohn

Well, let it be known that I think I would say, I think I'm speaking on behalf of us, that we think it should be a public park and open to the public, understanding that there are organized sports that will be using it, and you have to leave it those times.

Laura Ray

So, noted.

Jerry Holum

Any other Thanks, Jerry. We have the president here.

11. Adjournment

Phil Spohn

Thanks, Jerry for bringing that up. That's an important little tweak, other things for the good of the whole April 7 is our next, next meeting.

Jerry Holum

I move to adjourn.

Robert Blasko

Second

Phil Spohn
All in favor?

Parks & Recreation
Aye

Phil Spohn
Thanks for coming.

MOTION: Jerry motioned to adjourn.

SECOND: Robert, passed 5-0-2 (Shaun & Maia absent).

Next Meeting: Monday, April 7, 2025 @ 6:30 p.m. @ Town Hall.