

Township of Spring Parks and Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes –April 15th, 2021

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was called to order 7:00 pm by Chairperson Richard Bashore in the meeting room at the Township Administration Building. Board Member William Aukamp and Director Judy Houck were also present. The following individuals attended the meeting via teleconference: Park Board Members William Herbine, Don Watterson and Michael Kocher, Board of Supervisors' Liaison Robert Myer and resident Mr. Errol Lapham.

Approval of Minutes – *Motion to approve the minutes of the March 18th, 2021 meeting was made by Mr. Herbine, seconded by Mr. Watterson. MOTION CARRIED*

Courtesy of the Floor –

Mr. Lapham, 2015 Cypress Lane – nothing to present at this time.

General Report – Ms. Houck reviewed the written monthly report and the following reports: *Supervisor Meeting Minutes 3/8/21; Capital Projects Report April 2021 and Program Status Report Winter/Spring 2021.*

Ms. Houck reported that based on the current COVID occupancy regulations, all pavilion reservations for April have been cancelled and the Department ceased accepting reservations for May till April 15th. We continue to monitor regulation changes and submit recommendations to the Board of Supervisor's as promptly as possible. Ms. Houck reported pavilion reservation are in high demand and that the customers are not interested in hearing about COVID restrictions. Due to the current COVID situation, there is great interest in the natural world and wildlife and that the environmental programs have proven to be the most successful.

Ms. Houck continues to work on capital projects, flood repairs at Cacoosing Meadows and the tree replacement at Shiloh Hills Park. Ms. Houck reported that the Mowing Contract and the Fertilization and Weed Control Contracts have been completed. Ms. Houck is finalizing the Berks County Cooperative Council's Road Salt Contract and continues to work on the Request for Proposals for the Comprehensive Plan.

Old Business –

Cacoosing Meadows Park – Swale Restoration/Field Reconstruction – Ms. Houck reported the project has been terminated.

Shiloh Hills Park – Creation of Meadow – Board of Supervisors' has approved the creation of the meadow. Ms. Houck reviewed additional land the Supervisors' suggested to include.

Motion to expand the meadow between the parking lot and retention pond was made by Mr. Aukamp, seconded by Mr. Kocher, Mr. Herbine opposed. MOTION CARRIED

Red Caboose Park – Owls Restroom Usage – Ms. Houck reviewed the Owls Game Schedule and the cost for cleaning the restrooms. After some discussion the Board has decided to bill West Lawn Owls monthly for their sole use of the restrooms.

Motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the Department invoice the Owls organization on a monthly basis for their sole usage of the restrooms at Red Caboose Park was made by Mr. Kocher, seconded by Mr. Aukamp. MOTION CARRIED

Old Business –(Continued)

COVID Regulation Update – Ms. Houck reviewed the current COVID regulations in regards to pavilion rentals and the summer programs. Three options for pavilion rentals were submitted to the Board of Supervisors and they chose option two, to rent pavilions at the current occupancy rate and continue using any changed occupancy rates as announced by the CDC or the Governor’s Office. Ms. Houck reported that the Department will continue using the current regulations for Programs and Summer Camps.

Since customers continue to request the option to have the Summer Playground Program, Ms. Houck is requesting a firm recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Board that can be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors.

Motion to not hold the 2021 Summer Playground Program was made by Mr. Herbine, seconded by Mr. Kocher. MOTION CARRIED

General Comments – None

New Business –

Board’s Vision – Ms. Houck is requesting that the Parks and Recreation Board begin considering vision statements for the Department. Ms. Houck included examples of vision statements and a current Parks and Recreation Department page from the Township Vision Worksheet.

General Comments –

Current information for West Wyomissing Property, Ms. Houck stated we are waiting for DCNR to approve the survey and hoping to finalize by the end of the year. Further discussions about the renovations, the Park Board agreed to wait until the property is in the ownership of the Township.

Question was raised, why the candidates were abandoned to serve on the Park and Recreation Board. Research has proven that many municipalities within Berks County have representation and all of our committees have representation from the Supervisors’.

Announcements –

- A list of upcoming programs and events has been included on the back of the agenda.
- Dylan McKissick, Recreation Program Coordinator has submitted his resignation, effective April 22nd.
- **Next meeting - Thursday, May 20th, 2021 – 7:00 pm.**

Adjournment – *Motion made by Mr. Aukamp, seconded by Mr. Kocher to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 pm - MOTION CARRIED.*

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Breneman
Customer Service Representative