

Township of Spring Parks and Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes – June 15th, 2023

Chairperson Richard Bashore called the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board to order at 7:06 pm in the Public Meeting Room at the Township Administration Building. The following members were present: Donald Watterson, Keith Stamm, William Aukamp. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director, Judy Houck and Administrative Assistant, Sharon Breneman.

Amendments to the June 15th, 2023 Agenda – None

Approval of Minutes – *Motion to approve the minutes of the May 18th, 2023 meeting was made by Mr. Stamm, seconded by Mr. Watterson. MOTION CARRIED 4-0*

Courtesy of the Floor – None

General Report – Ms. Houck reported the Summer Playground Program started Monday, June 12th with 13 staff members, 1 program supervisor and 155 children. Also provided in her report was a list of registrations by park site. The next Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 25th at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Houck is waiting on the draft for the Comprehensive Plan and copies will be sent as soon as they are received. Two summer events were cancelled due to the air quality, the first Family Fun Night was received exceptionally well with a record attendance of 107 and Ms. Houck gave a brief description of some upcoming programs. The Board of Supervisors authorized the removal of the kitchen building at Cacoosing Meadows Park. The freon has been removed from the cooler and the asbestos testing is scheduled for the week of June 19th. The signs for the pedestrian crossing at The Oaks Trail were installed June 7th and the work began the week of June, 5th for the West Lawn Park ADA improvements project.

Old Business –

Summer Playground Program Update – Addressed under the General Report

Comprehensive Plan Update – Addressed under the General Report

Spring 2023 Events – Addressed under the General Report

Cacoosing Meadows Park – Kitchen Damage – Addressed under the General Report

The Oaks Trail/Berger Pond Access – Addressed under the General Report

West Lawn Park – DCNR/LWCF Improvements – Addressed under the General Report.

General Comments –

1. Suggestion was made to document any reported playground issues for next year's playground evaluation and discussion.

2. Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan – Brief discussion was held regarding whether or not the time line will be reached.

New Business –

Fall 2023 Programs and Events – Ms. Houck reported that the fall programs are being finalized and working to get the information submitted to the printer by July 15th. Ms. Houck spoke briefly about the up-coming fall programs, Berks Encore, Fall Family Fun Day and the Holiday Program.

Insurance Requirements – During the Township’s insurance policy renewal process, the insurance company requested that the Department update its “Two Deep Leadership Rule” to apply to all recreational programs. Currently the policy only applies to programs with participants under the age of 18 years old. This policy will require that two (2) staff members attend all programs so that at no time is one staff member left alone with just one program participant. This policy will increase the safety of the staff and reduce the Township’s exposure to wrongful abuse/molestation accusations.

Motion to recommend adoption of the Two-Deep Leadership Rule for all Parks and Recreation Department programs was made by Mr. Stamm, seconded by Mr. Aukamp. MOTION CARRIED 4-0

General Comments – None

Announcements –

- A list of upcoming programs and events has been included on the back of the agenda.
- Next meeting – Thursday, July 20th, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment – *Motion was made by Mr. Aukamp, seconded by Mr. Watterson to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 pm - MOTION CARRIED. 4-0*

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Breneman
Administrative Assistant