



WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION
MINUTES 8-15-17 7 PM

PRESENT: Ken Lehr, Andrew Vaskas, Nick Boccella, Denise VanValkenburgh, Brad DeHart
ABSENT: Mr. Grimm STAFF: Ms. Hundt, Director of Parks and Recreation

Administration

Approval of May 16, 2017 Meeting Minutes: Mr. Boccella move; Mrs. VanValkenburgh second; all in favor. Note: There was no June meeting because there were three P&R events in one week and no July meeting, because there wasn't a quorum.

Board Background Check Discussion

Board Vacancy Discussion

It has become apparent, through his absence and lack of communication, that Mr. Zacco's schedule is excluding him from participation on the Board and at events. Mr. Lehr will call him to thank him for his efforts and let him know that the Board has other potential members that they will be interviewing.

Old Business

Saving Hallowed Ground Request for Centennial Tree Planting at Okehocking:

Ms. Hundt read a letter she received from the Willistown Township Historic Commission, who was not in favor of the proposal. After much discussion, the Board shared the same concerns. A motion thanking the Historic Commission for their consideration and input, and based upon their conclusions and the Board's concerns, was made to deny the project for recommendation by Mr. Bocella, and seconded by Mr. Vaskas. All were in favor. The Board concluded that "This is a wonderful project, but it is not a good fit for our park system."

Nike Site

Mr. DeHart's father used to do maintenance work on the site, so he has a curiosity about it. He will follow up on the status of the property. The site is located across the street from the Delchester Road entrance to Okehocking Preserve.

Programs

GO WilMa! wraps up August 19.

Okehocking Programs

Trail Corps Workshops September 23 & 24

Weed Warrior

Walkworks ChesCo

Parks

Greentree Park Grubb Road Entrance Update

Mr. Vaskas reported that he was at the Supervisor meeting when the proposed 3-Way Stop Sign ordinance was discussed. He reported that two neighbors of the intersection were against the stop signs. He reported that PennDOT would not lower the speed limit to 25. The group agreed that even if the speed was lowered, people would continue to exceed it. Mr. Vaskas reported that the issue was passed back to the Chief of Police for further investigation into speeds, site distances, and further consideration of the traffic engineer report.

Greentree Park Field Addition

Nothing new to report.

Mill Park

Mr. Vaskas brought a crack in concrete by the snack bar to Ms. Hundt's attention, as well as the key for the memo board not working.

Communications

Update: Parks and Recreation FB Page, GO WilMa! FB Page, @willistownparks coming soon!

Events

2017 Schedule: Board Member Kiosks Updated? Thanks to Mrs. VanValkenburgh for distributing fliers!

Willistown Country Fair August 22, 5:30-7:30 PM.

Okehocking Hawk Watch Stand Ribbon Cutting Update and Acknowledgement Letter

Ms. Hundt will draft an acknowledgement letter. At this time, without assistance from the former Okehocking Nature Center group, the Parks Department does not have the capacity to host an event this year. Ms. Hundt reached out to the Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association as a potential program partner, and they too do not have the capacity at the moment.

New Business

Mr. Vaskas proposed that the Board consider a Parks on Tap program, including music, as grown-up programming in the parks. Ms. Hundt stated that the Township Code does not permit alcoholic beverages in the parks. That said, she said finding model programs in other municipalities to see how they make it work is the place to start. Mr. Boccella mentioned programs he was aware of in Philadelphia parks and other municipalities. Ms. Hundt asked the two Board members to do some reconnaissance and to send some model programs to her.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment: Mr. Vaskas, motion; Mrs. Vanvalkenburgh, second; all in favor.

Next meeting: 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 7PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mary N. Hundt, Recording Secretary