



## WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION

MINUTES 9-18-18 7PM

MEMBERS: CHAIRMAN ANDREW VASKAS, VICE CHAIRMAN BRYAN GRIMM, NICK BOCCELLA, KEN LEHR, DENISE VANVALKENBURG

ABSENT: BRAD DEHART

### Administration

Approval of July Minutes: Nick moved; Bryan seconded; all in favor.

Board Vacancy: The Board spoke with two interested residents separately at 7:25 and 7:50 PM: Michele Legnini and Bill Unrath. The Board thanked the candidates for their participation in the Country Fair, encouraged continued engagement, and informed them that there would be ongoing resident outreach regarding the vacancy to assure that as many interested residents have the opportunity to apply. Outreach would include another blurb in the November 2018 Towne Crier newsletter and through the Parks & Recreation Notify Me outreach database.

### Programs & Events

Recap:

*GO WilMa!* Recap: Mary reported on the record numbers of participants, over 800 compared to 629 last year.

Country Fair Recap: Mary thanked those Board members who were able to attend, and reported that 431 adults and children signed in. Ken commented that this was a good number, especially considering it was held on the rain date.

Camps:

Summer Camp Expansion 2019: Mary summarized the subcommittee report regarding the camp wrap-up meeting with the Patriot Camp organizers who host a 3 week, 3 hour afternoon camp at Sugartown Elementary. She informed the Board that she had worked with Jump Start Sports to design the themes and flier to expand the Willistown Township Summer Fun Camps from 4 weeks to a "full summer" of 8 weeks, and that she registered for the dates with Great Valley School District to assure their availability. Mary requested that the Board recommend to the Supervisors the approval of this expansion.

New Programming:

Mary also discussed offering a Willistown Township after school sports program at General Wayne Elementary which would be a specific sport offered once per week during the school year for five week sessions. Jump Start Sports would administer the program. She proposed starting with General Wayne Elementary as a pilot program, with possible expansion to Sugartown Elementary.

After lengthy discussion, Ken Lehr packaged the two proposals and moved to recommend both the expansion of the Willistown Township Summer Fun Camps to 8 weeks in 2019, and the establishment of a once per week after school sports program at General Wayne Elementary to the Supervisors for approval; Denise seconded; all in favor. Mary will inform the Patriot Camp organizers of the Board's decision and will pass the recommendations on to Dave Burman once the details of the after school sports camp is ironed out.

Parks in Tune and on Tap: Mary presented her follow up research with fellow municipalities, the Willistown Chief of Police, and the Township's insurance company on Andrew's request to host this programming at Greentree Park. After lengthy discussion,

the Board agreed that they wanted to host such programming and decided that they wanted the location to be Greentree Park. They asked Mary to discuss the concept further with Bob Lange, who is the Supervisor assigned as Parks & Recreation liaison and who expressed support to Andrew during the Country Fair. Mary will follow up with the insurance carrier for their input prior to discussing with Supervisor Lange.

Okehocking Coffee Klatch (noun) (plural: Klatches); A casual gathering for coffee and conversation: Mary discussed her proposed Coffee Klatches at Okehocking so she and the Board can get to know some of Okehocking's users and gather them together so they can get to know each other in an effort to create community at the Preserve and gain input on all things Okehocking. Mary will poll the Board for weekend mornings.

Public Outreach/Input:

Short Programming Survey: Mary reviewed her ideas for a short programming survey, and after gathering input from the Board, the survey will include feedback for Parks in Tune & on Tap, Yoga in the Park, Yoga in the Board Room (or at one of the elementary schools), and a section asking for other programming ideas.

Park Ambassador Program: Updated Park Kiosk Information

#### Park Management

Okehocking Dog Management & Outreach Program:

Discussion and New Tri-Fold Brochure: The Board decided not to have any public meetings on the issue of off leash dogs at Okehocking this year. They preferred to continue with: conducting outreach to users of all types, building the Friends of Okehocking database and group, hosting the coffee klatches, continuing with informational pieces about the Preserve, and having more regular staff and Board member presence. Mary reported that her follow up on the enforcement of the on-leash dog rules in the Township Code was ongoing and that she is in communication with the Chief of Police and the Township Manager.

Spotted Lanternfly:

Mary reported that the invasive insect has been confirmed in Willistown. She is creating educational materials and programming and a management approach to inform the public and to protect our parks and preserves.

#### Trails/Planning

Nick and Mary reported on the Troutbeck Farm Preliminary Plan. Mary coordinated a meeting between Nick and the Township Manager to review the plans. There is a 20 page initial review letter from the Township engineer; no new plans have been submitted yet; Nick was told that the developer has received the message that the trail corridor goes through, and they are going to respond with some kind of trail and sidewalk. Nick reported that he feels the Township engineer is doing a good job in his review of the plan and references to trails and sidewalks.

The Board discussed their concern over the Willistown Code as it pertains to trail establishment and protection and development impact fees that are earmarked for parks and recreation. Ken will look at West Goshen's Code for impact fee language and Nick will send model ordinances regarding trails and sidewalks requirements from other municipalities with whom he has worked.

#### New Business

Parks & Recreation Township-Wide Survey 2019: Mary notified the Board that it was time for another survey and she reported that she will be coordinating with the Open Space Review Board for their input as it pertains to Parks and Recreation.

#### Public Comment

None

Adjournment Ken moved; seconded by Denise; all in favor.

Next meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month at 7PM

All meetings are open to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary N. Hundt

Recording Secretary