# PATTON TOWNSHIP RECREATION ADVISORY JUNE 15, 2021

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# MEETING LOCATION: VIA ZOOM

## SUMMARY MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Taylor called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Members present were Ms. Cindy Solic, Mr. Rich Koch, Mr. Barry Bram and Mr. Ken Hickman. Staff member present was Ms. Susan Wheeler, Public Works Project Manager. Mr. Steve Casson, Director of Public Works was absent.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to accept the April Recreation Advisory Committee minutes was made by Ms. Solic and seconded by Mr. Hickman.

**3. GREEN HOLLOW PARK ADA PATH CONSTRUCTION**

Phase 1 of the Green Hollow Park ADA Path construction project is out for bid and is being managed through PennBid. The design professional for this project is YSM Landscape Architects. Bids will be opened on June 18, 2021, and construction will take place in 2021. The probable cost opinion for construction of this phase is $38,000.

Phase 2 of the ADA path project will be constructed in 2022. The probable cost opinion for Phase 2 is $68,000.

**4. LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS “BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESS” DESIGNATION**

Ms. Wheeler, Ms. Trish Meek of the Centre Regional Planning Agency (CRPA) and the Committee prepared the Bicycle Friendly Business application for review by the Board of Supervisors. The application is being made for Bronze status.

At the May 26, 2021, Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board approved the submission of the Bicycle Friendly Business application for Patton Township. The submission due date was June 10, 2021, and announcement of successful awards will be in early fall. The Patton Township application was submitted on June 3.

**5. MAY “WAS” NATIONAL BIKE MONTH**

The May 18, 2021, RAC meeting was the “Patton Township Bike Chat”. It was a virtual event and, it is anticipated that the next Bike Chat will be in person. The next Bike Chat should be held in May 2022 during Bike Month.

**6. CIRCLEVILLE PARK BICYCLE REPAIR STATION**

The first bicycle repair station in the township has been installed in Circleville Park. Its location will be added to the regional Bicycle Facility Map which is prepared by the Centre Regional planning Agency (CRPA). As second bicycle repair station is planned for the next phase of Bernel Road Park.

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**7. VALLEY VISTA SHARED USE PATH TO TUDEK PARK BIKE PATH CONNECTOR ROUTE PROPOSAL**

The “*Patton Township Parks and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Plan 2020 – 2029”* provides mapping for future bicycle/pedestrian path connections throughout the Township.

In that adopted plan, one route designated as a Connector Route traverses along Devonshire Drive (and Park Lane and W. Aaron Drive) to connect the Valley Vista Shared Use Path to the Bike Path in Tudek Park in Ferguson Township.

Ferguson Township has agreed that they will contract to have sharrows painted and install directional signs along Devonshire Drive, Park Lane and West Aaron Drive. Patton Township is doing the same on the Patton Township section of Devonshire Drive. One this project is completed it will be added a Connector Route on the CRPA Bicycle Facility Map.

The sharrows have yet to be painted by Alpha Space Control and once completed the “Bike Route” directional signs will be installed.

**8. VALLEY VISTA SHARED USE PATH UPDATE**

The Contractor CH+D has yet to finish some items on the punch list related to topsoil placement, touch up grading and seeding. That work was completed.

**9. FUTURE POTENTIAL PICKLEBALL COURT LOCATIONS**

The Board of Supervisors have been discussing pickleball in Green Hollow Park at their Board meetings. At the May 12, 2021, Board meeting the Board formed the Advisory Committee for Green Hollow Pickleball. This Advisory Committee has been meeting regularly and providing input to the Board.

The Board asked the RAC to discuss planning for the potential for future pickleball court locations. The Committee discussed existing parks in the Township and the potential for court locations. The RAC provided the following recommendation to the Board.

*The RAC reviewed a list of sixteen (16) parks in the Township and decided that the first step in assessing each park for the possibility of pickleball court construction should be the development of a list of criteria that should be met.*

*These criteria were:*

* *The size of the park.*
* *Whether or not the park was already fully developed as per its Master Plan.*
* *If the park has enough space to develop a bank of three (3) or four (4) courts as pickleball is a social sport in addition to being an exercise opportunity.*
* *If the park has a location that would be at least 500 ft away from homes.*
* *If the park has suitable parking opportunities.*

*These criteria were developed based on past experience of the Committee and in consideration of current discussions taking place with regard to the Green Hollow Park pickleball courts.*

*Parks that were eliminated from consideration due to size were Carnegie Drive Tot Lot, Park Forest Tot Lot, Ridgemont Parklet, Cedar Cliff Park, Ghaner Drive Parklet, Graycairn Park, Gray’s Woods Park, Marjorie Mae Park, Oakwood Park, and Woodycrest Park.*

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*Green Hollow Park was not discussed because it has pickleball courts.*

*Graysdale Park and Circleville Park were eliminated because they have been fully developed as per their Master Plans and no additional space exists. There was discussion about conversion of basketball courts to pickleball courts, but this option was dismissed because the basketball courts in both parks are well utilized.*

*Patton Woods Natural Recreation Area was eliminated because it a wooded natural park with uses and amenities that differ from a traditionally developed park.*

*Two (2) parks could be considered for future pickleball court locations: Ambleside Park and Bernel Road Park.*

*Ambleside Park could be considered if a location in the current open field that is at least 500 ft from homes was identified and if possible high wind conditions were assessed to determine suitability.*

*Bernel Road Park is a suitable location based on all the criteria.*

*There is an existing graded pad that was developed as part of the Phase 1 park development that could accommodate three (3) courts without additional major grading. A probable cost estimate for construction is $115,000.*

*In addition to meeting the criteria determined by the RAC, development of future phases of Bernel Road Park is consistent with the 5-year recommendations of the formally adopted “Patton Township Park and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Plan 2020-2019”, which was adopted by the Board in October of 2020.*

*The Committee was not asked to comment on the timeframe for development of future pickleball courts but offers the following.*

*Bernel Road Park Phases 2A/2B is scheduled for construction in 2022. This phase is the development of the pump track and teen fitness challenge area which will be funded by Township funds and DCNR grant monies. Due to the terms of the grant money, the scope of this project cannot be changed. However, if funds were found elsewhere for pickleball court construction, this construction could take place at the same time as Phases 2A/2B. This would incur additional design fees and permit revisions in 2021. If the additional design and permit revisions took place in 2021, the pickleball court construction could be added to the Phases 2A/2B bid packet as an add/alternate which would provide actual costs for construction within the larger project.*

*If no funding is available for construction in 2022, Staff and the RAC can begin seeking grant funds for pickleball court construction that could occur in the next 5-year time frame.*

 **10. REGIONAL PARKS ISSUES UPDATE**

Ms.Solic provided the following update:

* Some CRPR Spring programs have been held.
* CRPR is planning summer movies in Tudek Park.
* The Welch and Park Forest Pools are open for the season.
* Millbrook March programs are being held.

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* Loan Option 4 was approved for Whitehall Road Regional Park has been approved and it is hoped the project can begin this fall. Bathrooms have been added which necessitated the need to eliminate some fields.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Koch made a motion to adjourn at 6:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Ms. Solic.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, July 20, 2021, beginning at 5:30 pm.