

MEETING LOCATION: PATTON TOWNSHIP LARGE MEETING ROOM

SUMMARY MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

The meeting location was held in the large meeting room at the Patton Township offices.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

3. NEW AGENDA PROCEDURES TO COMPLY WITH THE AMENDED PENNSYLVANIA SUNSHINE ACT

Ms. Wheeler provided the Committee members with a summary of the new procedures that have been enacted to the Sunshine Act.

4. GREEN HOLLOW PARK PICKLEBALL COURT HOURS OF PLAY

The Board of Supervisors were provided with a summary report of the hours of play survey findings at their September 22, 2021 meeting.

Ms. Wheeler reported that the Board decided to set new hours of play from October 1, 2021 to March 13, 2022. Those hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 11 am – 5 pm. No hours of play are permitted on Wednesdays and Fridays.

At some point before March 13, 2022 the Board will again discuss and set hours of play for the period beginning March 13, 2022.

5. GREEN HOLLOW PARK PHASE 1 ADA PATH CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Ms. Wheeler reported that Phase 1 of the ADA path project is complete and the construction fencing will remain in place for a few weeks while the newly placed topsoil has a chance to settle and more grass has a chance to establish.

6. GREEN HOLLOW PARK PHASE 2 ADA PATH DESIGN

YSM Landscape Architects has been working on the design of Green Hollow Park ADA Path Phase 2.

Ms. Wheeler shared the design with the Committee and asked for input. The Committee reviewed the plan and said they thought it was a good design. Ms. Wheeler commented that the circular path will have path segments leading from it to all the amenities in the park. The path width will be 5 feet.

The swing set near the drinking fountain has currently has four (4) adult swings and Ms. Wheeler recommended that two (2) adult swings be replaced with two (2) tot swings. Another option would be to replace the two (2) adult swings with one (1) tot swing and one (1) accessible swing. The Committee agreed with the second option of one (1) tot swing and one (1) accessible swing. The rationale for this is because the new ADA path will not lead to the tot swings in the Sara Godbey Tot Lot because of topography and this opportunity can be provided in the larger swing set area.

It is planned that the project will go out to bid on December 10, 2021 with a bid opening on January 12, 2022. A recommendation will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on January 26, 2022. Completion of the project will be expected by the end of July 2022.

7. BERNEL ROAD PARK AND GREEN HOLLOW PARK COURT CONVERSIONS

The Board of Supervisors has decided that two (2) tennis courts in Bernel Road Park will be converted to six (6) pickleball courts and that the four (4) pickleball courts in Green Hollow Park will be converted to two (2) tennis courts. The construction of these conversions will take place in 2022.

Ms. Wheeler shared the design drawings for these conversions and commented that the Bernel Road conversion will be completed and opened first and then the Green Hollow Park conversion will take place.

8. GREEN HOLLOW PARK HISTORICAL/EDUCATIONAL BOARD

Mr. Mumma contacted Ms. Wheeler and asked if he could sponsor/fund the design and installation of an historical/educational board about the existence of a charcoal pit/iron furnace that was once located in the Sara Godbey Tot Lot section of Green Hollow Park.

Mr. Mumma was a member of the Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) when Green Hollow Park was first being designed and its first phases were being constructed in the 1960s and onwards.

The Committee discussed Mr. Mumma's request and asked Staff to first contact Ms. Mary Sorenson at the Centre County Historical Society and the Park Ranger at Greenwood Furnace to confirm whether or not a charcoal pit or iron furnace did exist in Green Hollow Park.

Ms. Wheeler will report back to the Committee at the November meeting.

9. CEDAR CLIFF PARK REMEMBRANCE TREE REQUEST

Ms. Jen Fitzgerald of the Cedar Cliff Homeowner's Association (HOA) has requested permission to install a remembrance tree in Cedar Cliff Park for Mr. Bob Wnek.

Cedar Cliff Park is operated and maintained by Patton Township and is not maintained in the Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) inventory because it is less than 4 acres in size. A similar request was made by the HOA for a previous remembrance tree and at that time the Committee agreed to the purchase and installation of a tree by the HOA.

Staff coordinated the location of the tree planting with the HOA to ensure that it was not placed in a location that would be a problem for grass cutting and general maintenance. The species to be planted will be a red maple.

The Committee discussed the request and agreed.

10. GRAYSDALE PARK – CRPR “FIELD OF INTEREST” GRANT

Ms. Pam Salokangas, Director of CRPR has asked the Committee to consider the application of painted stencils on the basketball court and along some paths in Graysdale Park. An information packet is provided for the Committee’s review.

The Committee discussed the request and agreed to the following:

- “Horse” stencils – The Committee agreed with the painting of 2 sets of 9 dots, at each basketball net with no other dots on the court.
- “Four Square” – The Committee agreed with the painting of four square in the location proposed, provided it is outside the painted lines of the basketball court.
- “Nature Activity Circuit” – The Committee does not think that application of paint for this activity should be in the area of the basketball court. They would consider another location, if it could fit somehow on some other section of the path.
- “Playground Pond Activity Game” – The Committee agreed with this painting, but not in the location proposed. They preferred it to be painted on a path section closer to the two existing play equipment beds.

Ms. Wheeler will relay this information to Ms. Salokangas and Mr. Carpenter at CRPR.

11. THE LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS BICYCLE FRIENDLY BUSINESS APPLICATION

On August 26, 2021 the League of American Bicyclists announced the successful awardees of a Bicycle Friendly Business status.

Patton Township was granted a Bronze designation for the period of 2102-2025. Signage has been placed in the Township Building.

12. BERNEL ROAD PARK PHASE 2B DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DCNR) GRANT

Generally, DCNR grant awards are announced in early fall. However, grant awards have not been announced yet.

13. RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC) MEETING TIMES

Since April of 2020, the Committee has been meeting via zoom and more recently, has met once in person for the Fall Parks Tour. The meeting time has shifted to 5:30 pm from 7:00 pm.

The Committee discussed meeting dates and times and decided that the meeting date will remain on the third (3rd) Tuesday of each month and the meeting time will be permanently changed to 5:30 pm. The Committee further decided that the meetings will be held either in person (in the large meeting room at Patton Township) or via zoom. The location of each meeting will be determined based on the availability of the Committee members and the nature of each agenda.

14. REGIONAL PARKS ISSUES UPDATE

Ms. Solic provided the following update:

- There was a discussion about food trucks in parks. Ferguson Township wants to explore the possibility for their parks.
- Discussions will be taking place in each municipality about allowing bicycles to travel through parks at night (commuting) even though parks are technically closed from dusk to dawn, except by permit.
- There is discussion about forming a new committee to discuss/make recommendations on governance at CRPR.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Wheeler gave a summary of the remaining term limits for each Committee member. Ms. Cindy Solic's term is complete but Ms. Solic would like to stay as the Township representative to the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority (CRPRA).

16. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Solic made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm. The motion was seconded by Ms. Taylor. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 16, 2021, beginning at 5:30 pm.