

MEETING LOCATION: 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. Barry Bram, Mr. Rich Koch and Mr. Ken Hickman. Staff members present were Ms. Susan Wheeler, Public Works Project Manager and Ms. Alexandra Castrechini, Township Engineer. Member of the public present was Mr. Jim Payne.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to accept the October Recreation Advisory Committee minutes was made by Mr. Bram and seconded by Mr. Koch. All members voted in favor of the adoption of the minutes.

#### 2.a. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Committee members may request additional items of business to be added to this meeting's agenda. If approved by a majority vote of the Committee members, the proposed new agenda item will be placed on the agenda. The Chair shall determine the placement of the added item within the meeting agenda.

### 3. INTRODUCTION

Ms. Alexandra Castrechini, the Township Engineer, will be now attending the RAC meetings. Ms. Wheeler introduced Ms. Castrechini and Alexandra gave a brief overview of her work experience and of her tenure at the Township.

### 4. GREEN HOLLOW PARK HISTORICAL/EDUCATIONAL BOARD

Mr. Mumma has 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 he said was once located in the Sara Godbey Tot Lot section of Green Hollow Park.

At the October 19, 2021 RAC meeting, the Committee asked Ms. Wheeler to investigate the potential location of historical features in Green Hollow Park with the Centre County Historical Society and the Park Ranger at Greenwood Furnace.

Ms. Wheeler reported that she spoke with Ms. Mary Sorenson, Executive Director of the Centre County Historical Society. Ms. Sorenson provided mapping and documents showing that no furnaces have existed in Park Forest Village or in Green Hollow Park.

The Committee asked Ms. Wheeler to relay this information to Mr. Mumma.

**5. GREEN HOLLOW PARK ACCESS PATHS**

A resident in Park Forest Village living on Sierra Lane asked Staff about the access paths that lead into Green Hollow Park from Sierra Lane and Park Lane. There are two (2) access paths on Sierra Lane and one (1) on Park Lane.

Historically, these 15' wide access paths have been maintained by the adjacent property owner(s) and they are meant to be kept open and clear so that residents can access the park in locations other than the main entry points on Park Forest Avenue and Sierra Lane.

The existing conditions of the access paths are as follows:

- One (1) access path is mowed and kept free of any plantings,
- One (1) access path is mowed and leads to the park but “dead-ends” in vegetation so there is no path that leads directly into active parkland,
- One (1) access path has a tree and plantings that obscure the entrance to the path from the roadway so it is difficult for residents to know that the access path exists. The path is mowed and leads into the park and connects to one wooded trail that leads into active parkland. However, in addition to this connected path, a property owner has developed a network of paths that are encroaching into the immediate area behind another property owner.

This property owner would like to know how this access path and the developing network of paths behind his home could be better managed.

The Committee discussed this issue and felt that all three (3) paths should be opened and visible so that people can access the park as intended by these paths.

Ms. Wheeler will further investigate and report back to the Committee with a plan.

**6. SCOTIA ROAD SHARED USE PATH SCOPING STUDY/ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS**

The Circleville Road Bike Path was completed in 2015, and the Gray's Woods Shared Use Path was completed in 2019. These two shared use paths are in close proximity but are not connected to each other in the area of Scotia Road.

Wilson Consulting Group (WCG) designed the Circleville Road Bike Path. In 2014 WCG provided the Township with designs for three (3) alternatives to connect the Circleville Road Bike Path to Gray's Woods Boulevard. No action was taken on any of these proposed designs and nothing has been constructed in the Scotia Road section.

In 2019 ELA Group was retained to complete an alternatives analysis for the Circleville Road and Scotia Road intersection which resulted in the implementation of a 3-way stop sign solution. The 3-way stop has been in place since 2019.

The formally adopted *“Patton Township Parks and Pedestrian/Bicycle Path Plan 2020-2019”* identifies five (5) projects of high importance. One of these projects is the Scotia Road Shared Use Path Connector.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) has been prepared and will be advertised on PennBid. The RFP will be made available on December 10, 2021 and RFPs will be received until January 10, 2022.

Staff will prepare a summary of the submitted bids for review by the Committee at the January 18, 2022 RAC meeting. At that time, the Committee can discuss and decide whether if they would like to hold interviews before making a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

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

Announcements have still not been made about the successful grant awards for 2021.

**8. DECEMBER RAC MEETING DATE AND TIME**

The December 2021 RAC meeting is scheduled to be held on December 21, 2021. Historically, the December meeting is held at 12 noon so that the Committee can enjoy a holiday lunch while discussing regular business.

The Committee discussed the December meeting and decided to cancel the meeting.

The first meeting of 2022 will be held on Tuesday, January 18 beginning at 5:30 pm. This meeting will be held in person in the large downstairs meeting room at Patton Township.

All RAC meetings will now be held at 5:30 pm on the third Tuesday of each month (except for the May and September Parks tours). The location (in person or via zoom) will be determined on a monthly basis.

**9. REGIONAL PARKS ISSUES UPDATE**

Ms. Solic provided the following update:

- An invitation to bid has been distributed for slide renovations at the pools.
- The State College Area School District (SCASD) and CRPR have come to an agreement regarding the sharing of lifeguard staff.
- Bid packets are out for the Whitehall Road Park project.
- The Whitehall Road Park accessible playground equipment will be arriving and will be stored at the Harris Township storage facility.
- Millbrook Marsh is working on the walkways improvement project.

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Wheeler informed the Committee that she attended the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) grant workshop on November 10 (virtually).

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Koch made a motion to adjourn at 6:00 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hickman. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, January 18, 2021, beginning at 5:30 pm.