

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION
MARCH 13, 2018 MEETING MINUTES**

1) Call to Order

A) Chairwoman Mazza called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

3) Roll Call:

A) The following Parks & Recreation board members were in attendance: Ms. Beth Ann Mazza, Ms. Jean Akers, Mr. Joe Clement, Ms. Erin DiPaolo and Student Representatives Mr. Dylan Pompe, Ms. Katherine McGrath, Ms. Kendall Ozorowski and Ms. Reilly Smith.

B) Also in attendance: Karl Lukens, Director of Parks & Recreation; and Patrick Duffy, Board of Supervisors Liaison.

4) Vice-Chair Appointment

A) Chairwoman Mazza called for nominations

B) **MOTION:** Chairwoman Mazza made a motion to appoint Erin DiPaolo as Vice-Chair. Ms. Akers seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 6-0.

5) Presentations:

A) Ellie Joseph, Girl Scout Gold Award Candidate, made a presentation to install a butterfly garden on the grounds between the Library and the Barn in order to enhance the community and bring attention to endangered species of butterflies.

i) Mr. Lukens said that he had met with Ms. Joseph to discuss the site and what tools are available to borrow from the Township. Discussion was held regarding the site location, plant selections, long-term maintenance and signage. Mr. Lukens said that the maintenance would be folded into the Township garden maintenance and they would work with Ms. Joseph to make sure the sign would be durable. Chairwoman Mazza said projects such as these are gifts to the Township and that the Township typically carries on the maintenance.

ii) **MOTION:** Mr. Clement made a motion to approve the Gold Award project of a butterfly garden installation. Mr. Pompe seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 6-0.

6) Meeting Minutes:

A) Review/Approve meeting minutes of February 9, 2018.

i) **MOTION:** Mr. Dylan Pompe made a motion to move minutes of February 9, 2018 into the record. Ms. Akers seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 6-0.

7) Old Business

A) Redtail Field Update (MUSC)

i) Mr. Lukens reported that there was no update at this time. He noted that the organization has five years to complete this project and they have been informed that they are 2.5 years into their deadline. Mr. Lukens said that the organization is in the middle of a Board change and anticipates more progress once the new leadership is in place.

B) Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday, March 17, 2018)

i) Mr. Lukens reviewed the plans to date. He said a new addition this year is the Lower Providence Warrior Cheerleaders will be volunteering as well as collecting donations for to help fund their trip to the National Championship. Mr. Lukens reviewed the field conditions, which have deteriorated due to inclement weather, and how they can best implement the egg hunt. He discussed the times of the hunt by age group.

8) New Business

A) Schedule Park Tour – Capital Projects/Scout Projects (List Update)

- i) Mr. Lukens proposed dates in March and April for the tour. Chairwoman Mazza proposed the weekend of April 14/15. Mr. Clements noted that weekend is opening weekend of little league baseball season. Discussion was held regarding what date works best for the Board. Consensus was for the tour to be held at 9 a.m. on April 15.

B) Upcoming Events

- i) Programs: Mr. Lukens gave an update on the programs reporting that Camp Perky is completely full and other camps have only a few spots available or have waiting lists. He said they are able to host 230 children this year due to the shift in camp locations. Mr. Lukens also noted that the slime events have been very popular with waiting lists for each event.
- ii) Mr. Lukens gave an overview of new events and bus trips including acting classes and spring t-ball. Discussion was held regarding the new painting program and Firebird Theatre. Chairwoman Mazza discussed potential new programs, including Yoga in the Park to entice younger participants.
 - (1) The student representatives suggested adding drop-in tournaments for events such as ultimate Frisbee, whiffle ball, dodge ball, kickball, etc. that can be advertised at the middle and high-school. Discussion was held regarding hosting pick-up games. Mr. Lukens said that he would work with Ms. Hegedus to come up with a game plan for these types of informal tournaments and games.

9) Comments from the Board:

- A) Mr. Clements reported that the Mascaro Little League field will be dedicated at 12 p.m. on March 31st. He said the Mascaro family will provide refreshments and the event will be held rain or shine.
- B) Ms. Akers reported that the Park Master Plan process is about to get underway and they are seeking to form an advisory committee made up of Park and Recreation board members and members of the Planning Commission. She said she is seeking volunteers to join her on this committee. Ms. Akers outlined the expectations and duties of the advisory committee with input from Mr. Lukens. Supervisor Duffy explained how this plan will fit in with the Township's Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Akers said that this would be a good learning experience for the student representatives. Chairwoman Mazza said she would be interested in participating in the advisory committee. Mr. Lukens said that anyone with an interest should send him an email.
- C) Chairwoman Mazza asked if there was an update Capital projects list. Mr. Lukens said that he will resend for those who do not have a copy. Chairwoman Mazza also asked if Mr. Lukens could send out an updated contact list.

10) Supervisor Liaison Report

- A) Supervisor Duffy reported that the Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on March 15th at where the Board will outline their long-term goals. He discussed the Mascaro Field dedication and its importance to the Township. He thanked the Park and Recreation board for their volunteerism and dedication to the Township.

11) Comments from Residents

- A) Mr. Tom Bopst from the Optimist Club said the Club will be at the Easter Egg Hunt. He discussed the request to hold a Fishing Derby at Hoyt Park. Mr. Lukens reviewed the details of that event. Supervisor Duffy requested photos for promoting the event to the Township. Mr. Bopst discussed how they are promoting this and other Optimist Club events.

- B) Mr. Bob Meanefee, resident, asked for an update on the proposal to create access to the Perkiomen trail as was presented to the Township at the January 10, 2017 meeting. Mr. Lukens said that a presentation was made and discussions were held between Lower Providence Township's Manager and the Township Manager of Upper Providence regarding the ownership of property for access. He said the decision was made to get the Township's plans in order as grant money will be required for this project. Supervisor Duffy stated that PennDOT offers a Multimodal grant and that the Township has been the recipient of this grant twice. He said once the current grant projects are complete and the Township has a plan for creating access it will be a perfect opportunity to apply for an additional grant. Ms. Akers said that the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy has started a Water trail plan that will show how to safely paddle the Perkiomen and will tie into a PennDOT plan for connectivity.

12) Motion to Adjourn

- A) Mr. Clements made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 13, 2018