

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION
OCTOBER 9, 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, Ms. Erin DiPaolo and Mr. Joe Clement. Student Representatives Ms. Kendall Ozorowski and Mr. Dylan Pompe (Mr. Pompe left at 7:30)

B) Also in attendance: Karl Lukens, Director of Parks & Recreation

4) Meeting Minutes:

A) Review/Approve meeting minutes of August 14, 2018.

- i) **MOTION:** Mr. Clement made a motion to move minutes of August 14, 2018 into the record. Ms. Akers seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 6-0.

5) Old Business

A) Redtail Field Update (MUSC)

- i) There is no update at this time. Mr. Lukens said he will the deadline for improvements to future agendas.

(1) Mr. Lukens, in response to resident Cara Coless, explained that status of the project.

B) Review Independence Day Celebration

- i) Mr. Lukens said that he received proposal from the fireworks company, noting that the number of shots will be reduced to fit the program into the budget. Discussion was held regarding switching from a band to a DJ, how the weather affects the program costs and alternate rain date activities.

C) Open Space Committee Update

- i) Ms. Akers updated the Board on the status of the Open Space plan and explained the process for obtaining the necessary grants. She said the next step is to work on the scope of the project and hopes to have the available for the November meeting.

6) New Business

A) 31st Annual Community Fall Festival (October 6/Rain date: October 7) - Recap

- i) Mr. Lukens said attendance was the largest to date and estimated as high as five thousand people in attendance. He said the hayride and fun-zone did well, bringing in over \$3800. Mr. Lukens said, as always, they could use more volunteers.
- ii) Ms. Ozorowski noted that during set-up a number of vendors didn't show up which left spaces in the area but that vendors in attendance appreciated the volunteers helping with set-up. She suggested a sign noting what activities would be included in the fun-zone bracelet and the location of the pumpkin patch. A suggestion was made to suggest people bring their own clothes for the scarecrow activity as they always run out of clothing before they run out of straw. Mr. Lukens thanked the Faith, Love & Hope charitable Boutique on Ridge Pike for their donation of clothes.
- iii) Ms. DiPaolo asked if there was any interest in having a corresponding event such a Spring Fest. Mr. Lukens said they'd need to come up with new sponsors and the staff to run the

event, noting the difficulty in getting volunteer support. He said they could look at it but it would be spreading resources thin.

- iv) Ms. Coless suggested expanding the Easter celebration.
- v) Discussion was held regarding the timing of the Fall Fest and how many competing activities take place in the community. Ms. Coless said that she doesn't see a lot of the volunteer requests in social media and suggested promoting events through other community pages on Facebook.

B) Upcoming Events

- i) Programs: Mr. Lukens reviewed upcoming programs, including slime night, kids night out and bus trips, noting that all events are on the website.

7) Comments from residents

A) Ms. Coless, Windsor Road, presented a proposal for a dog park in the Township. Ms. Akers said the Park and Open Space committee will look at the needs and demands of the community. She said the challenge would be to ascertain demand. Ms. Coless proposed doing a Survey Monkey for the community to weigh in on demand and how the dog could be managed.

- i) Ms. Akers asked if Ms. Coless would be patient enough to wait for the Comprehensive Plan to be completed.
- ii) Chairwoman Mazza asked why her motivation is specifically for a dog park as opposed to another project. Ms. Coless said this was a space that would serve the community and bring the community together, stating that there are many recreation spaces for people with children but this would serve those without children or whose children who are older. She said it is a form of community building and a way to allow creativity with fundraising, etc.
- iii) Mr. Lukens said that this would be depended on the Open Space plan. Ms. Coless asked if there are ways to get the community invested in this in the interim. Discussion was held regarding the timeline of how to proceed.
- iv) Ms. Coless asked how she should proceed. Mr. Lukens said this can be bought up during the Opens Space Plan comment period. Ms. Akers said this has type of use has come up and will be part of the discussion. She advised Ms. Coless to keep in touch and monitor the Open Space Committee.

B) Ms. Akers discussed the Perkiomen Water Shed Conservancy fundraiser.

8) Motion to Adjourn

A) **MOTION:** Mr. Clement made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Akers seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 13, 2018