

**East Pikeland Township
PARK & RECREATION BOARD**

March 17, 2022

Minutes

Present: Al Koons, Lindsey Parsons, Andrew Batten, and Heidi Ferry

Absent: Bruce Wunderley

Staff: Michelle Rubin

Guests: Ernie Thivierge, Don Szabo, Alex Neff, Peter Bachelor, & Kraig Finger

Al Koons called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Al Koons motioned to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Seconded by Andrew Batten, unanimously approved.

Andrew motioned to approve the February meeting minutes. Lindsey seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business

1. Sponsorships

- Michelle Rubin provided the updated list of current 2022 sponsors which include Home Furnishings Market, HA Thomson, Traffic Planning & Design, Colonial Gardens, Phoenixville Fed Bank, Theurkauf Design & Planning, & Exelon. She still expects at least one or two more sponsors in the coming weeks.

2. Park & Trail Maintenance Updates

- French Creek Trail: Al Koons summarized the work that Matt is doing to improve the walkability of the French Creek Trail, specifically laying stone on the trail between the pedestrian bridges. Michelle also noted that Matt will be marking trees along the ADA portion of the trail for removal by the Township crew.
- Kimberton Park: Michelle reported that the water has been turned on at the park, but that there are a few breaks on the Township's lines that will need to be repaired before the bathrooms can open. The hockey and tennis nets have been put up for the year. Amphitheater lighting will be installed at the end of March/early April weather depending. Matt will be doing some trimming of the shrubs at the park in the coming weeks as well.
 - There is a Kimberton Park Landscape Planting day planned for Saturday, May 28. As it's Memorial Day weekend, the Board discussed planting memorial flowers with a local veterans group. The Board will continue to brainstorm about this. Michelle can reach out to the local Girl Scouts troops to see if they would be interested in being involved.
- Hidden River: Michelle reported that Jastrem Premium Landscaping is almost done removing invasive, dead, dying, and diseased trees from the riparian corridor at Hidden River.

3. Woodbridge Trail Development Update

- Al summarized the current status of the project, including that the Township is waiting for feedback from the local bike group about the proposed trail edits the Board suggested. The trail is close to being completely cleared thanks to the work of Matt, Al, and Gene.

4. French Creek Trail Cribbed Step Building

- Michelle reminded the committee that the work dates are May 7 and 14. The Board wanted those dates confirmed with Matt as they had April 30 and May 7 down. Michelle will discuss with Matt and confirm.

5. 2022 Events

- Event sign up discussion: Michelle reminded the Board that an event sign up would be used this year for events to ensure coverage throughout the year. The Board will sign up 2 months at a time to attend events.
- Food trucks: Michelle reiterated that food trucks are needed for the July and August concert series, and also for the September Kimberton Art & Music Festival. Board members will help to find local trucks and reach out. Michelle will put it up on Facebook.
- Spring Trail Clean Up, 3/26 – Hares Hill Trailhead. Project will include clearing invasives and planting new trees. Rain date 3/27.
- Yoga in the Park – Michelle reported that Yoga in the Park will take place April through October this year.
- Easter Scavenger Hunt, April 9-17 – the Board discussed the scavenger hunt items which will be compiled by Michelle. Participants will take pictures of items found and submit via email or on Facebook for the chance to win a prize.
- Easter Egg Hunt, 4/9 at 10am at Kimberton Park. A local Girl Scout troop will help with egg stuffing this year. The troop and a local parent group will help with set up on the day of the event as well. All volunteers should arrive at 9am to disperse eggs. Al asked if the police could help with parking, Michelle will follow up about that.

New Business

1. KYAL Update

- Kraig Finger, Vice President for KYAL, was present and provided a report on the status of registrations at KYAL for the year. Their numbers are strong and up from last year. They have a lot of games scheduled and the Challenger division is coming back. KYAL will host districts and 32 teams for State. Al Koons asked when opening day was but Kraig wasn't sure. Michelle also requested that KYAL check the shared google doc regularly and update it with their events so that parking can be coordinated between KYAL, Kimberton Fire Company, and the Township.

2. Park & Recreation Ordinance

- Al Koons stated that the existing Park & Recreation Ordinance needed to be updated and will be addressed this year. Michelle informed the Board that the staff would work to pare down the ordinance and then share a draft with the Board for feedback. Lindsey Parsons asked where the Ordinance can be found. Michelle explained that it is on the website, but that she can send it to the Board for their information.

3. Volunteer Openings

- Al Koons summarized current volunteer opportunities with the Township and opened a discussion about creating subcommittees to help with the various Township parks and trails and/or a Friends of group or groups. The Board discussed improving the mailing list and reaching out more effectively to the people who do show up and having the Board members talk with event attendees to get more people involved and expand the volunteer list. A monthly volunteer email was discussed. Michelle will make sure that there are event fliers at the Egg Hunt and volunteer sign up sheets available. Lindsey and Heidi discussed improvements to the volunteer sign up form including having check boxes for different opportunities so you can circle one list but have people indicate different interests.
- Michelle also reported that there are four residents interested in the two Park & Recreation Board Vacancies. As a result, the Board will partake in a short interview process to help make a selection. She asked the Board members to think about questions they would like to ask potential volunteers.

Public Comment:

Al Koons reiterated the importance of getting road signs pointing to the French Creek Trail trailheads, which is a priority for the Board of Supervisors. He asked if there were signs up at Ridge Road Park and Hidden River indicating that they were the location of future township parks. Michelle confirmed that Hidden River had a sign, but was unsure if the sign for Ridge Road had been put up yet.

Next Park & Rec Board meeting is scheduled for April 21 at 7pm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.