

**East Pikeland Township
PARK & RECREATION BOARD**

January 16, 2020

Minutes

Present: Andrew Batten, Jerry Miller, Joanne Jones, Al Koons, Bruce Wunderley, Sean McShane,
& Heidi Ferry

Staff: Michelle Rubin

Meeting started at 7:01 pm.

Minutes from the October meeting were approved without changes.

New Business

1. Re-Organization
 - The Board voted unanimously to re-elect Jerry as the Committee Chair.
 - The Board voted unanimously to re-elect Al as the Vice Chair.
 - The Board voted unanimously to elect Heidi as the Secretary.
2. Friends of French Creek
 - The Board discussed if they wanted to re-vamp the role of Friends of French Creek as they are a not overly active. The Board discussed surveying the group about their interests and maintenance issues on the trail to get more involvement and feedback. Michelle will work to put something together. Al also suggested that we consider changing the name to Friends of East Pikeland Trails & Parks.
3. Property Clean Up 3/7
 - The Board discussed the possibility of doing a clean-up on the Crouse property and determined that the property wasn't ready to be worked on yet because the master plan is not yet in place. They decided that they would rather do a cleanup along the French Creek Trail starting at the Hares Hill Trail Head this time.
4. Egg Hunt 4/4
 - Michelle reminded the committee of the date for the annual egg hunt and the committee reiterated a few changes they would like to see such as more eggs for older group, and leaving the staggered start time. Michelle will check in with the Easter Bunny and will let the committee members know what time to arrive to distribute the eggs. The same troop will stuff eggs again this year.
5. Amphitheater Rental Updates
 - Michelle shared the existing rental requests for 2020 and the committee also discussed creating a two-week black-out window before and after township events for similar event rentals.
6. March Meeting
 - Michelle will be out of town; the Board will wait until the February meeting to discuss whether to reschedule.
7. KYAL Meeting
 - Michelle and Al reported on the meeting held between KYAL and the Kimberton Fire Company. The meeting was successful and has already improved communications between each committee. Michelle also reported that KYAL has been asked to take the playground down on their property due to safety concerns.

8. Strategic Planning Meeting 2/8

- Joanne & Andrew will attend the meeting. Jerry and Al are also available if needed.
- 2020 Goals: Parks & Trails: Continue to increase rentals of park facilities, including the amphitheater; Continue to make progress on connecting 724/French Creek Trail to the Schuylkill River Trail; Utilize relationship with the Open Space Committee to make trail connections; Make improvements to Kimberton Park; Trail-blaze the Graham Property; Increase communication with public works, specifically on trail maintenance; Re-vamp the Friends of French Creek Group; Survey to discover how they would prefer to be involved and ask about trail maintenance concerns; Support the creation of a map of Kimberton Park. Community events: Continue to put on successful community events that residents enjoy; and continue to increase event sponsors. Planning: Continue seeking grants for land acquisition, master planning, and park improvement for various properties and projects; Create recreation plans for properties of interest (Graham & Woodbridge, etc.); Commission master plans for the Crouse and Ridge Rd. Properties; and update the Recreation Ordinance.

Old Business

1. Fall Trail Clean Up Summary

- Went very well—around 35 people attended.

2. Crouse Property Updates:

- Steering Committee: will meet again on 1/27 and revisit the community visioning workshop and discuss proposed concept plans. Park & Rec. Board members are welcome to attend.
- Grants: Michelle is working on the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant which will be submitted in March, the Township is requesting \$1.5M to offset acquisition fees. The master plan creation is being held up by an archaeological study being completed on the property as part of the grant.
- Ribbon Cutting: The ribbon cutting in November was a success with a number of committee and county representatives present.
- Community Visioning: The Community Visioning Workshop was also a success with around 60 people in attendance. Participants gave good feedback on what they would like to see on the Crouse Property and got their questions answered.

3. 2020 events

- The Board discussed the 2020 event possibilities and confirmed dates/times.

4. Ridge Rd./Dog Park

- Michelle reported that the Township has officially taken dedication of the land. Next steps will be determined by the PECO Green Region Grant that the Township submitted in October for funds to create a plan for the property. Michelle will continue to keep the committee informed.

Public Comment

- None.

The meeting was closed at 8:40pm.