

**East Pikeland Township
Parks and Recreation Board**

**Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2017**

Meeting started at 7:05pm

Present: Jerry Miller, Allen Koons, Andrew Batten, Caesar Muzzioli, & Johnathan Work

Absent: Sean McShane & Joanne Jones

Guests: Michelle Rubin (EPT Rep.), John Gayl, Neal Jones, Betsy Burns, John Schott (OSC), & Rusty Strauss (OSC)

New Business

1. Open Space Partnership: members from the OSC attended the P&R meeting to discuss planning for the future and working together to create a new trail plan for EPT that involves prioritizing linking our trails to major trails in and outside of the Township.
 - a. John Schott explained that the 724 Economic Development Committee has targeted completed trails that connect 724 to the Schuylkill River Trail. Offering help in planning, support, and maybe finances. One of the obvious options would be completing the connection of the Cromby trail head and 724. County has also offered to bring in PECO to discuss right of ways.
 - i. Rusty proposed getting the neighboring Townships and boroughs together to discuss trail connection possibilities in the region.
 - b. Rusty described the top OSC priority as the Fire Co. land/park. The second priority is finishing the French Creek Trail and connecting with other trails.
 - i. Schott said that the OSC needs P&R's help and involvement in finishing the trails and setting goals so the OSC knows which properties to go after.
 - c. Caesar asked what the status of the park at Toll was
 - i. Rusty said that the plan had changed from the large park that was planned on that property, however if we could purchase the Wagner land we could still create a park and connect to 724 through Waterworld and other properties
 - d. Briefly discussed the western FCT connection
 - i. What is the status of the Brimful Farm land, could we re-connect with Waldorf and other properties about finishing the trail? Need to approach everyone with a complete plan, so wait to reach out.
 - e. Caesar asked what next steps would be
 - i. Rusty said OSC would like P&R to look at the overall trail plan and start planning and prioritizing properties and ideas. We need to maintain an ongoing dialogue between the two committees about trails and parks to stay on the same page.
 - ii. Schott said he would like P&R to look at the link between Cutler and Cromby and try to find a possible route that would link the two. This is the top priority.
 - iii. Schott said we should create a subcommittee with a few members from each committee to coordinate efforts.
 - iv. Caesar requested that Michelle send the P&R committee maps and other documents that will help with planning and visualizing options
 - f. Rusty also mentioned prioritizing the trail and trail maintenance in the future to fix some of the large puddles and other problems.

Old Business

1. Outdoor Movie Night Summary

- Outdoor movie night was a success with over 300 people in attendance. We made \$200 on concessions. The only hitch was that the screen wouldn't go up so the movie started an hour late. For the most part everyone seemed to have fun; people especially liked the animal program and face painting.
- As a result of the screen malfunction the screen company offered EPT 4 free movies next year.

2. Amphitheater Update

- Construction status
 - Electrical and plumbing will be done in the next month
- Rain garden work date
 - Saturday, Oct. 21 at 9am. Help is still needed if you can join, bring gloves, trowels, shovels, rakes, etc. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided.

3. Calendar of 2018 Events

- Michelle presented a rough plan of 2018 events. She would like to do four movie nights, fall and spring community yard sales, and a 20th birthday party for the park/amphitheater ribbon cutting in the spring among other ideas.
 - The Board suggested that we check some of the other local activities that might conflict with the possible event dates. Andrew will check the spring baseball tournament schedule, Rusty suggested checking dates of other local community days, and Al asked that our yard sale won't conflict with the Charlestown yard sale in spring.
 - Overall the board supported the events in 2018, dates will be picked after more information is discovered about possible competition.

4. Fall Trail Clean Up

- November 4th 9am-noon
- Michelle reminded the Board of the upcoming Fall Trail Clean Up that will be run by Sean McShane. Help will be needed.

5. Park Rules—Clarify start date

- Michelle wanted to clarify the start date of the changes. The Board decided that Dogs should be allowed in the park in the fall, so signs and bag dispensers need to be put up.
- Michelle also asked if one grill instead of two was ok for the pavilion. The Board decided that one large grill would be fine.
- New Pavilion rental rules for out of town renters will start in spring

6. Rules and regulations for rental of Amphitheater

- Michelle asked the Board to start considering rental and events of other groups. How often will the Board allow the space to be rented?

- Michelle suggested that a new procedure be put in place where groups would have to attend P&R meetings and pitch their ideas to the board if they will be using the park/Amphitheater for events over a certain size. Michelle also suggested that the Board start with a manageable number for the first year at least so the park, residents, and Township staff does not become overwhelmed by the demands of new events.
- Michelle will set up a rental calendar, rules, and a plan, including the open and closed months of the park/amphitheater. She will also talk to the police force about their needs/opinions on the topic.
- Caesar proposed that no one entity can use the park except for once a month in the first year, which was agreed upon by other members
 - Gayl mentioned that Kimberton Arts Alliance would like to use the space and wants to use it more than once a month. They are especially interested in putting on an American Roots music festival. Caesar said that in the first year they will be held to once a month and a festival can only happen when we have the infrastructure and are more prepared.

7. Lending Libraries

- Jonathan asked about putting up small lending libraries, an idea that his son had. He would like to put one up at the trail head on Rapps Dam and one at Kimberton Park. Michelle will talk to Kisha about the logistics and make sure that no permits are needed.

8. Trail Signage

- Rusty asked if the Board could look into signage pointing drivers towards the French Creek Trail so more people are aware that it's there. Michelle will include these signs in the sign inventory she will be completing in the coming months.

A motion was made by Al to close the meeting, seconded by Jonathan.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04pm

Next Meeting: November 16, 2017