

A meeting of the Open Space Park and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, August 3, 2021. Those present were Greg Churach, Charles Note, Dennis Elliot, Sherry Paup, and Scott Wagner. Also present was Township Manager Michelle Reddick & Sherri Griffith. Commissioners Cathy Paretti and Renee Spaide were also present in the audience.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – June 28, 2021 Minutes add S. Wagner to attendance. Motion by C. Note, second by S. Wagner, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of June 28, 2021, as presented. Motion by C. Note, second by S. Wagner, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of July 6, 2021, as presented.

**GREEN ALLIES** – K. Hamilton reported that all 300 camp spots sold out. The trimming of the trail from the stream at Sussel Park all the way to Prout Farm is completed by the interns. He mentioned Sprogels Run trail is now opened and the trail map is completed. Prout Farm harvest provided 600 + pounds of veggies for 35 families in need. Sunflower Café has been purchasing from us. K. Hamilton will be emailing Trish the activity list. Mentioned the 3 events coming up and asked if they could use the Hillside Aquatic Swim Club parking lot. M. Reddick requested K. Hamilton to email her the dates so she can contact them to make sure it's ok.

**PARRC** - C. Paretti was unable to attend the last PARRC meeting due to personal matters. She stated that nothing has changed with the grant list that was given last month that she knows of. She also emailed the members of the Open Space Board a PowerPoint of the new guidelines of Pottstown Health & Wellness.

**INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND** - C. Note supplied a report dated August 1, 2021(below).  
**RE: Update of activities for July 2021**

***Meeting 7/15 @ LPG Township Building***

- Q/A with CMC Engineering
  - Will provide Landscape Architect, Engineering and Grant assistance
  - CMC to present budget proposal in August.
- Discussion on sign
  - Place under existing or separate
  - Wording discussed
  - Present ideas for review to UPT in September

***Meeting 7/27 via Zoom***

- Review 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of Landscape Structures layout
- Agreed to pause on any further revisions until CMC is on board
- Patricia from PARRC
  - Reviewing mini grant with board for Engineering cost
- Discussed total budget for total development of park

**Old Business (open)**

- 501c3 filed (7/5), waiting on return from state

**Upcoming Target Dates**

- Early Winter 2021 – Engineering firm signed, Press release
- Winter 2022 – First revision of Land Development plans presented to UPT for feedback, Signage installed.

**Submitted by Chuck Note**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Review updated 2021 financial report:** M. Reddick went over the financial report stating that not much change but did mention that the EIT revenues are up slightly from 2020. Other than the loans there are no expenses as we aren't purchasing any property but we will be moving forward for a trail easement for Fox Hill which will go under property acquisition fees. The appraisal itself cost \$1500.00.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Status of Prout Farm Loop Trail** ~ M. Reddick mentioned that Mingy has been notified months ago to finish the trail however she has not gotten a response from him. M. Reddick stated at some point the OS&R Board is going to have to decide to use the escrow money that's for this project. M. Reddick mentioned that there are several outstanding issues in the Township that he needs to complete and the Township is hoping to be able to work with Mr. Mingy on getting them complete. M. Reddick recommends holding off a couple of months, and G. Churach suggested waiting till January to discuss again and remove off the agenda until then.
- B. **Status of Gilbertsville Road Trail Crossing** ~ S. Griffith stated she reached out to Don Centofante at Penndot and forward him the sketch plan on what our plans are and that he would reach out to others and see if it's something we can do. S. Griffith stated she has left a message and emailed him for an update but didn't get a response. She will continue to contact him. If she doesn't get a response by the next meeting she will contact the Township Rep for Penndot to find out more information.
- C. **Status of trail sensor relocations** ~ no update
- D. **Status of "catch and release signs" for pond** ~ no update
- a. S. Griffith mentioned that the Aquatic Environment Consultants said they weren't interested in giving us a quote at this time for Pond treatment but received a quote for a 2022 contract from Solitude Lake Management. G. Churach requested S. Griffith to email the OS&R Board that information for review. C. Note will forward S. Griffith other companies to try and get quotes from them also. D. Elliot asked if it's possible to use the pump at Sussell to keep the pond level up if necessary. The OS&R Board all agree they would like to move in that direction at some point.

- E. **Act on request from PAL to recommend support for their future expansion plans** ~ G. Churach offered his support with the ideas that were submitted. D. Elliot said he's not opposed to the idea but wanted clarification that it's on the PAL property and not Township property which J. Durkin confirmed. Motion by C. Note, second by S. Wagner and unanimously carried to recommend the Board of Commissioners support the project as long as PAL obtains all required permits.

**CHAIR REPORT** – G. Churach  
8/3/2021 OSR Chair Report

**Sunset Park update:**

- A group has volunteered to clean up trash at Sure Catch pond. Manager has scheduled a coordination meeting with crew leader. TWP will provide support with trash bags and disposal of refuse. No assistance is required from OSR Board.
- Pottstown library is conducting a story walk at Sunset Park July 26 to August 12.
- Update on algae issue from Sherri G?

**Fox Hill trail update:** Work is on hold due to difficulty obtaining an appraisal. After the appraisal is obtained, the owner needs to accept TWP offer for the easement. A request for an extension of time has been made to PAH&W by Tricia.

**Sussell Park update:**

- New pumphouse will be installed in the next several weeks.
- Grass has bounced back. Reseeding will not be required. PW will use topsoil donated from Kummerer to fill holes where tree stumps were removed.
- Awaiting word on whether grant application was approved.

**Mowing update:** I have reviewed areas discussed by the board, and those provided in a list from Scott. I will provide a detailed list for Board discussion in the coming months.

**Miscellaneous:** There was a complaint regarding trespassing and vandalism from a resident along Prout Farm trail. The issue was resolved to the residents' satisfaction by adding our standard signage.

**BOARD COMMENTS** – D. Elliot brought up Heather's Place and G. Churach gave a verbal update on the list of items that have been fixed and the remaining items that will be completed. C. Note went over the list for low mow presented by S. Wagner and said he was on target with it all. S. Wagner asked if we reached out to the owner near Hollenbach, G. Churach said no. M. Reddick recommended reaching out to set up a meeting with him to discuss future plans.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Resident, Brian Jackson questioned about the maintenance and mowing schedule for Kulp Field. He has a team that he cuts the grass himself for so it's safer for them to play on it. M. Reddick asked for his email address (brian.jackson2@ehi.com) to email him the schedule.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sherri Griffith  
Planning & Zoning Administrator