

A meeting of the Open Space and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023. Those present were Greg Churach, Chuck Note, Sherry Paup, Gary Novack and Mark McKinnie. Also present were Township Manager, Michelle Reddick, Planning & Zoning Administrative Assistant Sherri Griffith and Chief Fisher. In the audience, former commissioner Renee Spaide and Ken Hamilton from Arboretum.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 11, 2023 – Motion by C. Note, second by S. Paup, and unanimously carried to approve the September 12, 2023, minutes.

REPORTS

A. Green Allies ~ Ken reported that 2 residents wanted to thank the township for paving the Sprogel's Run Trail. He said he had a very successful summer and had the best group of students he's ever dealt with. The College interns were all amazing. The farm produced 3,000 lbs of food this year, 2,800 of that were donated and the remainder went onto the farm stand in the driveway.

October Events: Scarecrow making was a huge success. Haunted Woods ~ Oct 14 & 15 (may have to be cancelled due to bad weather expected). Family Night Hike ~ Oct 27 & 28 6-9pm. The Gala was also a success. It was moved to carousel due to weather. It will be held next year on the 1st Saturday in November at the Carousel.

B. PARRC ~ C. Paretto was not present but provided a report.

PARRC Report

The Sept. 27, 2023 meeting of PARRC was a truncated meeting due to a presentation by Deborah Veeren on DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) best practices. There will be a follow up session in a few months. PARRC now officially has a non-profit, PARRC Foundation. This is a separate organization from PARRC. This is so people can now make tax deductible donations to PARRC to be used to fund the organization outside of the municipal shares from the members. The October BOC meeting should have the PARRC resolution listed on the agenda for approval. There are plans to organize a spring event of Empower Your Parks. A date will be announced.

C. Chair ~ G. Churach presented a Report:

1. Trail sensors have been removed and stored as discussed at the last meeting.
2. A straw poll of Snyder Road trail users reported all positive comments on the paving. Use of baby strollers has increased. Spreading of $\frac{3}{4}$ modified stone will begin soon. Lines have been painted in the new ADA lot at the Arboretum. The trail will have leaves and snow removed as required by volunteers. There are currently no plans to salt after plowing.
3. PW will work in Schwenk parking lot as time permits. They have used the warm weather to paint lines on our roads. ADA blacktop and trail connection are all that remain to be completed. The existing lot along Snyder Road will be closed when the new lot is completed.
4. We are still waiting to hear the status of the \$200,000 DCED we applied for this year. It might take until early 2024 until we are notified.

5. Community Day was cancelled due to the tropical storm. It is rescheduled for November 4th from 10 am to 3 pm at Hopewell Community Church on Commerce drive.
6. PGLL has agreed to participate in the Parrc community project to paint the buildings at Kulp Field but will not be done using the facilities until early November. Chad, myself, and PGLL agree that is too late in the year to paint the buildings so it will be scheduled for summer 2024.
7. The annual cutting of select low mow/no mow properties has begun and will continue as the public works schedule dictates.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discuss proposed memorial bench policy:** Went over the policy and discussed some changes to be made to the policy & review next month to finalize.
- B. Discuss/update the wish list from 2020:** Reviewed & updated list and will review & approve at a future meeting.
- C. Motion by C. Note, second by G. Novack and unanimously carried to add PECO Green Region Grant to Agenda.** G. Novack made motion, second by S. Paup and unanimously carried to ask the BOC to approve to apply for the PECO Green Region Grant application for \$10,000.
- D. Motion by S. Paup, second by C. Note and unanimously carried to add PARRC Resolution to Agenda.** C. Note made motion, second by M. McKinnie and unanimously carried to send to BOC for approval of PARRC Resolution.
- E. Motion by G. Novack, second by M. McKinnie and unanimously carried to add thank you letter to David Yeck to Agenda.** G. Novack made motion, second by C. Note and unanimously carried to ask the BOC to send the thank you letter to D. Yeck.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Awaiting approval of Gilbertsville Road ARLE Grant (12/30/2023):**

BOARD COMMENTS – G. Novack spoke with Ron Kasper who agreed & wants to request we add areas to the annual organized archery hunt. G. Churach will see what's available and he'll put it on a future Agenda to discuss furthermore about it.

Greg Churach ~ C. Note will be present for the next Board of Commissioners Meeting as he will not be available.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Former commissioner Renee Spaide suggested closing the trails for hunting in the parks. G. Churach mentioned signs could be posted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Not Needed

ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Griffith
Planning & Zoning Administrator