



WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION
MINUTES 8-18-2020 7 PM

MEETING VIA ZOOM

Members in Attendance: Ken Lehr, Chairman; Brad DeHart, Vice Chairman; Bernadette Downey; Bob Kacergis; Bill Unrath; Denise VanValkenburgh
Staff: Mary Hundt, Parks & Recreation Director

Administration

Approval of July 21, 2020 Minutes: Note Bernadette was going to compile information on the history of native people at Okehocking, not Okehocking itself. Brad motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Bob seconded. All were in favor.

COVID Update: Mary discussed permitting organized fall sports at Willistown's Mill and Rita Reves Parks. She reported that the summer sessions went without incident, to her knowledge. Governor Wolf's office is recommending against it and without a issuing a mandate or order is thus punting to the municipalities. Mary reviewed her permitting requirements and stated she was going to recommend the issuance of fall Field Use Permits to the Township Manager. She asked for the Boards input. The Parks & Recreation Board agrees with keeping the fields open as long as the teams understand they must comply with state and county health and safety recommendations.

Programming

Yoga: Mary has submitted a memo regarding the Parks & Recreation Board recommendation to the Township Manager for Supervisor consideration.

GO WILMA! Fall 2020: Mary is planning on hosting *GO WilMa!* this fall as a way to continue to get kids and their families outside and keep kids active as sports and fitness activities continue to be limited due to COVID-19.

The Willistown Inspiration Station teams will be:

Okehocking: Bill and Paul Stearns, an Okehocking Volunteer, will relocate stations...Ryan or Bernadette clues. Spray paint.

Greentree: Denise/Bart

Serpentine and Willistbrook (Natural Lands) Erin (Natural Lands) and Brad. Brad will assure that one station is well out in the Willisbrook Preserve field by Bryn Mawr Rehab and one is in Serpentine Preserve. Mary will provide contact info to Brad who will contact Erin.

Fox Hollow Trail: Ken and Bob

Park Management

Erosion: Roads and trails at Okehocking; runoff from PADOT along Delchester Road and in Okehocking IV Field; Bernadette reported on Fox Hollow Trail erosion half way along Waynesborough Road;

Spotted Lanternfly: Mary thanked the Board's Park Ambassadors who reported back on their respective properties.

Tree Work: Okehocking & Serpentine

Fox Hollow Trail Trash Can: Mary to follow up on request to install trash/dog waste station

Planning

OSRB update: Bob reported no meetings have occurred during COVID-19. Just prior he talked with the OSRB about looking for pocket parks and showed an example from the main line. The OSRB has been keeping an eye out in the north for pocket parks for the past few years but has had no luck as of yet. Mary reported that she will incorporate the Comprehensive Plan Survey results in the Open Space sections of the Comprehensive Plan and will keep the Board posted as to these results.

Nike Site Discussion

Mary will inquire with NLT planning department about recommendations for NIKE site. Brad raised the point that PADOT may have an interest in the property and Willistown could lose out completely. The general consensus of the Board is that securing the land is important even if we don't do anything with it.

Mary will follow up with Hamid Rafiee on the status of the property, particularly if it has been transferred to the PA Department of Forestry from the National Park Service yet and if the Decision Document from Army Corps of Engineers has been concurred with by PA-DEP. Mary will include budgeting for a consultant for best use assessment across all departments for the Nike Site in the 2021 budget.

Communications

Mary reported that Zach Leahan, the gentleman videoing the parks (but not people), suggested the Township have its own YouTube channel where his videos of the parks could be stored and links to there from the Township website. Mary stated that it would be a hidden channel and no comments would be possible. Bernadette motioned to recommend for Board approval the establishment of a hidden YouTube channel as a storage location for Willistown park, preserve, and trail videos. Links would be created from the Township website on the Visit A Park pages for each facility. Bob seconded. All were in favor.

Kiosks

Duffryn and Okehocking Kiosks: Mary reported that the replacement kiosk at Route 3 was to be installed this past month by the Public Works Department. Unfortunately, they did not get it done due to other priorities. She has also requested the kiosk at Duffryn Trail be installed. Mary will follow up with Public Works.

Kiosk Assignments

Bill: Mill Park

Denise: Greentree

Bernadette: Duffryn

Bob: Serpentine

Brad, Bernadette, and Ryan Downey: Okehocking

Old Business

Board Vacancy

Mary reported that one interested candidate was not a Willistown resident but lives in Malvern Borough and that Denise had mentioned she knew someone who may be interested and would give them Mary's contact info. Mary has not heard from them.

Mary will include the vacancy in her Parks & Rec Enews and will Email Jennifer about posting on social media

Comprehensive Plan Update Survey

Mary will review the survey with Bob and discuss analysis and presentation.

New Business

Agenda Layout

Mary discussed the agenda layout with the Board. All agreed that the agenda would include the categories of activities and responsibilities of the Parks & Recreation Department and include old business and new business sub-sections under each category and one open ended line item for each at the end of the agenda.

Public Comment

Adjournment

Brad motioned; Bill seconded; All in favor.

Next meeting: Third Tuesday of the month, 7PM, on Zoom.

All meetings are open to the public through a Zoom invitation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary N. Hundt, Recording Secretary