



WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION
MINUTES 7-21-16 7:00PM

Present: Bob Kacergis, Ken Lehr, Denise VanValkenburgh, Andrew Vaskas
Absent: George McHugh
Staff: Mary Hundt, Parks & Recreation Director

Administration

Approval of February 18, 2016 Organizational Meeting Minutes: Ms. VanValkenburgh motion, Mr. Lehr second. All in favor.
Board Resignations: Mr. McDonnell & Mr. Eill. Mr. Vaskas asked for members to bring people forward. Have a poster at the Country Fair and include in Notify Me and WillisTowne Crier newsletter. Mr. Vaskas acknowledged Mr. McDonnell's valuable addition of thoughtful discussion and knowledge to the board for the many years he served, and added that the Board knows he is "in the wings for us." The Board and Ms. Hundt discussed qualities of new members and agreed upon a young family representative and someone interested in trails. Mr. Lehr motioned that Mr. McDonnell be nominated for the Willistown Township Community Service Award, Mr. Vaskas seconded; all in favor. Ms. Hundt will present the nomination to Mr. Burman, Township Manager.

Old Business

Child Abuse and Criminal History Background Check Requirement:
Mr. McHugh & Mr. Kacergis are not processed.

Trails

Serpentine & Willisbrook Preserves to East Goshen Trail: Ms. Hundt reported that East Goshen completed the wood chip trail and stream crossing along Line Road linking East Goshen's Applebrook Park to the Township/Natural Lands/Greater Chester Valley Soccer Association shared entrance.

Okehocking Trails Assessment Review: Ms. Hundt reviewed the specifics of the report including trail priorities, the interactive mapping system, new trail alignments and establishment, etc.

Malvern-Willistown Greenway Trail Phelps Section on Hold

Ms. Hundt reported that the new and existing Serpentine Preserve trails are getting use.

Mr. Vaskas inquired about the Township's Serpentine Preserve parking area and the Greater Chester Valley Soccer Association gate that blocks public access. Ms. Hundt has been assured that the parking area will become publicly accessible by the Township Manager.

Ms. Hundt reported that the East Goshen Township Paoli Pike Trail Planning Grant deliverables have been completed and East Goshen is going for construction grants. The proposed trail will connect East Goshen to West Goshen along Paoli Pike.

Communications

Towne Crier Newsletter: 2016 August Delivery August 8-11

Programs

GO WilMa! New Station Host and Funding Source: East Whiteland Township

GO WilMa! 2016 Theme: Be Well, Be Fit—Get Outside and Move it! Activation Stations will include yoga moves and calisthenics.

National Summer Reading Theme: On your mark, get set Read; Get in the game: read; Exercise your mind: read.

Sugartown Community Garden Renamed Willistown Community Garden

2016 Parks Parties Board Volunteer Sign Up

Sports Camps 2016—Jump Start Sports

Park Management

Garrett Mill Park Playset Being Installed

Okehocking Farmhouse Under Consideration for Lease

New Business

Mr Vaskas reported that residents approach him at the park parties and outside of Township events requesting safe pedestrian access into Malvern Borough. Ms. Hundt stated that connecting to the Borough is on the project list.

A conversation about the sale of the Surrender Kohli building, adjacent to Greentree Park, led to Mr. Kacergis to inquire as to ownership of the field that abuts Greentree Park between that building and Greentree Office Plaza. The Board discussed the potential expansion of Greentree Park using Open Space Funds for an easement or fee-simple acquisition of the .6 acre field that abuts the park. There was lengthy discussion about the value of this piece of land including the fact that it has been used for years, under agreement with the landowner, for the Willistown Township Summer Camps, Willistown Sports Camps, and by people visiting Greentree Park. The Board noted that the field already seems to be a part of the park, and that it was the only flat area viable for sports “in” the park and that it could, if necessary, be utilized for parking should future owners of Greentree Office Plaza not permit the use of their parking lot for event, camp, and daily access to Greentree Park. There only two parking spaces owned by the Township associated with the park are handicapped. They are located parallel to Woodland Avenue. The Board was unanimous in their desire to acquire the field and add it to Greentree Park. Ms. Hundt will follow up with the Township Manager for approval to formally present the acquisition to the Open Space Review Board and then, based on the results of that meeting, the Greentree Office Plaza management.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Mr. Lehr motion, Mr. Vaskas second. All in favor.

Next meeting: September

Respectfully submitted by Mary Hundt, Recording Secretary.