



## Board of Parks and Recreation

South Whitehall Township  
Lehigh County, Pennsylvania  
September 14, 2020

### **BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Gregg Spence, President, Katrina Idleman, Secretary; Mark Ackerman, Bill Glose, Steve Walck

### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Dave Keppel, Keisha Champagne

### **STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mike Kukitz, Park and Recreation Manager, Randy Cope, Director of Township Operations, Greg Adams,  
Planner

### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Diane Kelly, SWT Commissioner

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## Minutes – September 14, 2020

### **AGENDA ITEM # 1 - CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Gregg Spence called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### **AGENDA ITEM # 2 - ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

- A. Acceptance of the September 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes
  - a. Accepted by Mark A. and seconded by Bill G. (Roll call vote – Passed unanimously)

### **AGENDA ITEM # 3 - CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Subdivision Plan Review
  - i. Parking Lot Improvements 798 Hausman Road
    - 1. Fees in Lieu of motion by Mark A. and seconded by Katrina I. (Roll call vote – Passed unanimously)
  - ii. Proposed Independent Living Apartments at Luther Crest
    - 1. Fees in Lieu of motion by Bill G. and seconded by Mark A. (Roll call vote – Passed unanimously)
  - iii. 1569 Blue Barn Road
    - 1. Tabled - discussion for the addition of walking trails near pipeline
  - iv. 1810 PA Route 309 Convenience Store and Medical Office
    - 1. Fees in Lieu of motion by Mark A. and seconded by Bill G. (Roll call vote – Passed unanimously)

## **AGENDA ITEM #4 – OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Projects Update reported by Mike K:
  - a. Covered Bridge Park Playground – Concrete is being completed and the play structure assembly has begun in the 2-5 year old area. The 5-12 year old area play equipment assembly will start next week and the project will hopefully be completed in approximately one month. The plan is to have a ‘soft’ opening and to do a ribbon cutting and grand opening in the spring.
  - b. Vistas Park – No update, waiting to hear back from DCED and DCNR regarding potential grant funding.
  - c. Kohler Ridge – All information has been submitted to DCNR for approval to move forward with this project.
  - d. Jordan Creek Greenway – This project has been split into two phases. Phase 1 has been awarded to Michal Baker to complete the design and permitting from Wehr Mill Road to Lapp Road. We have also secured an easement through the Brieninger property to continue the trail towards Cedar Crest Boulevard.
- B. The Open Space Fund Report – Revenue from Crackersport Road DC project has been received. Current balance is \$618,763.70.

## **AGENDA ITEM #5 - NEW BUSINESS/DIRECTORS REPORT**

- A. Summer Playground Program – Mike K. stated that there were anywhere between 50 to 100 kids registered each week for the modified 2020 summer program in Covered Bridge Park. There were very few issues throughout the summer, and we received a lot of positive feedback from parents for working diligently to offer a safe and fun summer camp. The most challenging part of the summer was having all staff and children keep their masks on, especially during hot days.
- B. Fall & Winter Events
  - a. New Halloween Events
    - i. “Covid Friendly” Trick or Treat night being offered at Pavilion 2 in Covered Bridge Park on October 30<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm.
    - ii. Halloween ghost stories event will be taking place on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Pavilion 2 in Covered Bridge Park.
  - b. The Tree and Bridge event will look differently this year due to Covid guidelines and are working to create a drive thru event for the community.
  - c. Adopt a Tree program is being launched this year. This gives families and businesses the opportunity to get involved by adopting and decorating a tree which will be displayed in Covered Bridge Park.
- A. A large storm clean-up took place after tropical storm Isaias including a large volunteer component. Many of the park’s picnic tables, trash cans, guiderails, pavilions, player benches, grills, trees, etc. were all damaged. We are currently working with our insurance company to replace and repair the damaged amenities. Gregg S. recommended that we compile a list of the volunteers and ask the BOC to present them with some sort of recognition or a proclamation. Diane K. suggested that we recognize the volunteers by adopting and decorating a tree in their honor through the adopt-a-tree program. Katrina I. mentioned that we could look into a way to take donations to help replace any damaged amenities that are not covered by

insurance. Mike K. explained that the adopt-a-tree, memorial tree and bench program and a 2021 or 2022 concert and movie sponsorship program is being put together to create fundraising avenues. Diane K. mentioned that there was talk about establishing a 501c3 many meetings ago and was wondering if there was any update with this. Randy C. explained that we are still searching for an individual who might be able and willing to lead this non-profit arm of the parks and recreation department.

**AGENDA ITEM # 6 - COURTESY OF THE FLOOR**

B. N/A

**AGENDA ITEM # 7 - ADJOURNMENT**

C. At 7:50pm, Steve W. made motion to adjourn, Bill G. seconded the motion.