



Dickinson Township
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PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING
June 28, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Shireen Farr called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM at the Dickinson Township Municipal Building located at 219 Mountain View Road in Mount Holly Springs, PA 17065.

ROLL CALL - The following were present for the meeting: Shireen Farr, Alex Surcica and Julie Quigley.

VISITORS – Marge Bear, Chuck Strodoski, Chris Chiampi, Steve Nelson, David Miller, Doug Hottle, Michael Forstsche, David Smith, Brenda Perry, Kyle Dayhoff, Harold Warnick, and Jay Warnick.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA The agenda as prepared was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alex Surcica motioned to approve the March 22, 2021 minutes. Julie Quigley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT None

FINANCIAL STATUS

The Financial Report, as prepared by Marge Bear was provided to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Allen Light

Julie Quigley motioned to recommend the appointment of Allen Light to serve on the Park & Recreation Board, with a term to expire 12/31/25. Alex Surcica seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Land Partnership Grant for Stuart and Lindenwood Parks

Chuck Strodoski gave an overview of the Site Development Plan project for Stuart and Lindenwood Parks and what has taken place since last fall. The development of the Site Plan proposal would take 20-30 years, depending on grants and funding from other sources.

Stuart Park

Mr. Strodoski mentioned the improvements proposed for Stuart Park include extending the parking, making the trails handicapped accessible, a picnic area with open lawn, stabilizing the trails, adding a pavilion, and putting a trail where the mill race originally ran with interpretive signs. The proposed improvements would cost approximately \$750,000, and the proposed phasing was provided.

Chris Chiampi reviewed the options for the mill which include a full renovation with an adaptive use, partial renovation with first floor use as a venue, partial deconstruction with an open air venue, and complete removal. There was discussion and input from those present.

Lindenwood Park

Mr. Strodoski listed the items that are planned for this park include baseball fields, a multi-purpose field, pickle ball and basketball courts, large parking area and small parking area, one large pavilion and several small pavilions, playground, restroom/concession building, disc golf, and a maintenance building. The estimated cost is a little over \$6 million and he provided the phasing of the project.

There was a lengthy discussion and comments from those present. The consensus of the audience was to leave the park the way it is today with the walking path around the perimeter. Suggestions were made to re-design the current layout to move the activities such as baseball and concessions further away from the Lindenwood development. Concerns shared include the noise from the sporting events, smells from trash left and the attraction of wild animals, decline in property values, lack of sensitivity of the residents living next to the park, gas fumes from vehicles, kids yelling, the mountain view being restricted from the Lindenwood development, the trail continuing through the development and strangers going on to their properties, parking along the streets, the use of the park by non-residents, the Lindenwood residents not being asked to be part of the decision making of how the fields were laid out, and the impact of the increase of traffic on the local roads. The request was made to delay the plan until additional sketches to relocate the activities further away from the Lindenwood development can be provided and the residents of Lindenwood have more opportunity to provide review and input. The suggestion was also made to consider purchasing land from the school property so that activities and parking can be moved in that direction, away from the development.

The Board explained that the topography of the piece of land, as well as storm water requirements were both very challenging in laying out the site development plan. The different amenities of the park must be accessible and meet ADA requirements, especially to apply for any grants. The master site plan is a blueprint and there are no guarantees it will ever happen. There are many different perspectives to be considered when planning for recreational uses for the entire Township. The Board agreed to have the engineering firm prepare a sketch for the next meeting, taking into consideration all the points that were expressed this evening.

The next meeting that this matter will be discussed will be on July 26.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be July 26, 2021 at 5:00 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie E. Bear
Recording Secretary

DRAFT