

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020
4:00 P.M.

I. ATTENDANCE

The Parks and Recreation Committee held its regular meeting on Thursday, June 18, 2020, via Zoom in attendance were:

Committee:

Norris Muth- Chairperson
Tessa Antolick- Vice Chair
Dr. Shawna Doerksen-Secretary
Connie Puckett
Robert Demayo-Absent
Bill Keough
Jerry Learn
Rick Tetzlaff

Staff:

David Pribulka, Township Manager
Centrice Martin, Assistant to the Manager

Others in attendance were: Summer Krape, Recording Secretary; Laura Dininni, Ferguson Township Resident/Board of Supervisors member.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Norris Muth called the Thursday, June 18, 2020 Park and Recreation meeting to order at 4:01 pm.

III. CITIZEN'S INPUT

Mr. Muth stated that he and Mr. Jerry Learn have had discussions about ecologically valuable parcels of land in the Township and what the process is for designating new Township land. Mr. Learn stated that Songbird Sanctuary is a good example as it was previously privately owned. Mr. Learn stated that he doesn't know what the process is for the Township acquiring land from private owners. Mr. Pribulka stated that the simplest way to acquire land is through negotiation and purchase of property. However, the Township can also acquire land through Condemnation or eminent domain. Mr. Learn stated that there is a location within the Township that is currently being used by the public for wildlife viewing, he stated that it might be worth the Township acquiring it and improving it for resident use. Mr. Pribulka stated that this would be a good Future Agenda topic because there is a lot of things that go into this. Mr. Muth suggested moving to this discussion to Future Agenda Items.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Muth called for a motion to approve the May 21, 2020 minutes. Mr. Rick Tetzlaff made a motion to approve the minutes, Dr. Shawna Doerksen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP VIRTUAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PARKS TOUR

Mr. Muth stated that staff's recommendation is that the Committee review and discuss park improvements for the BOS to consider for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The Committee decided to discuss park improvements by going year by year. Ms. Centrice Martin stated that the drafted CIP that is attached within the agenda is written based on what was in the CIP last year. Some things that were not completed got rolled in to this year's CIP. Mr. Muth stated that what the Committee is looking at is staff's recommendation. Mr. Muth started with 2021 items. Mr. Tetzlaff asked about Suburban Park and the Eastern Interloop traffic plan. Mr. Pribulka stated that there are no plans for future development of the loop. The Committee discussed the Eastern Interloop and any future development of it and the affects it would have on the park.

2022- Mr. Muth asked for more detail on the community orchard topic. Mr. Pribulka stated there was a resident request for a community orchard program, the Committee discussed the details of this and would like to add this to Future Agenda Items for more discussion. Mr. Pribulka stated that if needed Lance King, Township Arborist can attend the next Committee meeting and answer any questions members may have. The Committee discussed the new access off of Nixon Road to Cecil Irvin Park and if anything should be done to keep the residents close to the park informed.

2023- The Committee had no questions for the 2023 items.

2024- Mr. Muth went over the Saybrook Greenbriar masterplan playground safety and contingency program for 2024. Dr. Doerksen asked when the playground was inspected and how was it decided that a total replacement would need to happen. Mr. Pribulka stated that the Township Zoning Administrator is a certified playground inspector and inspects playgrounds yearly and there were some concerns that the equipment doesn't meet current safety standards. Dr. Doerksen stated that she would like to see this moved sooner due to the mass number of children that live in that neighborhood. Mr. Pribulka stated that this could be moved sooner. The Committee decided to wait until a safety inspection is done this year for Saybrook/Greenbriar Park then the Committee will make a decision to move this project to a sooner year.

VI. REPORTS

1. STAFF REPORT

None.

2. CENTRE REGION PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY REPORT – MR. BILL KEOUGH

Mr. Keough stated that the Authority met today at noon. Mr. Keough explained that a lot of time has recently been spent developing and implementing COVID-19 plans for opening park activities. Mr. Keough also announced that the vice chair for the Authority had to resign and that he will be acting vice chair through the end of the year.

VII. COMMUNICATION TO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

VIII. FUTURE REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS

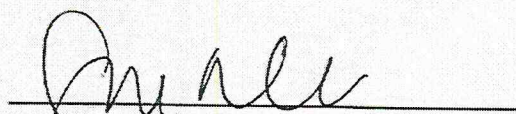
- Acquisition of parkland
- Community Orchard and what parks can be used for community gardens

IX. OPEN DISCUSSION

X. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Doerksen made a motion to adjourn the Thursday, June 18, 2020 Parks and Recreation meeting at 5:32 pm. Ms. Puckett seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



SHAWNA DOERKSEN, SECRETARY
FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE