

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, July 15, 2021
4:00 P.M.

I. ATTENDANCE

The Parks and Recreation Committee held its regular meeting on Thursday, July 17, 2021, in attendance were:

Committee:

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

Staff:

Centrice Martin, Assistant Manager-Absent
Summer Brown, Recording Secretary
Dave Pribulka, Township Manager
Jeff Ressler, Zoning Administrator

Others in attendance: Laura Dininni, Ferguson Township Resident/BOS member.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Norris Muth called the Thursday, July 15, 2021 Park and Recreation meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

III. CITIZEN'S INPUT

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Muth called for a motion to approve the June 17, 2021 minutes. Mr. Jerry Learn stated that there were two typos that needed to be addresses. The typos included "Amphitheatre" and "play equipment". Dr. Shawna Doerksen moved to approve the minutes with the corrections, Ms. Connie Puckett seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. SPECIAL REPORTS

1. CENTRE REGION PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY REPORT – BILL KEOUGH

Mr. Keough stated that he has several things to report on in his Authority report. The Authority was previously a part of a bio blitz and had planned to continue. However, the blitz was delayed last year due to COVID. The Authority plans to participate again this year and will be using the same eleven parks used the first time. Mr. Keough is happy to report that the active adult center is opening at full capacity on Monday. Parks and Recreation will now be getting facility condition assessments. They have received several reports already-these assessments will help them look at programming, infrastructure, and budgeting. Parks and Recreation has a long relationship with State College Area School District. Parks & Recreation rely on SCASD facilities and they are working on a draft contract for long-term use of school facilities. The Millbrook Marsh will be getting an addition to the already existing building and welcome pavilion. Mr. Keough stated that staffing is a big issue this summer, part time help is significantly lower this year.

2. ANNUAL PLAYGROUND SAFETY INSPECTION PRESENTATION – JEFF RESSLER, ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Township Zoning Administrator/Playground Safety inspector Mr. Jeff Ressler is present to explain playground safety inspections and to answer questions the Committee may have. Mr. Ressler stated that he gets recertified every 3 years. His job is to look at hazards and reduce life threatening/debilitating issues such as: entanglement hazards, surfacing, head/neck

entrapment. Mr. Ressler showed the Committee tools that he uses when conducting inspections. Mr. Pribulka stated that this a topic of continued discussion between the Township and Parks and Recreation on whose responsibility it is to fix these hazards. Mr. Ressler stated that these inspections are done once a year, but if a concern is reported he will do an assessment. Dr. Doerksen asked if records were kept for when playground equipment is installed and if there are life expectancies of equipment. Mr. Ressler stated that he works with Parks & Recreation to update/replace equipment. The Committee discussed an annual report of playground inspections/life expectancy for them to review.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. REVIEW OF PROPOSALS FOR RECREATIONS, PARKS, AND OPEN SPACE PLAN UPDATE

Dr. Muth stated that the Committee is here to review and recommend a proposal for the Recreation, Parks, and Open Space plan update. The Committee discussed the scorecard and the proposals. The Committee agreed that YSM scored high for all members. Dr. Muth stated that he felt YSM's proposal came in first largely because of the quality they hit all they marks. Mr. Rob DeMayo, Ms. Tessa Antolick, and Mr. Learn all agreed. Mr. Pribulka stated that both YSM & HRG have both done work on Masterplans for the Township. Ms. Dininni stated that she has had different experiences with YSM both good & bad and discussed her experiences with the Committee. **Mr. Jerry learn moved to recommend that the Board of Supervisors award the contract to YSM, Mr. DeMayo seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.**

VII. STAFF REPORTS

1. MANAGER'S REPORT

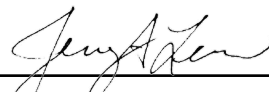
Mr. Pribulka stated that the RPOS is on the BOS agenda for Monday July 19th. Mr. Pribulka stated that the CIP has been sent to BOS and two works sessions are scheduled. The parks portion will be discussed Wednesday the 21st. Meetings can be attended in person or virtually. Haymarket park equipment update is being reviewed by staff and once recommendations have been made they will be brought in front of the Committee. Ferguson Township is sponsoring an agro tourism event called "Route 45 Getaway" the Township is working with the Happy Valley Adventure Bureau. This even will connect Millheim to Ferguson Township and everyone in between.

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Muth entertained a motion to adjourn the Thursday, July 15, 2021 Parks and Recreation meeting at 5:45 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



JERRY LEARN, SECRETARY
FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

