

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, July 8, 2019
4:00 P.M.

I. ATTENDANCE

The Parks and Recreation Committee held its parks tour meeting on Monday, July 8, 2019, at Ferguson Township in Conference Room 2. In attendance were:

Committee:

Niki Tourscher, Chairperson,
Andrew McKinnon, Vice-Chair
Kathie Vondracek, Secretary-Absent
Shawna Doerksen
Connie Puckett
Norris Muth
Denise Myer

Staff:

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

Others in attendance were: Summer Krape, Recording Secretary.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Niki Tourscher called the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting to order on Monday, July 8, 2019 at 4:00 pm.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2019 MEETING

Mrs. Shawna Doerksen made a motion to approve the June 10, 2019 minutes with the following corrections, she was not absent and she is no longer the Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Norris Muth seconded the motion.

IV. CITIZEN'S INPUT

V. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PARKS TOUR

Mr. David Pribulka, Township Manager, stated there are four parks that staff suggest for the Committee to tour this year. The suggested parks include: Fairbrook Park, Cecil Irvin Park, Homestead Park, and Greenbriar/Saybrook Park. Touring the other four parks will be dependent on time.

The Parks Mobile Tour started at Fairbrook Park. Mr. Pribulka pointed out the grow zone to the Committee, he stated that this area looks nice and the Township has not received any complaints. There has been discussion with Centre Region Parks and Recreation about expanding the grow zone area and planting a more purposeful landscape mix. The Committee walked throughout the park and Mr. Pribulka noted that the area beside the walkway will be mowed during the winter months by the Ferguson Township road crew and will be planted with a more purposeful landscape mix. Mr. McKinnon asked if it would be a possibility to implement this grow zone area in other parks. Mr. Pribulka stated that he would like to see the outcome of the mowing and replanting before implementing this idea in other parks.

The second park the Committee visited was Cecil Irvin Park. The Committee discussed parking at the park. Mr. Pribulka stated that there is one parking space and one Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) parking space. Mr. Pribulka explained that phase two of the park would include grading and more parking being built off of Nixon Road. Mr. Pribulka noted that this his observation is that this park does not seem to be heavily used. Mr. Pribulka also noted that the Township applied for a Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) grant last year for this park. Staff would

like to get some suggestions from the Committee on what to do with this park. Ms. Laura Dinnini was at the park and joined briefly joined the conversation with the Committee tour. She stated that she feels a clump of people visit this park. Ms. Dinnini asked about the pollinator garden that was mowed and if it will be allowed to grow back. Mr. Pribulka stated that the basin was cleared to keep the function of the basin they are still figuring out the maintenance for pollinator areas.

The third park that the Committee toured was Homestead Park. Ms. Martin pointed out the slide has several small cracks and can be fixed with money from the Playground Safety Fund. Mr. Pribulka noted that the field at the park is on a rotation and not being used and not being mowed to help it regrow. Ms. Martin stated that the paved areas will be updated. The Committee asked about options for updating the playground equipment or using the money on Greenbriar/Saybrook master plan. Mrs. Doerksen stated that in her opinion there needs to be updated playground equipment at Greenbriar/Saybrook Park, her and her family frequently visit the park and she feels the playground equipment is for smaller children.

The fourth park that the Committee toured was Greenbriar/Saybrook Park. The Committee discussed the current playground equipment, possible options and associated pros and cons of each option. Ms. Tourscher suggested the current playground equipment could stay but add a swing set or another piece of equipment. Mrs. Myer agreed that adding a swing set would be a good idea. Mr. Pribulka stated that if there the Township did a masterplan update; updated park data would be collected as part of the project. Ms. Martin remarked on options to engage the public and solicit resident feedback. Mr. McKinnon agreed that the public outreach was a good option. Ms. Tourscher suggested using \$75,000 for Homestead Park improvements and using \$25,000 for the addition of a swing set and a possible smaller piece of equipment. All Committee members agreed. Ms. Martin suggested holding the next Parks and Recreation Committee meeting at Suburban Park.

Mr. Pribulka and Ms. Martin wanted to go over some additional Capital Improvement Park information with the Committee before the meeting adjourned. Ms. Martin stated that next year will be the last year for the drinking fountain updates. Mr. Pribulka stated that in 2021 the Township will plan to complete Suburban Park phase 1A; flood plan study, drainage way and then development of the rest of the park. The Township will plan to do Fairbrook Park master plan update in 2024. Also, in 2024, the Township will plan to update the Greenbriar master plan and install the Haymarket Park restroom facility.

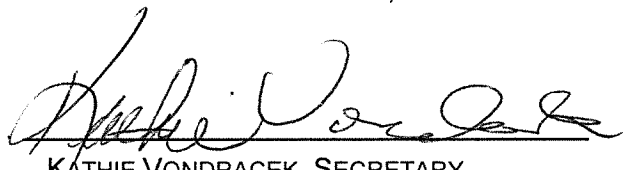
OPEN DISCUSSION

None

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, the Parks and Recreation Committee adjourned at 6:00 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathie Vondracek', written over a horizontal line.

KATHIE VONDRACEK, SECRETARY
FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE