



TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

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**Parks and Recreation Committee
Meeting Agenda
Ferguson Township Conference Room 2
Monday, March 11, 2019
4:00 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- III. CITIZEN'S INPUT
- IV. CONTINUED – REVIEW OF THE FAIRBROOK PARK 'NO MOW' MAP

Narrative

The Township GIS staff has prepared an updated map as a result of the discussion the Committee had in previous meeting held on Monday, February 11, 2019. Attached to the Agenda is an updated map to reflect the Committee's comments. Additionally, the Township Arborist, Lance King reviewed the map. Lance suggested the native landscape areas be expanded along Tadpole Road to include the bank. Lance suggested using a different seed mix and possibly some shrubs in the expanded area. Lance also identified the area closer to the cul-de-sac as being a dryer site and would benefit by having more of a pollinator mix. Also attached to the Agenda is an updated map to include the Committee's comments and the Township Arborist's comments. The Committee should review the updated maps, suggest any edits or revision; or if satisfied, refer the map to the Board of Supervisors with a recommendation for approval.

Recommended motion: That the Parks and Recreation Committee refer the Fairbrook Park low-/no-mow map to the Board of Supervisors and recommend approval of the same.

- V. **SONGBIRD SANCTUARY MASTER PLAN DISCUSSION**

Narrative

In 2016, the Township acquired the 8.99 acre property bounded by Owens Drive and Blue Course Drive. The property had been shown on the Township Official Map as Natural Area Conservation. The area has both significance for passive recreation and environmental benefits. The area could provide a natural area and passive trail system between Glenview neighborhood and the regional shared use path system along Blue Course Drive linking to active recreation areas and places of interest. This property also has the benefit of being a natural absorption area for upstream drainage which provides significant stormwater infiltration which was discovered as part of the Pine Hall Drainage Area evaluation and noted in a report prepared in 2004 by Sweetland Engineering and Associates. Since the Township has acquired ownership, the property has been named Songbird Sanctuary, the Public Works Department paved Owens Drive and built a cul-de-sac for a turn around and striped four parking stalls for public access for future trail heads. The Township arborist has been involved and working with community groups to do things to improve habitat. These efforts include the removal of invasive species and planting native trees. Additionally, the Arborist has been collaboratively working with the Master Gardner group for additional plantings. The Township wants to engage the Parks and Recreation Committee to work with staff to develop a simple Master Plan for Songbird Sanctuary.

Stakeholder groups such as Penn State Master Gardner's, the Nittany Mountain Bike Association, and the Birder Club may have interest in providing feedback in this process.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee *discuss* a plan for developing a Master Plan for Songbird Sanctuary.

VI. REPORTS

1. Staff Report
2. Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority Report – Mr. David Pribulka

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, February 11, 2019
4:00 P.M.

I. ATTENDANCE

The Parks and Recreation Committee held its regular meeting of the month on Monday, February 11, 2019, at Ferguson Township in Conference Room 2. In attendance were:

Committee:

Niki Tourscher, Chairperson,
Denise Myer
Norris Muth
Shawna Doerksen
Connie Puckett

Staff:

David Pribulka, Township Manager

Others in attendance were: Jon Kauffman; Matt Vidic; and Laura Dininni, resident.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Tourscher called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTMEBER 10, 2018 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Muth and seconded by Ms. Puckett to approve January 14, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion carried 4-0.

IV. CITIZEN'S INPUT

Mr. Vidic spoke about need the for sport fields and maintaining those areas. Mr. Kauffman spoke in support of low/no mow areas and engaging students in science learning.

V. CONTINUED – DISCUSSION OF FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE GOALS FOR 2019

Ms. Doerksen suggested creating a values statement, or a core values statement, that include promotion of health and well being and promotes active youth. Mr. Muth expressed concerns about managing green landscapes and maintaining their natural features. Mr. Muth suggested that the Committee be more thoughtful about how facilities and space are used and maintained. Mr. Muth also suggested the Committee should engage the public in this process and provide education. Ms. Myer would like to keep community gathering spaces in parks in mind as we consider all suggestions.

VI. REVIEW OF THE FAIRBROOK PARK 'NO MOW' MAP

The Committee reviewed the map and suggested the area east of the shared use path can be worked onto the map and allow a place for seating. The Committee also noted that the Northwest area of park abutting residences can be added strategically as a native landscaping area. Ms. Dininni suggested tightening up the 'low mow' designated area adjacent to the soccer field where people might sit to watch soccer games. These changes will be reviewed by the Township Arborist, too, and updated on the map by the Township's GIS technician and presented back to the Parks and Recreation Committee for a new review.

VII. REPORTS

1. **Staff Report:** Mr. Pribulka provided his staff report and the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency report. The Parks, Recreation, Open space survey was discussed.

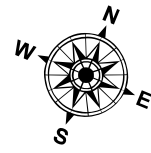
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, the Parks and Recreation Committee adjourned at 5:12 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

KATHIE VONDRACEK, SECRETARY
FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

FAIRBROOK PARK




Legend


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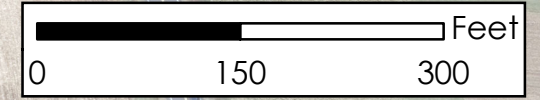
 Low-Mow Area

 Native Landscape

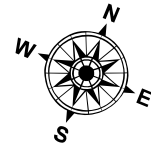
 Fairbrook Park

 Index Contours; Index Depression Contours




 Intermediate Contours; Intermediate Depression Contours

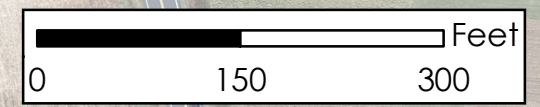
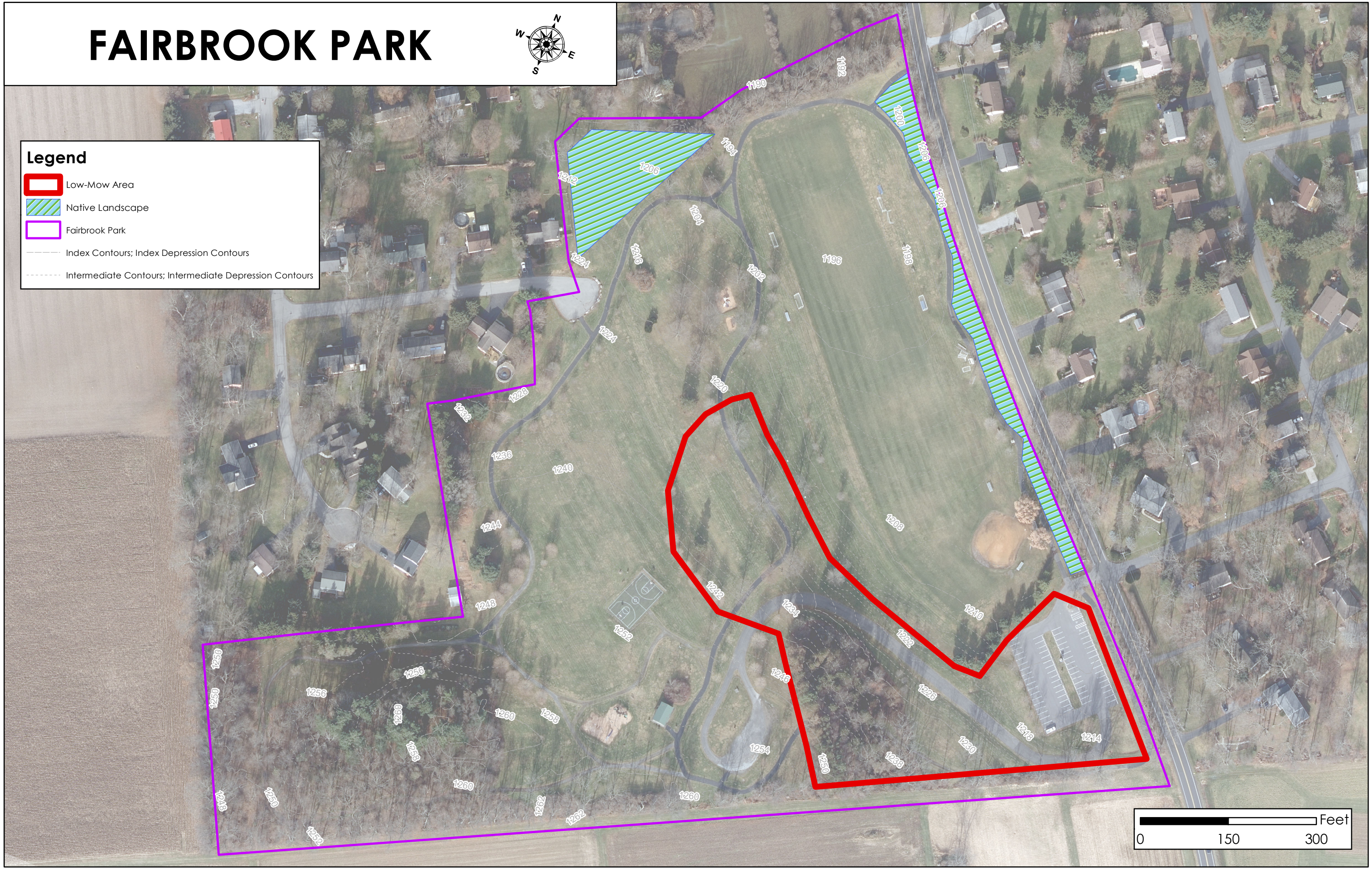


FAIRBROOK PARK



Legend

-  Low-Mow Area
-  Native Landscape
-  Fairbrook Park
-  Index Contours; Index Depression Contours
-  Intermediate Contours; Intermediate Depression Contours





**Staff Report
March 11, 2019**

1. Suburban Park Master Plan Update Study Committee will meet on Monday, February 11, in the Township's Conference Room. Ms. Yost, YSM's Project Manager, will reviewed the survey results and discussed pre-final design changes, cost prioritization and phasing. Staff will be meeting on Monday, March 11, 2019 to review proposed phasing schedule, cost prioritization, and the MOU between the Township and UAJA for the Suburban Park drainage issues. The next public meeting is scheduled for 6pm on Wednesday, March 27, at the Quality Inn Conference Room, located at 1274 North Atherton Street.
2. At a Regular Meeting, held on March 4, 2019, the Board of Supervisors appointed Mr. William (Bill) Keough to the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority for a term expiring December 31, 2023.
3. The Township Arborist is meeting with US Wildlife and Fisheries on Tuesday, March 12, to review and discuss the concept plan and next steps for the pollinators at the Haymarket basin area.
4. The Penn State Master Gardener group worked with the Township Arborist, Lance King, to design the pollinator plots at Songbird Sanctuary. Lance will be meeting with the Master Gardener group next week to discuss the project schedule which will include a community planting day.