



TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

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Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Agenda

Thursday, June 18, 2020, 4:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81710779501?>

Dial In: 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 817 1077 9501 Password: 135293

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. CITIZEN'S INPUT

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IV. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP VIRTUAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PARKS TOUR

Narrative

In the previous meeting, the Parks and Recreation Committee agreed to not have an in-person parks tour given the COVID-19 Coronavirus recommendations for social distancing. Provided with the Agenda are maps of Township Parks for the Committee to reference as staff reviews the attached draft 2021 –2025 Parks Capital Improvement Program Budget. The following are the parks that staff will review and discussed in the meeting:

1. Cecil Irvin Park
2. Louis E. Silvi Baseball Complex
3. Songbird Sanctuary Park
4. Suburban Park
5. Tom Tudek Memorial Park
6. Autumnwood Park
7. Fairbrook Park
8. Greenbriar-Saybrook Park
9. Haymarket Park
10. Homestead Park
11. Meadows Park

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee review, discuss and present park improvements for the Board of Supervisors to consider for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

V. REPORTS

1. Staff Report
2. Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority Report – Mr. Bill Keough

VI. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

VII. FUTURE REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020
4:00 P.M.

I. ATTENDANCE

The Parks and Recreation Committee held its regular meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2020, via Zoom in attendance were:

Committee:

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

Staff:

David Pribulka, Township Manager-Absent
Centrice Martin, Assistant to the Manager
David Modricker, Public Works Director

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

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Norris Muth called the Thursday, May 21, 2020 Park and Recreation meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

III. CITIZEN'S INPUT

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Muth called for a motion to approve the April 16, 2020 minutes. Mr. Jerry Learn noted that the Committee did not meet at the Township building but rather met via Zoom and that change needed to be made. Mr. Robert Demayo made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections, Dr. Shawna Doerksen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. PARKS GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY

Mr. Modricker gave an overview of what the Public Works department does with park land in regards to building active sections, maintenance, mowing, and what Centre Region Parks Recreation's (CRPR) role is. Mr. Modricker stated that he and the Township Arborist, Mr. Lance King looked at the undeveloped areas and put together a standard operating policy (SOP) and mowing schedule. This draft is a guide on how to mow stormwater basins and undeveloped areas and undeveloped areas that have been turned into pollinator gardens. Mr. Modricker presented this to the Township Manager, Mr. David Pribulka and the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Martin used the draft SOP as a guide to make a planning tool. Ms. Martin stated that the Township has collaborated with CRPR and this was put together so moving forward there would be a process. Ms. Martin stated that after the experience with Cecil Irvin Park the SOP evolved and she felt this was this policy was necessary. Ms. Martin noted that the previously the Township turned a storm water basin at Haymarket Park into a pollinator garden that helped with infiltration and had great success. Ms. Martin stated that she has worked with Mr. King and the Township's stormwater engineer Mr. Ron Seybert to go over terminology and figure out a process.

Ms. Martin stated that she would like to implement a more standardized process for what everyone is doing. Ms. Martin stated that after she receives comments from the Committee the next step would be to have a meeting with CRPR, another meeting with staff, and then the policy will go to the BOS. The Committee discussed mapping of the parks and it was noted that it would be nice to highlight the areas

where low mow areas are and undeveloped areas. Dr. Shawna Doerksen agreed that the mapping would be a good idea to help residents visualize. The Committee discussed the ease of changing the process in the future. Mrs. Laura Dinnini suggested doing bylaws & rules; bylaws can't be changed easily but rules can be. Mr. Muth suggested a subcommittee work on the document. Mr. Keough volunteered to be a part of the subcommittee. Mr. Muth asked the Committee to send their comments to him and he and Mr. Keough will review.

VI. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PARKS TOUR

Mr. Muth went over what the Capital Improvement Program parks tour is for the new members. Mr. Muth stated that the Committee needs to decide how to handle the tour this year given the current situation with COVID-19. Ms. Martin stated that the Committee usually rents a van and Pam Salokanagas, CRPR Director guides the Committee around the Township's parks. Ms. Martin stated that the tour will need to be scheduled before the June 18th meeting so the Committee can discuss any changes that may need to be made at the meeting. Mr. Modricker suggested that Ms. Martin can work with the Township's GIS technician to make a presentation for the Committee instead of going on the actual tour. Ms. Martin stated that she can put together a presentation of the parks and their backgrounds. It was decided that Ms. Martin will work with GIS and have a presentation by June 11th.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS

VIII. FUTURE REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS

IX. REPORTS

1. STAFF REPORT

Ms. Martin stated that the Township submitted the DCNR grant for Suburban Park. She was also notified within days that as owner of park the Township is eligible for LWCF funds.

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

Mr. Keough stated that the Authority met today. There was a recommendation to make an amendment to the current loan for the Whitehall Road Regional Park. Mr. Keough also noted that from the comprehensive plan it was recommended that all fees for 2020 are going to be carried over into 2021. Millbrook Marsh's board walk was temporary repaired.

X. OPEN DISCUSSION

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Shawna Doerksen made a motion to adjourn the Thursday, May 21, 2020 Parks and Recreation meeting at 5:32 pm. Mr. Rick Letzlaff seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

SHAWNA DOERKSEN, SECRETARY
FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE



DRAFT PLAN
WESTFIELD/HILLSIDE FARM ESTATES PARK
MASTER SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN
 FERGUSON TOWNSHIP
 CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SCALE: 1" = 50'
 JOB#: R000789-0425
 DATE: JUNE 22, 2011

HRG
 HERRICK ROTHGARTNER & GARDNER INC.
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Strategic Plan Alignment

The Capital Improvement Plan seeks to advance the goals, objectives, and action steps as outlined in the Ferguson Township Strategic Plan. Over the next five years, several of the Strategic Plan items will be accomplished through the proposed expenditures in the Capital Improvement Plan.

- **Objective 10.1: Promote environmental and social stewardship in parkland development.**

2021

Design and Permitting for Suburban Park - Phase 1

\$80,000

There was an appropriation in the 2020 Operating Budget for the Township to perform a hydraulics and hydrology analysis to design the floodway channel through Suburban Park to fulfill the requirements before constructing Suburban Park - Phase 1. This work is scheduled to begin mid to late 2020 and will require an allocation for the 2021 budget to complete the work.

Suburban Park Offsite Trail Connection **\$2,500**

Suburban Park – Phase 1 park improvements propose a new ADA accessible route that would extend along the southeast edge to form a perimeter trail loop with the recommended option to create a southeast offsite connection to the existing trail that links to regional destinations which will require a public access easement. Staff recommends to allocate funds based on market value to obtain the public access easement pending Penn State University approval.

Suburban Park Phase 1A **\$550,000**

The Suburban Park Master Plan Update was approved by the BOS May 2019. Staff recommends the Township initiate park improvements by budgeting for Phase A1 to allow for the drainage improvements which will create a free-flowing drainage channel through the park. Also, part of this phase will include stormwater BMP's associated with the channel and the bridge/boardwalk crossings. The Township applied for and anticipates a grant award from DCNR C2P2. The Township's obligation will be 50 percent of the budgeted amount if awarded the grant.

Park Surveying Program **\$10,000**

Staff recommends the Township initiate the Park Surveying Program to annually prioritize and budget 1 to 2 parks to be surveyed for purposes of identifying the park property boundary lines to install corner split rail fence. The recommended program will support and assist Township staff to respond with timely and accurate information with regard to park boundary lines in response to yard waste dumpings, matters pertaining to dead trees, sink holes, mowing and related onsite matters. Fairbrook Park and Greenbrair-Saybrook Park would be considered for 2021.

Fence Installation at Louis E. Silvi Baseball Field **\$6,000**

Improvements to the dugout area to address safety concerns.

Songbird Sanctuary – Passive Recreation **\$50,000**

The Township acquired 9 acres of the property identified as Natural Area Conservation on the 2008 Ferguson Township Official Map. In 2019, Staff, along with the Ferguson Township Parks and Recreation Committee, presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee the Master Plan draft. Staff will include cost estimates to present a pre-final Master Plan to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration. The Master Plan recommends passive recreational amenities such as walking and dirt bike trails, educational kiosk, nesting boxes, educational signage and benches for an enjoyable wooded area to recreate in an otherwise urbanized environment.

Homestead Park Play Equipment **\$75,000**

The Parks and Recreation Department is recommending updating and adding age-appropriate play equipment and installation by a certified installer.

Fairbrook Park Master Plan Update **\$25,000**

Fairbrook Park is a 23-acre public facility with playing fields, play areas, picnic facilities, perimeter walking path, hard court, and parking facilities. The park offers an opportunity to convert some of the

highly maintained turf areas to low maintenance as no-mow or pollinator areas. A revised master plan would evaluate the areas of the park for conversion as well as consider improving amenities. The revised master plan is anticipated to be updated in 2022 to identify specific park improvements and a probable construction cost opinion to serve as a more accurate planning tool.

Landscape Buffer at Whitehall Road Regional Park – FUND 31 **40,360**

Funds allocated to have the landscape buffer planted as per the Land Development Plan.

2022

Community Orchard Program **\$10,000**

Resident requests for a community Orchard program.

Fairbrook Park Natural Landscape Areas **\$6,000**

The Board of Supervisors approved a Grow Zone and two designated native landscape areas at Fairbrook Park. This appropriation will support the removal of the existing brush, purchasing seed mix, and signage.

Compost Toilet Installation in Township Park **\$25,000**

In December 2018, the Board referred a request to the Parks and Recreation Committee to review and recommend a location for the installation of a compost toilet in a Township park. The staff has obtained specifications on a Clivus Multrum Model M54 Compost Toilet and has budgeted an appropriation adequate for one installation at a location to be determined

Cecil Irvin Park Phase II **\$320,000**

The Township plans to submit a grant application to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Community Conservation Partnerships Program in 2020 to continue the development of Cecil Irvin Park. Planned improvements include a pervious pavement parking area off of Nixon Road, a pavilion, and a connecting shared use path to the existing developed area of the park. The amount budgeted reflects the total cost of the project, but a 50% grant match will be requested

Playground Safety and Contingency Program **\$37,500**

This item provides funding for equipment upgrades and replacements to meet playground safety standards.

2023

Tom Tudek Memorial Park Phase IIIA **\$355,000**

Completion of Tudek Park Phase 3a includes the construction of two basketball courts, completion of remaining sidewalk connections, paving the remainder of the parking lot, and associated landscaping and stormwater improvements. Phase IIIA is located on land owned by the Tom Tudek Memorial Trust and is adjacent to the park entrance on Herman Drive.

Veterans Memorial at Louis E. Silvi Baseball Field **\$50,000**

Funding to install Veterans memorial at field. Partial funding will come from Louis E. Silvi Baseball Foundation.

Playground Safety & Update Program **\$37,500**

This item provides funding for equipment upgrades and replacements to meet playground safety standards.

2024

Saybrook/Greenbriar Master Plan **\$25,000**

Saybrook/Greenbriar Park is an 8.39-acre public facility that offers a basketball court, play areas, pavilion, walking path, and parking facilities. The Township Playground Inspector recommends that total replacement of playground equipment will soon be needed. The park offers the opportunity to convert some of the highly maintained turf areas to low maintenance as no-mow or pollinator areas. A revised master plan would evaluate the areas of the park for conversion as well as consider improving amenities.

Playground Safety and Contingency Program **\$37,500**

This item provides funding for equipment upgrades and replacements to meet playground safety standards.

2025

Compost Facility at Meadows Park **\$5,000**

In collaboration with residents, staff recommends the Township designate a compost facility at Meadows Park.

Playground Safety & Update Program **\$37,500**

This item provides funding for equipment upgrades and replacements to meet playground safety standards.

Haymarket Park Restroom Facilities - **\$235,000**

The master plan for Haymarket Park includes the construction of restroom facilities. This park is a highly-used, centralized park. Currently, the only township park where permanent restroom facilities are constructed is at Tom Tudek Memorial Park.

CECIL IRVIN

ACRES:9.1

Current Facilities:
Playground, 1/2 mile
perimeter walking trail



Bikepaths

- - Bituminous
- - Concrete
- - Gravel
- - Grit
- ▭ Park Boundary

0 70 140 280 Feet






LOUIS E. SILVI BASEBALL

ACRES: 9.1

Current Facilities: Baseball field, pavilion



Bikepaths

-  Bituminous
-  Concrete
-  Gravel
-  Grit
-  Park Boundary

0 62.5 125 250 Feet

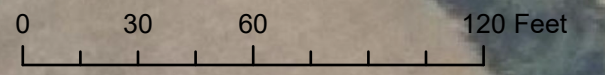
MEADOWS PARK

ACRES: 9.1

Current Facilities:
Playground, basketball court,
picnic pavilion



- Bikepaths**
- - Bituminous
 - - Concrete
 - - Gravel
 - - Grit
 - Park Boundary








PARK HILLS PARK

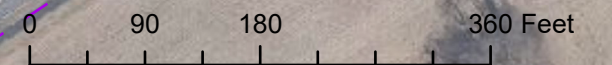
ACRES: 9.1

Current Facilities:
Playground, youth ballfield
with seasonal soccer field



Bikepaths

-  Bituminous
-  Concrete
-  Gravel
-  Grit
-  Park Boundary



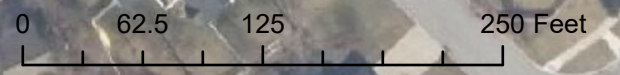
SONGBIRD SANCTUARY

ACRES: 9.1

Current Facilities:



- Bikepaths**
- - Bituminous
 - - Concrete
 - - Gravel
 - - Grit
 - ▭ Park Boundary








SUBURBAN PARK

ACRES: 9.1

Current Facilities:
Playground, youth ballfield, 2
tennis courts (also lined for
pickleball courts), basketball
court, pavilion, bike path



Bikepaths

-  Bituminous
-  Concrete
-  Gravel
-  Grit
-  Park Boundary

0 80 160 320 Feet



TUDEK MEMORIAL PARK

ACRES:60.0

Current Facilities: 2 playgrounds, basketball court, 3 pavilions, 2 tennis courts, perimeter walking path (1 mile+), bike path, youth ballfield w/ seasonal soccer field, seasonal soccer/lacrosse field, butterfly garden, restroom bldg.

2020-2024 CIP:

Paths need attention - add TSA or pave

Complete Phase 3 Project - Pave existing stone parking lot, tree plantings, basketball court, fence, benches

CRPR suggested adding 2 sand volleyball courts in place of basketball courts

Bikepaths

- - Bituminous
- - Concrete
- - Gravel
- - Grit
- ▭ Park Boundary



AUTUMNWOOD PARK

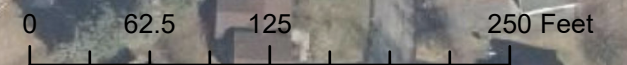
ACRES: 9.1

Current Facilities:
Playground, pavilion, soccer
field (in basin), walking path



Bikepaths

- - Bituminous
- - Concrete
- - Gravel
- - Grit
- ▭ Park Boundary



FAIRBROOK PARK

ACRES: 29.9

Current Facilities:
Playground, pavilion, walking path, youth ballfield with seasonal soccer fields

2020-2024 CIP:

Gravel replenishment and/or paving paths

Replace lower tot lot

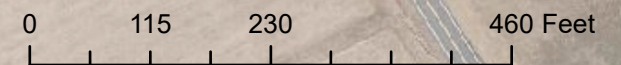
Potentially add toddler equipment

Pave upper parking lot

Bikepaths

- - Bituminous
- - Concrete
- - Gravel
- - Grit

 Park Boundary



GREENBRIAR SAYBROOK

ACRES:8.4

Current Facilities:
Playground, horseshoes,
basketball court, 2 pavilions,
walking path


2020-2024 CIP:

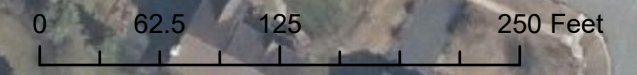
Update playground - total
replacement

Greenbriar - pave entrance to
walkway

Bikepaths

- - Bituminous
- - Concrete
- - Gravel
- - Grit

 Park Boundary



HAYMARKET PARK

ACRES: 12.5






Current Facilities:
Playground, 2 pavilions, 2 basketball courts, sand volleyball court, youth ballfield with seasonal football/soccer field

2020-2024 CIP:

Crack seal basketball court



Bikepaths

-  Bituminous
-  Concrete
-  Gravel
-  Grit
-  Park Boundary

0 70 140 280 Feet

HOMESTEAD PARK

ACRES: 9.2






Current Facilities:
Playground, pavilion,
basketball court, walking
path, youth ballfield w/
seasonal soccer field

2020-2024 CIP:

Keep existing fountain?
Doesn't work because line
was cut during pavilion
installation. CRPR hasn't
received any complaints as to
not working.

Keep backstop? Will need to
be replaced in approximately
5 years.

Bikepaths

-  Bituminous
-  Concrete
-  Gravel
-  Grit
-  Park Boundary

