

EAST LAMPETER TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

February 26th, 2025

The East Lampeter Township Parks and Recreation Board met on Wednesday, February 26th, 2025 at the Township Office: 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602. The statement of recorded meetings was played for all in attendance. Board members present were:

Chairperson Jim Everhart, Ms. Diane Tyson, Mr. Chris Chretien and Mr. Bruce Hess. Also present was Mr. Ralph Hutchison, Township Manager, Mr. Charles Thomas, Public Works Director, Stephanie Leakway, Administrative Assistant. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jim Everhart at 4:00pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was also held using Zoom, an internet web conferencing tool. A recorded statement was played regarding the use of Zoom for this public meeting which included instructions for the public to use in order to participate in the meeting via zoom.

Public Present in Public Meeting Room

None

Public Present via Zoom

None

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Bruce Hess to approve the minutes of the special meeting January 22nd, 2025 of the Parks and Recreation Board which was seconded by Chris Chretien and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Public Comment

None

Reports

a. Grounds, Building and Trails

- i. Mr. Thomas stated restrooms will open April 1st. Guys are getting winter maintenance done, trees getting trimmed back, full steam ahead. Ms. Tyson asked if date to open restrooms can be moved up with daylight savings time. Mr. Thomas stated they have to watch with the freezing & thawing.
- ii. Mr. Thomas stated Township is having a meeting with Steve @ Thaddeus Stevens Tech about grading, doing some storm sewer work, not sure what other labor they could provide for Lafayette Pavilion. Hopefully after talking with them they will

have knowledge of what Thaddeus Stevens can possibly do to help with the construction. This would help the Township as well as the school. Mr. Hutchison stated land development plan should be passed by the Board of Supervisors on 3/3/2025, once that is passed a building permit will need to be obtained & project can begin.

b. Recreation

- i. Mr. Hutchison stated grant was applied for through Fish & Boat and was awarded approximately \$75,000.00, it was stated the only thing the money cannot be used for is paving the parking lot. Walking trail & launch can be paid with funds. Total cost for phase 1 is about \$211,000.00. Will be applying for more grant options to get closer to the \$211,000.00. Mr. Everhart asked when the project can start, Mr. Hutchison stated they need to wait for funding.
- ii. Mr. Hutchison stated the Board of Supervisors will be acting on Park Rules & Regulations Ordinance at the 3/3/2025 meeting. Mr. Chretien asked if this encompasses anything that they want to do in the park or just what Park & Rec events & will the Park Board still be involved. Mr. Hutchison stated this would be to facilitate the whole recreation program in the parks. We would be able to wave some of the rules to accommodate the programs. Park Board will still be involved & communication will be the same as it is currently.
- iii. Mr. Hutchison stated yoga is still ongoing at Fritz Elementary, Chair Yoga is at the Township building.
- iv. Mr. Hutchison stated Exploring the Night Sky was 3/19/2025. Ms. Leakway stated it went very well, the presenter did a great job & everyone that participated seemed to enjoy themselves and asked if the Township could do it again in the future.
- v. Mr. Hutchison stated the future programs coming up are Community Gardens – They have been tilled. There is a good possibility that any lots not reserved Township is going to let CV Seeds use them to grow produce for their own program. Summer Playground - SFSP Application put together for the lunch program which allows lunch being provided while there as well as a site for others to come for lunch. Currently in the process of advertising to fill the staff positions. Ms. Tyson stated it is very hard to find information concerning activities on Township website. Mr. Hutchison stated he appreciated hearing her concerns & will look into it and try to make improvements. Egg Hunt/Bunny Planter – Working with Alliance Towing, same as last year. Indoor Seed Planting – This will be at Lafayette Fire Company. Book Nook – Reading program for Pre-schoolers. Cooking On A Budget – One with CV Seeds & one through Township.
- vi. Mr. Hutchison stated agreement with CV Baseball should be approved at Board of Supervisors Meeting on 3/3/2025.

- vii. Mr. Hutchison stated Wellspan Program would like to do the Summer Reading Program this year at Flory Park rather than Community Park like last year. Park Board Members unanimously agreed to allow Wellspan to use Flory Park.
- viii. Mr. Hutchison stated the trail project in Flory Park should be all ready to go out to bid either May or June.
- ix. Mr. Thomas stated Township has been in contact with CV Baseball & they will be getting game day schedules to us as well as liability insurance. They have provided practice schedule which is Flory Park: Monday – Friday 5:30pm – 8:00pm, Lafayette Park: Monday – Friday 5:00pm – 8:00pm, Saturdays 9:00am – 12:00pm, Community Park: Monday – Thursday 5:30pm – 8:00pm.

Old Business

- a. Mr. Hutchison stated they are looking for ways to extend the Heritage Pathway along Oak Grove & Pitney Rd is moving forward with the planning aspect, not the construction.

New Business

- a. Mr. Thomas stated normally the first weekend of June is water week. The County Conservancy want to do something at Gibbons Park since it is 5 years done now with all the grading & plantings. They would like to show people how everything is done, they would like to do a fish electrocution event. They have done this prior to the project and a year after the project was complete. This stuns the fish, they come to the top. They can get them & measure the fish (basically like tagging them). This shows how the environment has changed or improved. They would like to limit it to 20 people. They reached out to the Township to see if they want to put a display on for stormwater.
- b. Ms. Tyson asked how parking has been at the dam. Mr. Hutchison stated he has not heard any complaints in the area. Mr. Chretien stated he drives that way often and has not seen anyone parked there. Mr. Hess has not seen anyone parking as well. Mr. Thomas stated he has not received any calls. Mr. Hutchison stated there has been some activity in the parking area that the Township provided.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:40pm was made by Bruce Hess and seconded by Chris Chretien. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Tyson
Secretary