

**EAST LAMPETER TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
June 25, 2025**

The East Lampeter Township Parks and Recreation Board met on Wednesday, June 25th, 2025 at the Township Office: 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602. The statement of recorded meetings was played for all in attendance. The board members present were: Ms. Diane Tyson, Mr. Bruce Hess and Mr. Frank Hollingsworth & Mr. Chris Chretien. Also present was Ms. Tara Hitchens, Township Manager, Mr. Ralph Hutchison, Senior Advisor to Township Manager, Mr. Charles Thomas, Public Works Director, Ms. Lisa Cleveland, Recreation Director & Ms. Rhiannon Seda-Eckinger, Administrative Assistant. The meeting was called to order by Mr. 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 Frank Hollingsworth to approve the minutes of the special meeting May 28th, 2025, of the Parks and Recreation Board which was seconded by Bruce Hess and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Public Comment

None

Reports

a. Grounds, Buildings & Trails:

- i. Mr. Thomas stated there is nothing to really report, guys are just doing normal summer maintenance. Next month will provide update on rental numbers

b. Recreation:

- i. Ms. Cleveland stated Currently have 480 accounts in the rec system which allows us to communicate with those individuals to get the word out about our programs more easily. The community gardens are going well, currently there are 12 plots occupied. Chair Yoga is continuing, as well as yoga in the park. Movie night was June 13th; Alliance Towing did a great job providing Hamburgers/Hotdogs to everyone, there were approximately 50 people that attended. Summer Playground has 40 registered, but on average about 30 kids. Some of the activities were Book Mobile, Ravens Ridge Wildlife & a pollinator garden was planted. Goat yoga was cancelled due to rain on 6/18 & is rescheduled for 7/23. The upcoming programs are How to Protect Yourself from Identity Theft & Scam prevention for Seniors. We are partnering with Lancaster Parks for Firefly program July 17th, 8:30pm-9:30pm, Millcreek Exploration August 10th, 2:30pm-3:30pm at Gibbons Park, Explore the Night Sky August 27th, Bird Walk at Community Park September 14th. The grant that was applied for was not accepted for the 250th celebration. T-Mobile grant for the pavilion at Lafayette was also denied. Ms. Cleveland stated we can apply every quarter if we have a project up to \$50,000.00. Mr. Hess asked since T-Mobile is involved with communications, would they be willing to sponsor WiFi for the parks. Ms. Cleveland also stated bus trips are scheduled, New York City Bus Trip, do as you please December 13th. Washington DC Cherry Blossom Festival, River Boat Luncheon on the Potomac & then ride on the bus to see the Cherry Blossoms, March 26th. Ms. Tyson stated the Heritage Pathway was beautiful this spring and a nice place to walk with everything blooming. Mr. Everhart stated he feels we should do a recap this summer of everything that has happened, will keep people informed & also maybe encourage people to take advantage of what is being offered.

Old Business

- i. Mr. Chretien asked if there is any update with the privacy buffer between his home & the garden plots. Mr. Thomas stated he thought they were going to see after the first year if it is needed. Ms. Tyson asked if there were any issues, Mr. Chretien said the privacy in his yard & he said the plot right outside his door is not being taken care of. Mr. Chretien also asked about buffer at the new Lafayette Pavillion, Mr. Thomas stated there is no plan on putting anything there. Ms. Hitchens stated the property owner can put something in if they feel it is necessary.
- ii. Mr. Thomas talked about Gibbons Park Water Week, approximately 30-35 people attended. Pictures were displayed, and he will send additional pictures to board members via email. There were approximately 6 children tinter the age of 12here. They did give out trees to plant, each tree has a barcode to keep track of the tree growth. It was a good turnout. The fish were shocked, they would scoop them up, put them in a bucket, assess them & then they would toss them back into the

water, the fish would start breathing again once they hit the water. This event provided the Township with public education credits.

- iii. Mr. Chretien asked about the fence being extended at the Community Park Baseball Field, Mr. Thomas stated that it is a project CV Baseball is taking care of, they want it for protection for the spectators.
- iv. Mr. Hutchison stated there is another presentation in front of the Board of Supervisors concerning the extension of the Heritage Pathway where it ends at Oak Grove/Pitney Road at the last meeting & is moving forward.

New Business

- i. Ms. Tyson asked about the ordinance that was advertised in the paper that had to do with recreation, does it have any effect on the parks and resources that go to the parks. Ms. Hitchens stated it has to do with the park in lieu amount is calculated. It is a Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance Amendment that the Board is moving forward with at the July 14th meeting. It has provisions in it that allow credits for certain types of recreation provided on a developed property and allows credits for affordable housing development & also looks at the value of assessment for all properties except tax exempt properties & agricultural zoned, with the common level ratio gives us fair market value. This gives a per acre number that the developer could apply. This fee is only paid to the Township when the developer does not provide recreation for public use.

Other Business

Mr. Hutchison stated this will be his last meeting as part of the staff & wanted to thank the park board for the opportunity to work with them over the years and all the other park board members that served over that period of time. Mr. Hutchison feels a lot has been accomplished over the years in the parks & recreation, everyone should feel good about that & hopes to see everyone around the Community. Mr. Everhart stated they have always appreciated his wealth of knowledge and a willingness to help and on behalf of the board wanted to thank him for all he has done.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:30pm was made by Mr. Hollingsworth and seconded by Mr. Hess. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Tyson
Secretary