

EAST LAMPETER TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

August 27th, 2025

The East Lampeter Township Parks and Recreation Board met on Wednesday, August 28th, 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: Mr. Jim Everhart, Ms. Diane Tyson, Mr. Bruce Hess, Mr. Frank Hollingsworth & Mr. Chris Chretien. Also, present was Ms. Tara Hitchens, Township Manager, Mr. Charles Thomas, Public Works Director, Ms. Lisa Cleveland, Recreation Director, Ms. Kim Piestrak, Asst. Township Manager & 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

Nick Wagner

Public Present via Zoom

None

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Frank Hollingsworth to approve the minutes of the meeting June 28th, 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, Buildings & Trails:

- i. Mr. Thomas stated Fall Ball is just getting started. CV baseball Association now has a new staff. Mr. Thomas is hoping the new contact (Michael Wolfe) will come to a meeting so everyone can meet him.
- ii. Mr. Thomas stated public works staff paved the path from the parking lot down towards the Lions Pavilion, due to runoff water standing. Repairing to the fitness

trail equipment has been completed. They are currently in the process of installing the water fountain at Flory Park in the area of the Clark Pavilion, which should be completed within the next week or so.

b. Recreation:

- i. Ms. Cleveland stated Millcreek Exploration, which 10 people attended, Movie Night at Flory Park had approximately 50 people, and Alliance provided Hamburgers, Hotdogs & Drinks. Attorney General Office Education held an Identity Theft program at Township Office, had a few Seniors. Will be doing a Senior Scam program November 6th. Upcoming programs are Zumba at Lafayette Fire Company September 10th, Beginner Bird Walk at Community Park, Fall Festival October 4th, Movie Night Halloween movie & candy scramble October 24th, Alliance Towing will be providing Hamburger & Hot Dogs & help with manpower for the candy scramble. Looking to put an information kiosk at Community Park to display up and coming events.

Old Business

None

New Business

- i. Ms. Hitchens reviewed the income & expenses from 2025. Expenses are slightly over \$8,000.00. Rentals are at \$18,920.00 for the year so far, \$16,000.00 in 2024. Increasing charge for sports fields & raising the non-resident rate contributes to the higher rental amounts, actual rentals are similar to last year. There are currently 185 pavilion rentals and 42 sports field rentals. Currently 500 registrants are in Rec Desk.
- ii. Ms. Hitchens stated Summer Playground in 2026 would be doubled to 80. Fee will need to be raised in 2026 and also seek additional sponsors. Ms. Tyson asked if Smoketown will be available next year. Ms. Hitchens stated the School District will have the building for several years. Ms. Tyson asked if they were thinking about a 2nd location. Ms. Cleveland stated they will keep everything at 1 location. Mr. Hess asked if Township received any feedback from participants. Ms. Cleveland stated most responses were on the last day & were positive. Mr. Everhart thinks meeting the demand to accommodate more should be a high priority. Ms. Cleveland wants to grow, but not to quickly to misstep either. Ms. Hitchens stated we need to start earlier looking for staff. Mr. Everhart asked how many sponsors we had. Ms. Cleveland stated we had T-shirt sponsors, program sponsors, CV School District did the printing on the T-shirts. Ms. Tyson asked if there is any way to use Township sign on Old Philadelphia Pike to advertise. Feels there is more traffic than advertising in the parks. Ms. Hitchens stated that sign is usually filled. Mr. Hess asked if we can advertise at Nolt's Mill.
- iii. Mr. Everhart asked how the Rec Desk rental program working. Ms. Cleveland stated that there wasn't any feedback. There have been several that came into the office that needed help, but otherwise it seems to be working well. Ms. Tyson asked if we could

- send out a survey through Rec Desk to see if there is any feedback on what we are doing or should be doing. Mr. Everhart asked what Ms. Cleveland feels worked really well this year. Mr. Cleveland feels that Summer Playground, Fall Festival and we are accomplishing having programs that fit everyone. Mr. Everhart asked what Ms. Cleveland feels didn't work as well or meet expectations. Ms. Cleveland stated we are struggling with getting the information out to the community. Ms. Tyson suggested looking into dances for the teenagers.
- iv. Ms. Hitchens stated Township is still looking for funding for the Gibbons Park plans. Mr. Hess asked if park can be developed in steps. Ms. Hitchens stated Township applied for multiple funding opportunities to work on the Western side, unfortunately they are state budgets and will not hear in a timely fashion. Mr. Everhart asked what the plan is on constructing Gibbons, what the order was. Ms. Hitchens stated West Side first, Bridge, then East side. Mr. Thomas stated we are also moving on with Lafayette Pavilion. Ms. Hitchens stated the Township has been blessed with a donation from The Clark Family.
 - v. Mr. Hess stated he would like to have special emphasis on new residents and some way to get information out to them, like a welcome wagon.
 - vi. Ms. Tyson asked if anything is needed maintenance wise. Mr. Thomas stated Public Works have been really spearheading keeping up with the maintenance. Ms. Tyson asked to have more trees in the playground area at Flory & Lafayette Parks. Feels Community is utilized more due to it being a shady playground. Mr. Everhart asked if there could be some sort of shelter, Mr. Thomas stated shelters are not a good idea. Mr. Hess agrees with planting more trees rather than shelters. Ms. Tyson asked if pathway is happening, Mr. Thomas stated yes, from Strasburg Pk to Oakview. Ms. Hitchens stated the start of construction will be mid-October. The MS4 project is to begin at Flory Park in October as well.

Other Business

- i. Ms. Hitchens informed the board that Township will be purchasing the Neuhauser property. The Township has a lease agreement with Ms. Neuhauser. Ms. Neuhauser and Grandson will continue to reside on the property as long as Ms. Neuhauser survives. Township will then determine what will be done with the property.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:50pm was made by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mr. Hollingsworth. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Tyson
Secretary