

**EAST LAMPETER TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
January 25, 2023**

The East Lampeter Township Parks and Recreation Board met on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at the Township Office: 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602. Board members present were: Jim Everhart, Diane Tyson, Chris Chretien and Bruce Hess. Also present was Ralph Hutchison, Township Manager, Tara Hitchens, Assistant Township Manager and Charles Thomas, Public Works Director The meeting was called to order by Jim Everhart, Chairman at 4:00 pm. Mr. Frank Hollingsworth was not in attendance.

Board Reorganization:

Bruce Hess motioned to keep the Park Board officers the same as in 2022. Chris Chretien seconded the motion. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes of October 26, 2022 by Mr. Chris Chretien, seconded by Mr. Bruce Hess. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Public Concern/Comments:

Jacobo Alvarez is a math teacher at La Academia Partnership Charter School. He is requesting to use Lafayette Tower Park's field from March through May on Mondays through Thursdays from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. for baseball practice for 9th through 12th graders. This is the 2nd year for their baseball program and they would use the park for practice only. He believes this program is a great program for the kids which currently has 15 young men from the school participating in it. In order to participate in the baseball program, the students are required to have good grades. The Board would give Conestoga Valley Baseball Association priority for use of the field as they have been using it since the field was created at the park but the Township has not been contacted by them for their 2023 plans for the fields yet. The Board advised Mr. Alvarez he would need insurance as well as work with Conestoga Valley Baseball Association on the field maintenance which he understood.

Recreation:

There has been no contact from the baseball or softball teams so far this year however, there is a new Board so that may account for the delay.

Grounds, Buildings, & Trails:

- a. There are 31 pavilion rentals so far this year (23 resident and 8 non-resident).
- b. Work has been started on removing some dead ash trees at Hobson Road.
- c. Looking at Co-Stars regarding playground equipment options

- d. There has been an application of lime at all of the parks to better the soil with regard to the pH in the ground which all relates to the Township's MS4 permit allowing for credit on the stormwater fee.
- e. The Parks Department is looking at obtaining proposals from engineers for a pavilion at Lafayette Park with possible construction beginning in 2024.
- f. Cameras for park security were tested at the Public Works building. There are funds in the budget to buy additional cameras although there are limitations due to the cost. It is possible they will be in use by spring to monitor any vandalism etc. that may occur.

Conestoga Valley Regional Recreation

Upper Leacock has informed the steering committee they were no longer interested in participating in a regional recreation commission. The Steering Committee was stunned at the development. The peer consultant said East Lampeter Township and Conestoga Valley School District could still partner to apply for a Circuit Rider Grant and has offered to craft a budget and job designation.

Old Business:

The Board of Supervisors authorized East Lampeter Township staff to submit a grant application to the PA Fish & Boat Commission for Gibbons Park at Nolt's Mill which would include funding for park access, the parking area requirements, the trail down to the canoe launch and parking access in the amount of \$198,000 (½ by the Township and ½ by the PA Fish Commission).

The Heritage Pathway is under construction parallel to Walnut Street and may be finished by the fall of 2023.

The Lincoln Highway streetscape is under design. It cuts through Flory Park behind Walmart.

New Business:

None

Public Comments:

None

Adjournment:

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

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Tyson
Secretary