

**COLLEGE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
September 19, 2016**

**PRESENT:** Derek Kalp, Chair  
Jude Simpson, Vice Chair  
Kathleen Matason (late arrival)  
David Schulte  
Sue Smith  
Earl Moore  
Joe Malizia  
Judi Sittler

**STAFF:** Kent Baker, Township Engineer  
Linda Magro, Recording Secretary

**ABSENT:** Dean Lawrence

**AUDIENCE:** Dan Miller, Pennoni Associates

**CALL TO ORDER:** This meeting was called to order by Mr. Kalp at 7:03 p.m.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:** None.

**INFORMATIVES:**

- August 4, 2016 letter from Kent Baker to Joel Balzer congratulating him on the successful completion of his Eagle Scout Project at Nittany Orchard Park.
- Ms. Smith presented a letter dated May 10, 2016 that she received from the Mt. Nittany Conservancy thanking College Township for their role in making the trail bridge at Stoney Batter Natural area a reality. She also presented pictures of the bridge.

## **OB-1 SPRING CREEK PARK RENOVATIONS**

Mr. Baker summarized the reasoning behind abandoning the pre-fabricated restroom building i.e. high power gas line, and other uncertainties at the site. He indicated that Pennoni's contract is being expanded and that Hoffman/Leakey was contracted for the architectural work on the stick-building restroom that will be installed at the park in lieu of the pre-fabricated building. The restroom proposes three men's and three women's facilities and a family restroom which will be occupying some of the space of the storage area. Mr. Kalp expressed a desire to have four (4) family restrooms in lieu of separate men's and women's facilities, looking to keep with the modern more contemporary look. Warm water is a requirement by Centre Region Code and Mr. Kalp indicated that lack of lighting was a complaint in the current restroom. The restrooms would have lighting and vented windows. They would be ADA compliant. Mr. Miller indicated that only one restroom; the family restroom would have the baby changing station. New water and sewer lines will be run.

Mr. Miller indicated that he would have conceptual drafts by mid October. Bidding would go out in the spring of 2017 for next fall. Utilities may be done sooner.

Mr. Baker indicated that the pedestrian bridge ramps (near side) project was awarded to Claar Construction for \$18,900.00. Work will commence this fall.

There was some discussion about fishing off the bridge and no digging in the dirt near the creek.

Mr. Kalp brought up a possible master plan for Spring Creek Park which would include trees, parking, signage and other programs. Mr. Schulte indicated that it was the Parks and Rec Committee's job to prepare the master plans. Ms. Simpson suggested the use of PSU students.

## **NB-1 FIVE YEAR PLAN**

The committee went through the five year plan and made some changes, including additional funds for a sign at Kissinger Meadow, and a possible bike crossing sign and markings at the E. Branch Road Bridge. The five year plan will be amended for inclusion in the Annual Report.

**PARKS REPORTS:**

Mr. Schulte presented pictures of the new park equipment at Dalevue.

**MINUTES:**

**Mr. Malizia moved to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2016 Recreation Committee Meeting as revised;  
Ms. Simpson seconded the motion;  
Motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting was adjourned by Ms. Simpson at 9:05 p.m.

*Linda Magro*

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Linda Magro  
Recording Secretary

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**Parks Reports:**

**Kathy Matason**  
**College Township Parks and Recreation Committee**  
**September 19, 2016**  
**Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority**  
**May 19, 2016**

The Central PA Convention & Visitor's Bureau awarded \$2,000 to the Authority for production of a digital brochure to highlight the Centre Region parks, pool, nature center and other park facilities.

The board approved an amended draft lease for the Senior Center at the Nittany Mall which changed the cost per square foot from \$3.50/year to \$4.00/year.

The board discussed renaming options for the Senior Citizen Center. After a month-long voting period for members of the Senior Citizen Center, three options were presented. The new name, Centre Region Active Adult Center, was approved by the board.

The board approved the lowest bid (\$17,400), from Ameron Construction, for the drainage improvement project at Oak Hall Park driveway. The quote is within the budget, and the project has been endorsed by the Smith Family, PennDOT and College Township.

The board approved a motion to authorize including a proposed part-time position for the Senior Center in the 2017 COG Program Plan.

The next scheduled meeting is on June 16, 2016, 12:15 PM, in the COG Forum Room.

June 16, 2016

The PA Department of Aging awarded the Authority a \$65,774 grant for the renovation of the Active Adult Center. This will be used to upgrade the kitchen cabinets, countertops, small appliances, and to purchase new tables and chairs.

Personnel at the Nittany Mall are proceeding to select the contractors for the renovations for the new Active Adult Center. The board approved the addition of \$2,000 in architecture services to the renovation costs, which will be split between Nittany Centre Realty LLC and the Authority.

The board received a project update from Affinity Connection, Inc. on the stages of fundraising. This is a three-phase project: Part 1 is preparing the marketing analysis and promotional materials for the Active Adult Center. Part 2 is planning the fundraising process for Millbrook Marsh Nature Center "Phase 2" capital Campaign. Part 3 is addressing the Regional Parks.

The next scheduled meeting is on July 21, 2016, 12:15 PM, at the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center.

July 21, 2016 – I was out of town for this meeting.

Jamie Bestwick presented a Skate/Bike/Action Park concept to the board.

Jennifer Shuey and Rick Marboe gave a fundraising study/project update on the Phase 2 plans for Millbrook Marsh Nature Center. The board voted to endorse the project plans recommended by the Millbrook Marsh Advisory Committee for planning the Phase 2 Capital Campaign for the Nature Center.

Renovation of the Active Adult Center at the Nittany Mall started July 12.

A draft 2017 COG Program Plan was presented to the board for review.

The board approved the 2017 Funding Shares for the Centre Region Active Adult Center. The funding for the center is calculated by the number of individuals attending from each municipality over the past twelve months. These shares are then used to calculate the contribution shares for the Center in the 2017 Detailed Budget.

Action was tabled on a request from Patton Township on adding the new Grays Woods Park to CRPR operations in August 2017 when it is complete. Additional details on the proposal will be provided at a later time.

Mr. Steff reported that the Director-designate, Pamela Salokangas, is scheduled to begin on August 22, 2016. Following an overlap period with Mr. Woodhead, she will assume the position of Director on September 1, 2016

The next scheduled meeting is on August 18, 2016, 12:15 PM, at the Active Adult Center, Nittany Mall.

August 1, 2016 – Ferguson Township Supervisors Meeting

Attended at the request of Sue Mascolo to hear discussion about the development of Whitehall Road Regional Park. Said a few words, as a private citizen regarding my opinion about the value of having this park.

August 18, 2016 – I was out of town for this meeting.

The board voted to accept the 2015 Authority Audit.

The board approved a motion for CRPR to take over maintenance of Grays Wood Park upon final acceptance by Patton Township of the park construction project and pending that the participating municipalities provide the necessary funding in the 2017 budget.

Ms. Tourscher reported on the progress of Affinity Connection on fundraising. Part 1 focus is on the Active Adult Center. Materials are being prepared to be sent out to potential donors.

The board approved a motion to accept the “proposal from AP Architects LLC for professional design services for Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Phase 2 with a total cost not to exceed \$5,000 and that these services be funded by a previously-paid targeted donation to advance the Phase 2 projects.”

The board reviewed a list of fourteen items that should be considered as next steps for Whitehall Road Regional construction. A motion was approved to reaffirm the Board's commitment to completing the COG Regional Parks program with the Phase 1 construction of Whitehall Road Regional Park within the approved budget and consistent with the approved Master Plan."

The next scheduled meeting is on September 15, 2016, 12:15 PM, in the COG Forum Room

COG Parks Capital Committee (Joint meeting with Centre Region Parks & Recreation Authority)

May 12, 2016

Discussed the 2017 priorities that were sent to the municipalities for comment.

Discussed the entry road to Whitehall Road Regional Park after a presentation from Robyn Froehlich from Stahl-Sheaffer on the status of the feasibility study.

The next scheduled meeting will be on June 9, 2016, 12:15 pm, in the COG Forum Room.

June 9, 2016 – meeting was cancelled.

The next scheduled meeting will be on July 14, 2016, 12:15 pm, in the COG Forum Room.

July 14, 2016

Discussed the draft results of the Stahl-Sheaffer feasibility study for access to Whitehall Road Regional Park. The committee voted to accept the feasibility study.

Discussed the proposed Regional Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Woodhead stressed that municipal autonomy will remain critical if this moves beyond the proposal stage.

The next scheduled meeting will be on August 11, 2016, 12:15 pm, in the COG Forum Room.

August 11, 2016 – this meeting was cancelled

The next scheduled meeting will be on September 8, 2016, 12:15 pm, in the COG Forum Room.

September 8, 2016

Discussion about municipal commitment to building Whitehall Road Regional Park. The fourteen suggested next steps in the development of Whitehall Road Regional Park were discussed, and will move forward for municipal review.

The Parks Capital Committee and Authority Board agreed:

That the Parks Capital Committee re-confirmed its commitment that the Authority develops the Whitehall Road Regional Park within the previously approved budget;

That the Parks Capital Committee confirmed its preference that the entrance to the Whitehall Road Regional Park be located across from Blue Course Drive;

That the Parks Capital Committee agreed that the Authority Board should proceed with retaining the services of a consulting engineer to finalize the construction plans, right-of-way issues, time schedule, and cost estimate for constructing the entrance/road/driveway; and

After the cost of the entrance road/driveway is known and before proceeding with the bidding process, that the Authority Board will review with the Parks Capital Committee the phasing plan for constructing the facilities shown on the master site plan as they can be built within the approved budget.

The next scheduled meeting will be on October 13, 2016, 12:15 pm, in the COG Forum Room.

Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Advisory Committee

June 15, 2016 – I was unable to attend this meeting

The agenda included discussion about fundraising with Affinity Connection and a presentation of Phase II update by Alan Popovich. Rob Brooks was scheduled to give an update on a vegetation survey project and a land management plan.

Next meeting will be on September 21, 2016, at the Spring Creek Education Building, 4:00 PM.

September 1, 2016 Special Meeting

Rob Brooks presented a plan for creating a fen at the Nature Center. There was discussion and a tour of the area to be modified for the fen. The committee voted to move the proposal forward to the Authority Board for consideration.

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**Report from Sue Smith:**

Glenn Park - the neighbors have the catalogs for playground equipment and I hope to have a decision as to what they'd like to have by the meeting on Monday. \$6000 is budgeted for the equipment.

Limerock Park: Two oak trees have been planted and seem to be doing well. Plans have been made to move playground equipment from Dalevue to Limerock, but I don't know the status of that.

Stoney Batter: A small bridge has been made by the Lions Paw organization over a water drainage ditch down the mountain.

**Report from Derek Kalp**

Spring Creek:

Restroom design underway.

Discussion needed regarding park master plan.

Bridge ramp project bids received. Discuss options and next steps.

Mountainside:

Dead ash trees along trails may pose safety hazard.

End of sliding board is too high off ground (+/- 30").

Swings getting rusty and should be cleaned and painted.

Memorial sugar maple dead (#162 Shipman)

Fogleman Overlook (no report)

Spring Creek Estates (no report)

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**College Township Parks & Rec. Report**

**September 2016**

**Dean Lawrence**

1. Penn Hills – No Comments except looks good.

2. Park Hills – Branches overhanging park bench near playground need cut back. Mulch needs a round of weed killer. Tether ball and cord are missing and need to be replaced. Swing set rails are rusting and should be repainted.

3. Oak Grove – Mulch under swing needs to be added to cover roots and/or exposed roots should be removed as potential safety hazards.