

**West Vincent Township  
Park and Recreation Commission**

**November 2, 2016 7:30 PM**

Attendance: Chairman Brad Dyer, Bill Dietrich, Jim Deisinger, William Holderness, Chip Farnham, Maria Jacobs, Steve Merroth, Township Manager Erica Batdorf and Township Secretary Tammy Swavelly.

Dr. Dyer called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.

The minutes from September were unanimously approved as submitted on a motion by Dr. Dyer and a second Mrs. Jacobs.

**Old Business:**

*Events:*

1. Turkey Trot: Dr. Dyer reported that the same sponsors have agreed to sponsor the Turkey Trot this year and a ninth one is possible. The signups have just started. The form is on the website and the link to the signups are also available. Chief Swinger will assist with extra police vehicles this year due to the road closure, Horseshoe Trail has heavier traffic. T-shirts are provided to all children and also to the pre-registered adults.
2. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade: Mrs. Jacobs shared about the Subcommittee on the parade. They had three meetings and discussed potential parade routes and decided upon two different alternatives. These were to stay in Birchrunville, or to have it at the Ludwig's Corner Horseshow Grounds. Estimated budgets were made and prepared for the Park and Recreation Commission to decide which way they would like to go. To hold the parade in Birchrunville, the estimated budget was \$5,340-\$5,540. To hold it in the LCHS it is estimated to be \$6,300-\$6,500. A large number of volunteers will be needed in both scenarios. If the Township sponsors it, it would be more controlled. Registrations would be required and it would be organized. Police Chief Swinger informed the committee that an advanced plan for traffic control will be necessary and a parking plan. Porta-Potties will need to be rented and an EMS will need to be onsite. The general consensus of the Commission members present at the meeting this evening was to have it in Birchrunville. There will not be a vote since two members could not be present and they asked to discuss it before there was a vote. The only rush would be to put money in the 2017 Budget should it need to, but fund raising can also be a way to get parade funds.
3. Calendar of Events: Dr. Dyer prepared a calendar of events for 2017:

Community Day	May 13
Camp Out	June 23
Kite Workshop	June 24
4 <sup>th</sup> of July	July 4

Star Gazing	July 21 or 22
Movie Night	August 26
Turkey Trot	November 24
Craft Fair	December 2

The only date that was a problem was the Craft Fair. Experts will be contacted to see if there is a better time since the fall is a busy time for them. Volunteers will be necessary to help with these events. An announcement will go on the website as well as the next Township newsletter. Mrs. Jacobs wants to add a multi-cultural event. This can be tied into Community Day.

*Fields:* Dr. Dyer reported that the fields look really good. The treatments done this year helped to keep it looking nice. Mrs. Jacobs did some research on field fees in the area. She did not have them with her, but remembers that Upper Uwchlan charges \$30/hour or \$3,500/season. If the Township consolidates the Field Fee Use and the Capital Fund Fee, it would be \$45 for a two-hour session, or an evening. Mr. Dietrich likes the idea of having a Capital Fund and would rather not get rid of it. Ms. Batdorf went over the 2017 Proposed Budget for Park and Recreation. It is \$175,848 which includes the Fellowship Trail. In 2016 it was \$71,750 which did not have the trail in. Park and Recreation Commission has a separate line item of \$2,500 which is for general use. Dr. Dyer stated that the capital fund was collected with the promise of keeping up the fields. If the maintenance is now written into the budget, that should take care of it. Dr. Dyer made the motion that the funds collected for the Township Park Fee Use are consolidated into one fee. Mr. Merroth seconded the motion which carried unanimously. The actual number will be determined next month.

*Community Garden:* Mr. Dietrich stated that there were 4 less gardeners this year, but there were more helpers to maintain the overall garden. Today 9 raised beds were installed in three 10 x 20 plots. There is no soil in them yet. The Girl Scouts installed them along with the Bee Box which is hanging on the wall. The library box is not in at this time. He also met with the Eagle Scout Gene Krumenacker who is building a kiosk. Mr. Dietrich stated that it is a very nice design and he had to sign off on it so that he can build it. He and Mr. Merroth worked together to get the tall weeds mowed. He has not had any complaints in the last two months. For fees next year the following will be considered: 20 x 20=\$35, 20 x 10=\$25, and a spot with raised beds will be \$45. This will be finalized next month.

*Fellowship Trail:* Ms. Batdorf updated the commission on the engineer's plans for this trail. Bryan Kulakowsky has been preparing the Stormwater Management and will submit it to Upper Uwchlan for review along with the design. This is going to be ready to go out to bid for an early spring install.

*Trails Subcommittee:* Mr. Holderness reported that he and Mr. Farnham were out looking at the Cooks Glen Park. It is too steep to put in a soccer field. Ms. Batdorf added that she is currently researching the history of this park to get a better handle on it. Mr. Farnham stated that they are going to map the easy ones first and have a mapping program that a map can be printed from. He has been in discussion with the Stonecroft HOA and they will not be mapping that area at this time. Mr. Holderness described the trail in Cooks Glen as spider webbed. There is no design or

loop, just a single trail. He feels that there should be consistent trail markings that are one color. He added that there is bad erosion along the French Creek that should be addressed. He will look at it more comprehensively to see if he can plan what can be done. His goal would be to have a loop trail where you start at one point and can go back to it without turning around. Bow hunting was discussed. He feels that there should be more signs. There is a piece of private property that is in-between the two Township properties which has a sign on it that says No Trespassing. To get to the other side of the park, this is the only access, and it is granted. The sign should be removed and/or changed to say Private Property or something else. A conversation should be had with the farm that uses the park for trails. They are eroding and a discussion should be started.

*2017 Budget:* Ms. Batdorf stated that there will be some fine tuning of this before it goes to the Board on Monday night. There is some discussion with the Board on the Community Garden funding.

Meeting Adjourned 8:57 PM.