

**West Vincent Township
Park and Recreation Commission**

May 4, 2016 7:30 PM

Attendance: Chairman Brad Dyer, Bill Dietrich, Whitney Jaeger, William Holderness, Chip Farnham, Maria Jacobs, Steve Merroth, Board of Supervisor Mike Schneider, Timi Kirchner, Interim Township Manager and Township Secretary Tammy Swavely.

Dr. Dyer called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

The minutes from March were unanimously approved as submitted on a motion by Mr. Merroth and a second from Mrs. Jaeger.

Ms. Kirchner gave an update on the Fellowship Trail. She stated that Upper Uwchlan and West Vincent Township are working together on the trail. Upper Uwchlan has lent their traffic engineers services to work with our Township Engineer, Bryan Kulakowsky from Cedarville Engineering. They are working on the western side of the trail. No surveys were done on the crossing on Fellowship Road or Traffic Studies to determine sight lines. McMahon Associates will be doing that portion. Cedarville Engineering will finalize the Stormwater plan and then get the documents ready for bid. The Township will obtain cost estimates before going out to bid. Cedarville Engineering has met on site with members of the church. Bryan Styche has been involved for the church during this time. Township Engineer Bryan Kulakowsky will have some questions for the Park and Recreation Commission and will attend their next meeting. The church submitted a proposed agreement and that has been sent to the Township Solicitor and the Insurance Company for review.

Old Business:

Events:

1. Community Day: Bill Dietrich will have a space to promote the Community Garden.
2. Campout: Maria Jacobs described her plans to date. The date she chose was June 24, 25 calling it a Summer Solstice Family Camp Out. This is an opportunity to enjoy a night under the stars with the family, friends and neighbors. It will have a cook-out and activities for all. It may be necessary for volunteers to have Child Abuse Clearances with the State. Chief Swinger will be asked for details. The Board of Supervisors will be needed to give permission to use the park after dark. Other items that need to be considered is insurance, a temporary food permit and consideration of permitting residents first to the campout. Mr. Dietrich will have the signup sheet at Community Day along with information of the campout. The charge will be \$35 per spot.
3. Kite Event: Mrs. Jacobs stated that as part of the Pottstown Health and Wellness Foundation Grant, an activity needs to be planned in July. She knows of a person who will come make kites with children. She is familiar with this person and stated that he goes all over making kites providing the materials and charges just what it costs him to purchase the materials. The date that works is July 2 at 10 am. The cost that will be \$4.00 per kite.

Volunteers will be needed to assist in the event. It will need to be advertised to encourage attendance and it will bring voters to the Township's Park so that the Township can participate in the Grant. Flyers for this will be distributed at Community Day also.

4. Movie Night: This is August 27th. A movie has not been chosen yet.

Fields: Brad Dyer spoke with Dr. Peter Landschoot from Penn State about turf maintenance. He emailed his discussion points to the commissioners last month. Dr. Dyer stated that he will gather all questions and send them to Dr. Landschoot together so that he does not have a lot of emails from different people and so that there won't be duplicate questions. Several topics were discussed. 1. Will aeration help the bumpiness of the field? 2. Why is slit seeding so expensive? 3. What kind of weed killer works on broadleaf weeds? 4. How do we decide on an annual program? 4. How long should the grass be on the soccer field? Any other questions, they should contact Dr. Dyer so that he can get them answered. He will get a list together to ask.

Park Maintenance: Mr. Dietrich stated that he was at the EAC meeting earlier this evening and they are concerned with the volcanos of mulch around the park trees. Specifications need to be found and this can be given to the Board to alert the person doing the maintenance on the field.

A discussion was held on the way the Capital Fund should be used. Once an annual plan is put in place, that can be put in the budget and the Capital Fund can be used for larger projects at the park.

Community Garden: Mr. Dietrich stated that he is handing out flyers on Community Day to get the information out about the garden. He has 24 spaces rented at this time. A few hoses need work but is not time to worry about it yet. A concern was brought up about weeds along Westover Lane. Mr. Dietrich stated that the gardeners are working on it. There has not been any movement on the water source, the tank is being used. A maintenance plan will be developed since it can be unsightly at times, especially where there are rocks and cannot be mowed. The only thing that needs to happen yet is to develop the paths.

New Park Land along French Creek: Tammy Swavely is researching encumbrances on this property. The tour went well last month. The trails are well used. Sheeder Mill Farm is next door and uses it a lot.

Parks on website: A database needs to be developed with the description and location of each park on the website. This should include uses and photos. There is park land used by fisherman. It has to be determined if this is an actual park. Chief Swinger will have that information.

Eagle Scout Project: Gene Krumenacker came to the Park and Recreation Commission looking for a project. It was determined to have him build a kiosk for the Community Garden and to incorporate a bench in the kiosk and possibly a place to put extra vegetables to share with others. Mrs. Jacobs will tell him of the decision.

Girl Scout Project: At the last meeting, a group of four girl scouts came to the Park and Recreation Commission with an idea for the Community Garden to be used at their Silver Award. They were raised beds, a Give-a-book – Take a book and bench, and a bee box. The raised beds will be used

in the northeast side of the garden where it is rocky. Since the girl scouts need funding, they will need to go to the Board of Supervisors for their approval.

Subcommittees: Since there are many members and many jobs on the Park and Recreation Commission, it was suggested that they have subcommittees to have things run smoother. Steve Merroth, Bill Dietrich and Maria Jacobs will be on the Community Garden Sub-Committee. Brad Dyer will be the Fields Sub-Committee. Others will be determined as time goes on.

Park Use Policy: The Park Policy needs to be in place. Mike Schneider has found one that another neighboring township uses. This can be used for the soccer field use policy.

Meeting Adjourned 10:30 PM.