

**West Vincent Township  
Park and Recreation Commission**

**July 5, 2017**

**7:30 PM**

Attendance: Chairman Chip Farnham, Jim Deisinger, Whitney Jaeger, Bill Holderness, Maria Jacobs, Bill Dietrich, Kristina Casey, Township Manager Erica Batdorf, and Township Secretary Tammy Swavely.

Chairman Farnham called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

The minutes from June 7, 2017 were unanimously approved as submitted on a motion by Mrs. Jacobs and a second Mr. Holderness.

**Reports:**

*Chairman Report:* Mr. Farnham reported that in speaking with Brad Dyer, the committee from the West Vincent Elementary School will not be organizing the Turkey Trot this year. Mrs. Casey informed the commission how involved it was and that it would take 25 volunteers to do it. All of the members thought it was a great event, but none are able to commit time. Mrs. Swavely will send an email blast out asking for volunteers by August 1<sup>st</sup>. If not enough volunteer, it will not be held. Other ideas were suggested instead of this that would not be so time consuming. One would be a walk around proposed parkland that the Township is purchasing from Natural Lands Trust. This would be better in the warmer weather. Other ideas included Trunk or Treat in October.

*School House Park:* Ken Alan, 21 Ivy Lane went to School House Park with Sara Shick and Bill Holderness to see what could be done to this park. It is 2.1 acres and Mr. Alan called it a little gem of Birchrunville. He will be discussing it with Ms. Batdorf tomorrow for a connection between the Park and Recreation Commission and the Board of Supervisors. It is being mowed but the vines are beginning to grow up around the trees again. This is an ongoing project.

*Picnic in the Park:* Mrs. Jacobs reported that this is going as scheduled. The group Danielle and Jennifer will play as long as needed. The signs are out. Ms. Casey will develop a photo area to take selfies in the park for the park competition, On Your Park, Get Set Go.

*Movie in the Park:* Mrs. Casey reported that this will be promoted in August.

*Sign Project:* Mrs. Jaeger reported that she has done some research on a sign to be placed at the entries to West Vincent Township with *You Are Entering a Multiuse Township*. She stated that it should be simple with icons and a few more words indicating all types of traveling that happens in West Vincent from walking, horseback riding, bicycling and motor vehicles. An ordinance may need to be developed to enforce it. The goal is to have riders better communicate with each other.

*Community Garden:* Bill Dietrich reported that the gardeners are a much more involved this year and has a group of volunteers for mowing. He has taken the suggestion for a subcommittee and has a few gardeners who are willing to get together with others of the commission. Mrs. Jacobs

stated that the garden is beautiful. Mr. Dietrich stated that one of the gardeners is going to take the extra produce to Lord's Pantry in Downingtown. This organization supplies food at no cost to those who are in need. Ken Alan volunteered to get information on the Chester County Food Bank if necessary. Sara Shick, 1201 Davis Lane stated that she would like a water hook up to the garden from Aqua PA. She feels that it is a waste of money to pay for the water deliveries. She asked for the pricing and was informed that the bid from 2016 was approximately \$6,000. She would like the committee to ask the Board of Supervisors for a permanent water hook up.

*Trails Subcommittee:* Mr. Holderness stated that he and Mike Schneider did the initial tagging of the Fox Hollow Trail. He will need to contact the road foreman to show him construction techniques. Ms. Batdorf stated that the tools have been ordered. Mr. Holderness also stated that he has done a second pass at Cook's Glenn Park and will soon propose something better for users of the park. It is so rough now that it is hard to use.

Ms. Batdorf shared that the Fellowship Trail, Weatherstone section went out to bid and should be opened at the end of the month. There is a signed access agreement with St. Matthews Church so the next segment of trail can be surveyed.

Ms. Shick asked if the commission could ask for funds to put gravel in the trail in Cook's Glenn Park to correct the problems. She stated that it has been a long time getting this trail in shape. There is a Veteran's group who would like fishing access for the handicapped and East Vincent Township is not going to permit it. This is news to the commission. She also would like a parking area. Mr. Farnham stated that he knows that the work is not getting done fast, but there is progress. That they are all volunteers and things take time.

Jim Helm, 2563 Veronica Drive stated that he feels that there was an oversight on behalf of the Board of Supervisors since they did not take dedication of the trail in Eagle Farms. He also stated that he hopes Eagle Farms Trail portion #2 will be done by the end of the summer. He was informed that this is the builder's responsibility, not the Townships. Ms. Batdorf stated that she is currently researching Eagle Farms trail #1 with the solicitor and that it is under control of the HOA. Trail #2 is under escrow and will be built, but getting the developer to do it may be difficult since there is no date in the agreement.

Ms. Shick discussed the Butler Subdivision. Mr. Farnham will discuss this with her after the meeting to get her concerns.

Mr. Helm would like the commission to set goals for him. To get Fox Hollow done this quarter, to get Lennar to install Eagle Farms #2 by the end of the summer and to dedicate Eagle Farms #1 by the end of the year. Mrs. Jacobs stated that if the trails are not dedicated the commission cannot do much.

Mr. Farnham stated that the trail subcommittee will put together a list of outstanding items.

**Old Business:**

*Field Maintenance:* Ms. Batdorf has sent out a new request for proposals reaching out to a few additional companies. This should be ready for the next meeting and then the work can be done fall into spring.

**General Comment:**

Mrs. Jacobs stated that the park needs weeding. Ms. Batdorf agreed informing her that the company that used to do it went out of business. Staff is currently getting information from another company. The mulching of the park was discussed. Mrs. Jacobs asked if there could not be so much mulch put around the trees or they will die. The seasonal maintenance person is very busy and Mrs. Casey suggested that the Township look into hiring a full time person. She will do research on this.

Meeting Adjourned 9:35 PM.