

West Vincent Township
Parks and Recreation Commission
2016 Year End Report

The West Vincent Parks and Recreation Commission respectfully submits the 2016 year-end report as follows:

2016 was a busy year for the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Board of Supervisors Resolution, the Commission was increased from 7-members to 9-members. Four new members were added to the commission bringing a broader range of interest and experience to the existing commission.

The 2016 Committee Members included: Dr. Brad Dyer, Chairman, Steve Merroth, Vice Chair, Kristina Casey, William Dietrich, Jim Deisinger, Chip Farnham, William Holderness, Maria Jacobs, and Whitney Jaeger

In 2016, the Board of Supervisors directed the Parks and Recreation Commission to take the community garden under their direction. Late in 2015, Chester County donated 56.2 acres on Cooks Glen Road to West Vincent Township. This was adopted by the Parks and Recreation Committee to be used for passive recreation. Early in 2016, the commission toured the property and agreed that it is an asset to the township. In future years, the commission will work with Township administration to improve the trails and utilize the park to its highest and best use.

In addition, the commission worked on several items including:

- Improvement to the Soccer Field playing surface
- Investigated new programs to include a larger cross section of the community
- Continued work with township personnel on the Fellowship Trail Connector
- Created a subcommittee to map Township owned trails.

Ball Fields: The Soccer Field continues to be heavily used for play and practice by 5 different leagues and one league using the baseball field. The commission decided on an annual maintenance program for the soccer field and expects to address the annual maintenance program for the baseball field in 2017.

Income from Ball Fields: \$12,690

Expense from maintenance of fields: \$8,500

Basketball Court: It was noted that the basketball court needed maintenance. At the request of the commission, the weeds and brush surrounding the court were cut back to expose the playing surface and the commission recommended to the BOS to replace the 2 existing backboards. Township employees installed the backboards.

Basketball Backboards Replacement: \$1596

Community Garden: The Community Garden had a slight decrease of gardeners in 2016. 23 families utilized 27 of the 50 plots available representing 54% utilization. Garden plots are reserved for a fee of \$35 per 20 x 20 garden. The Garden used 5 loads of water (tankards) from the Ludwig's Corner Fire Company.

Three (3) members of the local Girl Scout troop petitioned the commission to use the community garden to attain a badge. Their proposal included building nine (9) raised beds in the garden, installing a bee box, a bench and a lending library box in the garden. The proposal required an investment of \$900 for the raised beds. The BOS approved one raised bed, the bee box, and the library box, but declined the expense for the remaining 8 raised beds. Money for the raised beds was graciously donated by three (3) township residents. It was reported the project was completed by the Girl Scouts, and will be installed as soon as the weather breaks in early 2017. In addition, an Eagle Scout, Gene Krumenacker, requested a project from the township to complete his Eagle Scout designation. The commission identified the need for a kiosk to be built and installed at the community garden. Mr. Krumenacker completed the kiosk, built and installed a bench and planted a tree on the outside of the Garden. The project was completely funded and completed by Eagle Scout Gene Krumenacker in the fall.

Income from Community Garden: \$ 945

Donation of Raised Beds:	\$ 900
Total:	\$1845

Expenses:

Water:	\$1,000
Hoses/Nozzles	\$ 252
Raised Bed Boxes	\$ 653
Total:	\$1,905

Turkey Trot: The annual Turkey Trot, held the day after Thanksgiving continues to be a great event with 324 registered members. The registration fee is \$15 in advance, and \$20 day of event. Kids under 12 and the 1k racers are free. Registration shows 254 registered for the 5k and 70 registered for the 1k (West Vincent Elementary School). The event is heavily promoted by the West Vincent Elementary School. The event is underwritten using sponsorships.

Income from Turkey Trot including sponsorships: \$4065

Expenses: \$2739

Movie Night: Movie Night has seen an uptick in attendance in 2015 and 2016 primarily due to switching genres from animated movies geared for a young audience to live-action. It is estimated that "Guardians of the Galaxy" had approximately 125-150 people attend in 2016. Please note that attendance number is a guesstimate, as it is difficult to have a headcount as the night gets dark.

Income from Movie Night: \$0

Expenses: \$800

The Kite Event: A new program was introduced to the township this year. Presented by kite maker Cliff Quinn, families were invited to the gazebo to make and fly a kite. Several families came out, 27 kites were made and each kite was successfully flown. Each participant paid \$4 which covered the cost of the kite making. In 2017, we will be wrapping this into Community Day to engage more families in this fun activity.

Income from Kite Making: \$107

Expenses: \$397

The Camp Out Event – The commission attempted to host a Family Camp Out in late June in Evans Park. Although the event idea was well received, it lacked significant enrollment to make it a success. The committee unanimously decided to cancel the event and re-present it in 2017 with the hopes of finding a better date on the calendar, and increase awareness.

Expenses: \$45

Trails Subcommittee

The subcommittee working on trails, led by Bill Holderness, met several times to identify township owned or eased properties. The goal of the subcommittee is to clearly identify those trails, clear trails if necessary, and make the information available to all township residents.

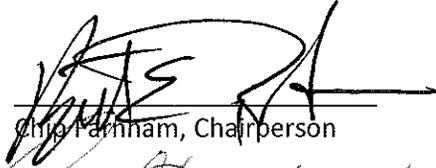
Birchrunville Parade

West Vincent Resident, Harriet Stone, approached the Parks and Recreation Committee to explore the possibility of the township sponsoring the longstanding Fourth of July Parade held in Birchrunville. Members of the Parks and Rec joined township residents to discuss the pros and cons of holding the parade in Birchrunville and explored other venues. The committees work was incomplete at year end and continued into 2017.

Income/Expense Summary:

	Income	Expense
Ball fields	12,690	8,500
Basketball Court		1,596
Community Garden	1,845	1,905
Turkey Trot	4,065	2,739
Movie Night		800
Kite Event	107	397
Camp Out		45
Total	18,707	15,982

This concludes the 2016 Year End Report and respectfully submitted by:



Chris Farnham, Chairperson



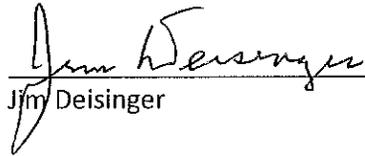
Steve Merroth, Vice Chair



Kristina Casey



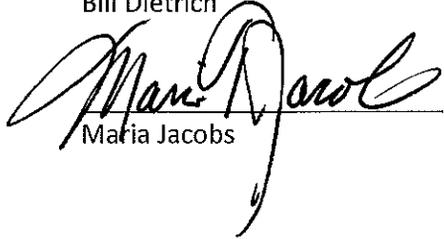
Bill Dietrich



Jim Deisinger



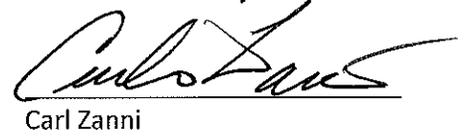
Bill Holderness



Maria Jacobs



Whitney Jaeger



Carl Zanni