

## **MINUTES**

**RECREATION AND PARKS BOARD:**

**LOWER ALLEN TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**JANUARY 22, 2025**

**The following were in ATTENDANCE:**

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Greg Mahon, Chair  
Scott Duncanson, Vice Chair  
Lauren Casselberry  
Rick Grove  
James Kaiser  
Megan Klenzing

### **TOWNSHIP PEPRSONNEL**

Helen Grundon, Administrative Assistant  
Tom Stambaugh  
Renee' Greenawalt, Recording Secretary

### **LIAISON**

Commissioner Josh Nagy

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Grundon called the January 22, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Lower Allen Township Recreation and Parks Board to order at 7:00 pm.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Mr. Mahon announced his intent to step down as Chair, expressing his appreciation for the role and honor in having served for sixteen years.

Mr. Mahon put forth a motion to nominate Ms. Klenzing to be elected as Chair, seconded by Ms. Casselberry. Mr. Mahon motioned to close nominations, and Ms. Klenzing was elected as Chair, by vote of 6-0.

Next, Mr. Mahon motioned to nominate Ms. Casselberry as Vice-Chair, seconded by Ms. Klenzing. Mr. Mahon motioned to close nominations, and Ms. Casselberry was elected as Vice-Chair, by vote of 6-0.

Next, Mr. Mahon motioned to nominate Mr. Rick Grove as Secretary, seconded by Mr. Duncanson. Mr. Mahon motioned to close nominations, and Mr. Grove was elected as Secretary, by vote of 6-0.

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Grove motioned to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2024 Regular Meeting. Ms. Casselberry seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT – Wass Park**

There was no public comment. Members briefly discussed winter maintenance (plowing walkways) in the parks and clarified that the township does not do this. Any clearing of walkways is done by volunteer residents.

### **Liaison Report**

Commissioner Nagy provided an update on the Local Share Grant, noting that Manager Davis had applied to support funding for the Beacon Hill project phase 1 and possibly phase 2. Other grants are being pursued for additional projects, including consideration of a grant to fund security cameras in the parks, noting the issue

would come before the Board of Commissioners on 1/25/25. Lastly, he announced the Board had elected Commissioner Jennifer Caron to serve as President.

## **TOWNSHIP STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Grundon presented the Recreation and Parks Staff Report. She referred to photographs of new park benches installed in Allendale, Wass and Sheepford parks. She reported the completion of tree trimming along Jacob's Trail at LACP and installation of new bleachers. Leaf collection and baseball field maintenance at LACP is nearly complete. Wood chips were placed on the trail along the Yellow Breeches and millings were spread behind the garage at LACP. She also noted that indoor winter maintenance had begun.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Ms. Grundon confirmed that the event was on the calendar for April 12 at LACP and requests for donations had been submitted to Hershey and to The Woods and Cargill for volunteers. She noted the need to review the available inventory of plastic easter eggs.

### **Gardeners Gathering**

Ms. Grundon confirmed that the event was on the calendar for March 29 and that Ms. Barb Arnold had provided contact information for three individuals to pursue programming ideas. She also noted that Ms. Arnold may be able to offer an educational program on stormwater education utilizing a grant.

Members discussed other possible ideas including the York County Master Watershed Coordinator, Keystone Trails and the Cedar Cliff High School hydroponics program taught by Mr. Weaver. Ms. Casselberry also offered to provide a program.

### **Yappy Hour**

Planning for this event is on hold until a later date.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **American Cancer Society- Bark for Life**

Ms. Chelsea Hall, Senior Development Manager for the American Cancer Society (ACS), introduced herself, noting she is a resident in Mechanicsburg and offered her assistance with future event planning for the township.

She presented a proposal to hold an event supporting the American Cancer Society's Bark for Life program, calling it an event for people who love dogs and hate cancer. She described a typical event, noting the expectation of about 250-500 attendees with 50-60 registered dogs. She said the events are very controlled, with ACS overseeing every aspect, but volunteer led. Community members run the event in partnership with the ACS. ACS provides the hold harmless and insurance. The revenues earned through paid registration and vendor fees serve as the fundraiser to support cancer research, patient support and patient advocacy for dogs and humans.

Ms. Hall spoke about research into medicines that are used for both human and canine cancer treatment. She noted the program also aims to educate the community on services available to people and their pets, such as dog walkers, vet care clinics, and referrals. Services such as free rides to/from cancer treatment, clinical trials, are all funded by these events.

Mr. Mahon asked about the impact on other community members using the park amenities outside of the event. Ms. Hall gave assurances that ACS would coordinate and provide whatever infrastructure and operations support was necessary to provide appropriate boundaries and barriers. She described the layout of a typical event, with fenced off areas and barriers around dog-centric demonstrations.

Ms. Hall expressed a desire to hold an event at Lower Allen Community Park or whatever location would best serve the interest of the township. She suggested having an event during Mother's Day weekend. Her request for the committee is approval of space and a list of requirements.

Members discussed the idea of utilizing the lower pavilion and soccer fields on the creek side, offering a natural barrier and that the timing would not impact sports schedules. They also discussed the possibility of having Yappy Hour in conjunction with the event and ultimately decided against it.

Members expressed consensus in support of a proposal for the event without alcohol.

Ms. Klenzing offered a motion to support a proposal for the event without alcohol. Ms. Casselberry seconded the motion, which was approved 6-0.

**ADJOURN:**

The Regular Meeting of the Recreation and Parks Board was adjourned at 7:58 PM. The next meeting will be February 26, 2025 at 7 PM.