

**Lower Salford Township
Park Board Minutes
March 26, 2024**

The March 26, 2024, Park Board was called to order at 7 p.m. by Chairman Kent Krauss. Also in attendance were Vice Chairman Pete Harubin, Jan Johnson, Ryan Beltz, Amy Burch, Andy Lazzaro, Mark Kelley and Secretary Holly Hosterman.

Chairman Krauss asked for approval of the February 27, 2024, Meeting Minutes. Two minor changes were noted. Andy Lazzaro made a motion to approve the minutes as revised. Ryan Beltz seconded. Minutes unanimously approved as written.

Chairman Krauss recognized local resident John Paine of 691 Store Road. Mr. Paine presented the idea of a waterfowl nesting box at Roth Pond. He had brought a description of the nesting box and asked if it would be appropriate if he built one and put it in Roth Park Pond. The members of the Board were generally in favor of the nesting box but would like to see the actual box prior to their approval. Mr. Paine said he would put something together and present it to the group at the next meeting. Mr. Krauss and the members thanked Mr. Paine for coming out and for his idea.

Chairman Krauss recognized Joan DiMaria of the Heckler Plains/Historical Society who presented the monthly report of happenings within the Society. Ms. DiMaria presented recent information received from “BSafe”, a security system for the Heckler Plains home. She also asked if there were plans for another security camera at the park. Mr. Krauss noted that the Township would take the security information to the Township staff and thanked Joan for her footwork. He also noted that an additional camera at Heckler was currently being looked at but has not been installed yet. Joan also let the Board know that the “Stone Barn Project” of the Historic Barn & Farm of Pennsylvania group would be touring Heckler Plains on Saturday, June 8th. She said that the Society would be “sprucing up” the barn and the grounds in the near future for the visit.

Chairman Krauss asked Ms. Hosterman to provide the Planning Commission Agenda. Ms. Hosterman noted that the agenda did not contain anything that would require Park Board input.

The following reports were given for the various Township parks:

Alderfer Park – Jan Johnson reported that the park looked good.

Bergey Park – Andy Lazzaro reported that the park looked good. He did note the cement abutment for the culvert again, and it was noted that this is where the Township occasionally gets water for the golf course irrigation system.

Briarwyck Park – Amy Burch reported that the park looked good.

Bucher Park – Mark Kelley reported that the park looked good.

Dannerth Park – Mark reported that the park looked good.

Groff’s Mill Park – Andy reported that there was some wash-out near the front of the paved parking area was still a concern.

Heckler Plains Farmstead – Pete Harubin reported that there were branches down from the white pine trees from a recent storm and that the light by the pavilion was not working.

Kulp Road Pond Park – Looks good.

Park Avenue Field – Amy Burch reported that the fields are looking good. She noted that there was still a cover on the upper field to help with grass growth.

Reed Park – Pete Harubin reported that everything looked good and that the new pickle ball courts are seeing a lot of use.

Reiff Park – Ryan Beltz reported that The PWC field trips have begun, which is very positive for the park's presence.

Roth Park – Mark Kelley reported that everything was fine. She did note that there was quite a bit of mud on the floor of the pavilion.

Trail Report – Due to recent windy conditions, many trees are going to need to be either trimmed or removed.

Wawa Park – Ryan Beltz reported that the park looked good. He said that the driveway area is still draining back into the banks of the creek from a recent rainstorm/flooding event.

Kiosk Report – Ms. Hosterman gave Amy Burch the discount ticket information for the kiosks. She also reported that she would be sending pictures of the damaged corkboard.

New Business & Correspondence:

Ms. Hosterman told the members that the Township had been contacted by an online service called "Share My Legacy". This website provides a cataloging of information for all memorial benches, trees, etc. that the Township has installed. It also allows families of those honorees the opportunity to write a story about their specific loved one. Ms. Hosterman said she would forward the website information and follow-up at the next Park Board meeting.

A local resident, Grace Meridith of 635 Old Sumneytown Pike, contacted the Township to let it know that she would be doing a "Facebook Survey" of a rare firefly that she has discovered in and around her property. She is planning to compile a study of the firefly using a Facebook survey for her MPA at the University of Penn.

Ryan Beltz also noted that the "Perkiomen Mapping and Flood Reduction Planning project has begun. Fondly known as The Perkiomen Project" this study will be looking at past flooding events and will identify locations most at risk from severe rainstorms and provide mitigation strategies to reduce risks as much as possible.

Old Business:

Ms. Hosterman updated the members that the farmland previously farmed by Ryan Lehman of Lehman farms was being divided between the other 2 farmers who farm Township-Owned Land, Daryl Knechel and Barry Swartz. Both were thankful for additional land to farm.

An update of the improvements at Roth Park was also shared with the group. All noted that the park looks more organized and usable, as well as safer for wildlife and visitors.

Mr. Krauss asked Ms. Hosterman to schedule a fall meeting for the sporting organizations as a seasonal update moving out of summer.

Amy Burch & Andy Lazzaro shared the most recent updates from the Sidewalks & Trails Committee. They said that at the last meeting the final draft was presented. This was put on the website. They noted that the final report will be forthcoming in the next several weeks.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will take place at the Jacob Reiff Farmstead in the newly constructed greenhouses.

There being no further business, Chairman Krauss entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Mark Kelley motioned for approval and Andy Lazzaro seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Hosterman, Secretary