**Lower Salford Township**

**Park Board Minutes**

**January 23, 2024**

The January 23, 2024, meeting of the Park Board was called to order at 7 p.m. by Temporary Chairperson Holly Hosterman. In attendance were Kent Krauss, Pete Harubin, Jan Johnson, Ryan Beltz, Amy Burch, and Mark Kelley. Member Andy Lazzaro was on a Zoom link.

Ms. Hosterman opened the floor for nominations for Chairperson for 2024. Pete Harubin motioned to nominate Kent Krauss and Amy Burch seconded the motion. Nominations for Chairperson were closed. Holly Hosterman requested a motion to appoint Kent Krauss as Park Board Chairman for 2024. Pete Harubin motioned for approval and Amy Burch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Hosterman turned the meeting over to Chairman Kent Krauss.

Chairman Kent Krauss opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman for 2024. Jan Johnson motioned to nominate Pete Harubin and Mark Kelley seconded the motion. Nominations for Vice-Chairman were closed. Chairman Krauss made a motion to appoint Pete Harubin as Park Board Vice-Chairman for 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Krauss asked Holly Hosterman if she would continue to perform the duties of Secretary and Ms. Hosterman accepted the duty.

Chairman Kent Krauss entertained a motion for approval of the October 24, 2023 minutes as presented. Ryan Beltz motioned for approval of the minutes as written and Pete Harubin seconded the motion. Minutes unanimously approved as presented.

Chairman Krauss asked if there were any comments from the audience. Stephanie Moyer was recognized. Ms. Moyer asked if additional thought had been given to the idea of creating “shade” canvases at any of the playgrounds. Ms. Hosterman informed her that this was still on the docket for 2024.

Chairman Krauss asked Ms. Hosterman for a quick summary of the upcoming Planning Commission Agenda. She noted that the agenda did not have any trail connections or open space to discuss at this time.

**The following reports were given for the various Township parks:**

**Alderfer Park** – Jan reported everything looks good. She also discussed the new entrance pavers as well as the new sign for the park entrance versus the new subdivision on Huckleberry. She said that it all looks great. She also asked if the Township had cleared the new path behind the new subdivision. She was told that the HOA must have cleared it, as the path and roads in this new establishment are not yet dedicated. The Township does not plow and/or clear our path system in the winter months.

**Bergey Park** – Andy had no report.

**Briarwyck Park** – Amy said that the park looked great.

**Bucher Park** – Mark reported that everything was fine, although everything had a blanket of snow on top!

**Dannerth Memorial Park** – Mark reported that everything looks great with the park. Also snow covered.

**Groff’s Mill Park –** Andy reported that everything looked fine. He did note that there were “donuts” in the gravel parking lot from what appeared to be a driver being purposely reckless in the snow. Ms. Hosterman noted that if anyone sees this type of disturbance in the future, report it to her, or to the police department in case there is unseen damage.

**Heckler Plains Farmstead** – Pete had no report.

**Kulp Road Pond Park** – Kent reported that everything is fine.

**Park Avenue Field –** Amy reported that both fields are snow-covered and that the 2 remaining portable lights had been removed.

**Reed Park –** Pete noted that everything looks good, and it was snow covered.

**Reiff Park** – Ryan reported that the greenhouses would be receiving their certificate of occupancy (CO) soon. Ms. Hosterman noted that this park was the next in line for surveillance camera installation.

**Roth Park** – Mark reported that everything looked good. Member Jan Johnson inquired about the sounds she heard on a recent visit that sounded like geese calling. Ms. Hosterman noted that this sound was a product meant to deter geese from “camping out” at the pond. The sound was a Canada Goose distress call and was meant to keep the geese away. Member Pete Harubin also noted that there is a rather large hornets nest hanging from a tree branch that extends over the pond.

**Trail Report** – Nothing new to report. Snow covered.

**Wawa Park** – Ryan reported that the park looks good. Several rain events caused the park to flood recently, but that is a common occurrence at this park, which is along the Perkiomen Creek.

**Kiosk Report** – Amy said that the kiosk on Yoder Road had been damaged. Ms. Hosterman will have this investigated.

Under New Business, Chairman Krauss noted that the Township had met with the sporting organizations representatives on January 16th. The meeting went very well, and the members of these organizations were very receptive to the new forms and providing schedules and rosters for their programs. Ms. Hosterman will be distributing all the required information as well as providing all with a spreadsheet for contacts for each organization. She will also be reaching out to Frank Ball of the Souderton Area School District for future involvement. Athletic Director Dennis Stanton was at this meeting; however, he noted that any requests for use of SASD fields need to go through Mr. Ball. Ms. Hosterman said there will be another meeting in July.

Ms. Hosterman noted that the upgrades to Briarwyck park that were scheduled for 2023 will now occur in 2024. The Grant Funds allotted to this project will be available until early 2025. She said Director of Public Works Doug Jones already has the upgrades on the list for 2024.

Amy Burch and Andy Lazzaro provided the group with a summary of the recent projects being discussed by the Sidewalks and Trails Committee. Amy noted that the second open house for Walkable Lederach was November 16, 2023. She said that there were not as many in attendance as were at the initial open house in June. However, there were still quite a few residents who are continuing to follow this potential project. Amy also noted that the Township received Grant Funds to install the sidewalk along Yoder Road from the Indian Valley Middle School up to Kulp Road. This will be a great connector that has been needed for quite some time.

There being no further business, Chairman Krauss entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. Pete Harubin motioned for approval and Mark Kelley seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting of the Park Board will be February 27, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Hosterman, Secretary