



MT. LEBANON
PENNSYLVANIA

**Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 5, 2019 - 6:30 p.m.
Municipal Building Room C**

I. Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum:

Mr. Block called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM, and proceeded with the roll call. The meeting was attended by Jonathan Farrell, Elaine Kramer, Ron Block, Richard Heyse, Pam Burrett, and Greg Newman.

The meeting was also attended by Commissioner Kelly Fraasch, the Director of Public Works, Rudy Sukal, and Facilities & Parks Coordinator, Phillip Avolio

Albert Presto was absent.

II. Citizen Comments:

No Citizen Comments to report.

III. Approval of January 2019, Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Block asked the group to please review the January 2019 meeting minutes.

The group noted several minor spelling and grammar corrections. No revisions were made in accordance with the content, messages of the text.

A motion was made by Ms. Kramer and seconded by Mr. Newman to approve the minutes as amended. The motion passed and the revised minutes were accepted.

IV. Initial Project Discussion

The group reviewed the project prioritization table, along with their notes from the previous year's park assessments.

Mr. Sukal noted that both the Twin Hills Phase II, and Phase I of North Meadowcroft ADA Improvements were approved and funded for 2019.

Mr. Farrell noted that the group may want to consider adding some type of plan or project to address the citizen comments that were received at the January Meeting.

Mr. Newman agreed that if there are feelings from residents on other municipalities having better facilities that it may make sense to hold a citizens workshop to gather more information on what the needs and wants are for the park.

Ms. Kramer noted that a Parks Master Plan might be a good exercise to capture all of these ideas. She also mentioned that this item was on the prioritization table. Ms. Kramer noted that it may be beneficial to collaborate with the Sports Authority Board to ensure a cooperative process.

Commissioner Fraasch noted that the park is not friendly at all for mobility or vision in regards to navigating the park.

Mr. Sukal noted that Gateway Engineers will be looking into streambank stabilization in Bird Park to not only correct for the health of the stream and park, but also to gain credit for the MS4 program. He noted that he will have more information in the future on this prioritization project.

Mr. Block inquired about the possibility of combining the Dog Park into the McNeilly Access project. He noted that it may make sense to have the cost ready for future options once the access is established.

Mr. Newman asked about the timing of the North Meadowcroft project that was funded.

Mr. Sukal replied that there is actually a pre-construction meeting with the contractor this coming Friday.

Ms. Kramer asked if all other phases of the North Meadowcroft are funded, or if the group should keep this on their list.

Mr. Sukal replied that he would find out for the next meeting if the remaining phases have been funded. He also noted that the Manager instructed him to relay the group's top 2-3 items to provide the Commission during their upcoming retreat. He noted that these do not need to be ranked in any order, but just to show the top 2 or 3 issues.

The group decided that the items below are a listing of their main priorities:
(not in ranked order)

- Main Park Refurbishment Plan
- Robb Hollow Grading & Amenities

A motion passed unanimously to identify Robb Hollow Improvements and Main Park Refurbishment Plan at the Parks Advisory Board's top priorities.

V. Parks Signage:

Ms. Kramer reviewed recent projects that Allegheny County Parks is currently working on to improve standardization across their different park systems. She shared different families of signs and their place in and around each park property. She reviewed Park Entrance Signs, Rules and Amenities Signs, Wayfinding Signs, Informational Kiosks, and possible Interpretive Signs as what the project may involve.

Mr. Heyse mentioned that USC had recently redone signage at some of their parks, and that it may be worth visiting.

Mr. Sukal replied that he would reach out to their Public Works Director to inquire about the entire process, and what type of general costs came along with them.

VI. New Business

Mr. Farrell noted that Habitat Solutions had informed him of the recent sale of the Church abutting Bird Park, and they may be able to have some early conversations with the developer on the buffer with the park, and the past issues they had with storm water and erosion through the park. He suggested working through Planner Ian McMeans to reach out to the builder to have conversations.

Ms. Kramer reviewed a design board with the group regarding possible natural play elements and amenities that could be considered for Robb Hollow. She reviewed potential designs for seating walls, fallen trees for play, rock piles for stacking, bench swings, and other features. She asked for the group's thoughts on the design boards.

Mr. Heyse noted the importance of keeping dog walkers away from any areas intended to be for child play. He noted that a simple triangular intersection leading dog walkers to the trailhead and not into the play area would be well received.

Ms. Kramer noted that it would be wise to review the walking path surface material to avoid a maintenance issue or accessibility problem.

Mr. Block also noted that we may want to review the possibility of a fire pit with the fire department, or any parties that may need to review its location. He also asked if a large shelter would create parking issues.

Mr. Farrell noted that the addition of a seating area on the display board would be a good idea.

Mr. Heyse also suggested a large area of flat stacking stones would be a neat feature.

VII. Old Business

No Old Business was reported.

VIII. Announcements:

No Announcements were made.

IX. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Block and seconded by Ms. Burrett to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.