

**WHITPAIN TOWNSHIP PARK AND OPEN SPACE BOARD
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

Members Present (attendance indicated by an "X"):

X	Carol Christ	X	Susan Mudambi
X	Charles Christine	X	Elizabeth Schoendorfer
X	Angela Dougherty		Marshall Bleefeld, Alternate Member
X	John Elliott	X	Sandy Feltes, Alternate Member
	Patrick Foley		Nancy Thillet, Alternate Member
X	Robert Irvine	X	Township Representatives: Kurt Baker, Courtney Meehan
X	Vince Marrocco		

Meeting called to order at 7:35pm.

I. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2019 MINUTES

After a review of the minutes from the February meeting, Mr. Christine moved to approve the minutes. His motion was seconded by Ms. Schoendorfer. The motion passed unanimously.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND PRIORITIES

Erbs Mill Park

Residents within a one-mile radius of Erbs Mill Park will be notified by mail prior to the next subcommittee meeting.

The consultant will update the plan with the additional input provided by residents and the plan will be posted on the Township website. The new plan is expected to be completed within the next month. Amenities include a pavilion, picnic tables, playground, walking trail, trash cans, and dog waste stations. Security features include lighting and cameras. The park will not have grills or a water source. Parking spaces and no parking signs may be added later, if deemed necessary by the neighbors. The next step of the project is to determine pricing and prioritizing amenities.

Sports Facilities

Two full size soccer fields, with lines for field hockey, will be installed at Centre Square Park. The contractor is currently conducting soil testing and borings for the light pole foundation. These tests are in preparation for the submittal of various permits to the Montgomery County Conservation District.

MidAtlantic Sports Construction and Acacia will be submitting proposals for design work, cost estimate, and construction work for retrofitting the soccer fields into baseball fields at Wentz Run Park. Construction may start as early as fall 2019.

Trails

The Community College is making progress on the campus loop trail that will connect the Wentz Run Park Trail with Crossways Trail. The neighbors on Crestline Drive are satisfied with the design plan for the trail that will connect the neighborhood to the Community College Trail and Crossways Trail.

Legal documents have been prepared and will soon be presented to the Township Solicitors office for the Reformation Church property easement. The Township will be meeting with the owner of the

property to review the terms of the easement agreement. Mr. Baker is going to request a map of Core Phase III from LandConcepts to be posted in the kiosk at the trail head.

The Township will install a small directional sign for Armentrout Preserve on the street sign of Beale Road.

Accessibility and Inclusion

The inclusive playground subcommittee will focus on finalizing themes for each of the playground pods during the March 21 meeting. Once the master site development plan is complete, the Township can begin cost analysis and prepare construction and bid documents.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

Update on Township Action to Fund Park and Open Space Related Initiatives

The Board of Supervisors authorized the Township Manager to work with the bonding agency and finance department to secure a seven-million-dollar loan without raising taxes. With the bond, funding will be allocated to the turf field project at Centre Square Park, the Wissahickon Park project, and the inclusive playground project at Centre Square Park.

Comprehensive Recreation, Park, Open Space and Trails Update – Subcommittee

Mr. Baker invited Ms. Mudambi to join the subcommittee for the Comprehensive Recreation, Park, Open Space, and Trails Update. Ms. Mudambi agreed to sit on the subcommittee.

The committee will evaluate and rate the four consulting firms who submitted proposals. The top two firms will be interviewed and will present to the committee. Mr. Baker would like to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to award a contract to the top consultant by May. The updated plan will be the guide for the next 15 years, showing the trends and needs of the Township.

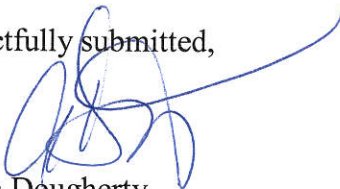
Earth Day – April 11, 2019 – Prophecy Creek Park

The Parks and Recreation Department is hosting the 24th Annual Earth Day Celebration on Thursday, April 11, at 9:15 am, at Prophecy Creek Park. Over 110 winners of the poem and art contest will be recognized during the ceremony. Park and Open Space Board members are invited to attend and assist with handing out medals.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m. in the Whitpain Township Building Meeting Room A.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela Dougherty
Secretary, Park and Open Space Board



Courtney Meehan
Program Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Department