

**SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP
PARKS and RECREATION**

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 28, 2021

PRESENT: Kevin Campbell, Dan Dupont, Michael McKenna, Dan Morrin Jr., Nancy Stock-Allen, Barbara Zietchick, Parks & Recreation Director Dudley Rice and Supervisor Liaison John Francis

ABSENT: Jim Trammell, Kim Wilson

I OPENING OF MEETING

Chair Dan Dupont called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM.

II ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRESENTATIONS / CORRESPONDENCE

None

III APPROVAL OF MINUTES

P&R MOTION 21-01: *On a motion by Dan Morrin Jr., second by Barbara Zietchick, the minutes of the December 17, 2020 regular meeting were unanimously approved.*

IV FINANCE REPORT

Board members reviewed the December P&R finance report. Barbara Zietchick asked about the source of the rental income on the report and the Director explained that this was from the lease on the building at the corner of Route 202 and Reeder Road which the Township recently purchased as part of the old "Flea Market" property.

V SUBDIVISIONS / LAND DEVELOPMENTS

None

VI REPORTS ON FACILITIES

Board members reviewed the facilities report. The Director reported that our dead ash trees were removed near the pull-up bar location and that the pickleball walkway was completed and benches installed.



The permit was issued for construction of the Girls softball field dugouts, and work has begun at the site, pending better weather for completion. All work is planned to be done in time for the spring season.

The plans for the improvement of the entrance to Aquetong Spring Park have been advertised for bid and construction is expected to begin in the spring, along with construction of the trail.

VII REPORTS ON PROGRAMS

Board members reviewed the program report. Soccer, Baseball, and Lacrosse have started spring registration in anticipation of being able to play following CDC and PA State guidelines. Basketball is still on "hold" due to COVID-19 and the lack of gym facilities. Mike McKenna noted that the school district is running both girls and boys basketball (school teams only) under strict protocols and with no spectators allowed.

VIII PUBLIC EVENTS

Board members reviewed the events, noting the winners of the P&R Snow Folk Art contest held in December. The Director confirmed that all events for Winter Festival 2021 have been cancelled due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, and that planning for 2022 would likely start later this year.

IX COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board members reviewed the committee reports. Dan Dupont spoke about the Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee, noting that P&R member Nance Stock-Allen was elected as the new chair, with Barry Fetterolf as the Vice-Chair. Meetings will now be held quarterly going forward, however, the next meeting is scheduled for February 22. The Committee is also looking to expand its membership in the future.

X OLD BUSINESS

PARK SITE VISITS

Dan Dupont proposed scheduling park visits beginning in March so that everyone can see what is actually out there. Dan will send out an email to members with some suggestions for dates that everyone can agree upon.

XI NEW BUSINESS

HUNTING IN TOWNSHIP PARKS

The Director reviewed for the members the information supplied by USDA and its representative, Nate Spence, along with the parks and open space areas owned by the Township where hunting is permitted. Barbara Zietchick and others expressed concern about the safety of residents as well as the hunters when both are using those parks. The Director noted that hunting in the parks is controlled by and under the direct supervision of Solebury Township. Members discussed various management and safety issues, and possible solutions related to hunting on Township owned properties. The Director was asked to obtain the numbers of deer killed in each park vs. the rest of the Township. Supervisor John Francis suggested that Nate Spence be asked to attend the February P&R Zoom meeting to give an overview and answer questions related to the deer management program, and the Board agreed. The Director will request Nate Spence to attend.

TOWNSHIP PRIORITY LIST

The priority list adopted by the Board of Supervisors for 2021 was provided as an information item. Dan Dupont suggested that P&R start a little earlier to consider items for the 2022 priority list.

XII PUBLIC COMMENT

SOFTBALL SCOREBOARD

Marcos Elizondo gave a power point presentation to the P&R Board asking for support for the construction and funding of a scoreboard for the girls softball field. Marcos estimated the cost would range between \$9,000 - \$11,000 for material and labor. Members asked about

alternate methods of keeping score, like phone apps instead of having a full-size electronic scoreboard. Scoreboard location, funding and budget considerations were also discussed. Marcos pointed out that the scoreboard would become a permanent part of the facility at Laurel Park and not something that the Baseball / Softball league would take with them if they merged with another organization. Marcos thanked the members for their time and consideration. John Francis suggested that a motion be accompanied by a list of benefits.

P&R MOTION 21-02: *On a motion by Kevin Campbell, second by Dan Morrin Jr., the Board of Parks & Recreation recommends that the Solebury Township Supervisors support and approve a scoreboard for the softball field at Laurel Park, with funding to be determined at a later date. Nancy Stock-Allen abstained, desiring more information from the Baseball & Softball organization.*

ROUTE 202 PROPERTY

Dan Dupont asked the Board to look at the request from the Supervisors that asks each committee to provide their view of the best purpose for the property. Comments are requested to be received from each committee by April 30, 2021. The Board agreed to place this item on the February 25, 2021 meeting agenda. Dan Dupont encouraged everyone to visit the site and look at it prior to the meeting.

Dan Morrin Jr. commented that *“this was probably one of the most productive meetings we’ve had in a long time.”*

XII ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dudley Rice

Dudley Rice, CPRP, CPSI
Director of Parks & Recreation