



## Minutes: Parks & Recreation Committee – February 6, 2017

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The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Parks and Recreation Committee was held on February 6, 2017 and began at 6:31pm at the Schoonover Municipal Building with Jenna Componovo presiding.

**In attendance were:** Committee Members: Jenna Componovo, Michelle Dellavalle, Danielle Cloward. Board of Supervisors: Mike Dwyer. Members of the Public: Pat Zeman, Paul Cimei. MST Liaison: Christopher Rain.

Jenna Componovo was reappointed Chair by the Board of Supervisors. Jaime Frailey was reappointed for another 5 year term. Jenna Componovo nominated Michelle Dellavalle to serve as Vice Chair and Danielle Cloward seconded. Motion approved 3-0. Michelle nominated Danielle Cloward to serve as Secretary and Jenna Componovo seconded. Motion approved 3-0.

Jenna Componovo made a motion to accept the minutes from the December meeting. Danielle Cloward seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**Correspondence:** None.

Jenna Componovo opened the floor to public comment. There was none.

The Committee was provided with a print out of the Parks section of the Township's Preview of 2017 (Att. #2), presented to the public on 1/26/2017. The full presentation is available on the Township's website.

**Park Signage:** Chris Rain provided a draft of the new park signage and an example of a potential format from Hopewell Manufacturing (Att. #3). The plan is for large, graphic signage that focuses on general park information that will not change. The Committee also suggested that the new signage should in the most conspicuous location possible. Jenna Componovo suggested posting the rules on trees in multiple places around the parks, rather than just at the entrance.

**Porta Potties:** The Township has changed porta potty providers from All State Septic to Gotta Go Potties. The cost is \$700/month, versus \$1090 from All State. Echo Lake Park will also now have two potties, rather than one, to accommodate the increased visitation. The potties will be delivered the first week of March.

**Events:** Each member of the Committee was assigned to be Event Leader for one of the five parks and litter events. Jenna will lead Eggstravaganza, Dan will lead Spring 1000 Feet of Street, Michelle will lead Fall 1000 Feet of Street, Jaime will lead Trunk or Treat, and Danielle will lead Tree Lighting.

Each of the Committee members presented their ideas to improve the 2017 parks and litter events. After discussing relocating Eggstravaganza and Trunk or Treat to Whispering Pines, the Committee decided to remain at Resica Park, and use the gymnasium as plan B in the event of poor weather.

The Committee decided to repeat the format from last year's Eggstravaganza, with four new activities, and no traditional hunt. The layout will also remain the same, beginning at the parking lot and ending at the new playground. It will also be specified that candy will be available as long as supplies last. 2000 eggs will be ordered this year instead of 3000, which was too many. The Golden Egg prizes will be done again this year.

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The Township will no longer provide lunch to 1000 Feet volunteers, due to lack of interest. Instead, the Township will provide snack bags to each volunteer that they can take with them during the day.

Other potential events were discussed, including an Earth Day or Community Day. However the Committee preferred to focus on the events that are currently scheduled so as not to overload the schedule, and revisit the idea of a Community for possibly the summer of 2018 or 2019.

**Community Gardens:** Pat Zeman provided the Committee with the Master Gardeners' list of classes for 2017. The list is subject to change. She also said she was seeing if there was interest in the community to form a 4H club at the Gardens. Pat Zeman also provided a copy of the plans for their 10'x10' plot.

The Master Gardeners hope to develop a color coded flag system to identify plots whose owners give permission to harvest their produce for donation to Bushkill Outreach without them being present so that produce does not go to waste. The Committee also wants allow volunteers to harvest from a plot that is being neglected by its gardener, by contacting them in advance and allowing for a few days for a response before harvesting.

In the spring, possibly around April 1, the Committee will get volunteers together with Annette Atkinson to paint the gardening tools and do other spring chores around the gardens.

Paul Cimei made recommended turning the small shed into a bee house for the apiary, and reinforcing it to protect it against bear attacks. Chris Rain will connect Paul with Bruce Tarhovicky to develop a plan. Paul will purchase 2 packages of bees for \$99 each, which will be delivered in March. Paul will keep the bees at his home until the new bee house is ready. Paul also hopes to coordinate regular beekeeping demonstrations to coincide with the Master Gardeners' gardening class schedule.

Danielle Cloward raised a concern about the maximum number of plots allowed at the gardens, since some gardeners had acquired more than 3, and gardeners are allowed to have more after the initial sign up period in the spring, if there are any available. The Committee clarified that the maximum is 3 at initial sign up to allow for the maximum number of interested gardeners to join. Gardeners may request additional plots after the initial sign up period is over, ending in June each year, if there are any available, but that no gardener may ever have more than 4 plots. Gardeners who have 4 plots will be ineligible to take over any more plots at any time, even if there are plots available. The Committee also clarified that the maximum number of plots is applied per household, rather than per individual person.

**Dog Park:** The Ice Rink has been popular, but was closed from January 19 to February 3 because the ice melted. It has since refrozen and has now reopened.

**Echo Lake:** The new swings were installed in December.

**Judy Putek:** No report.

**Resica:** Chris Rain provided the Committee with 4 estimates from 3 companies (Att. #5) to install fencing around the back field, all of which are between \$13,995 and \$14,750.

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**Litter and Beautification:** Middle Smithfield has reapplied for the multimodal grant to fund the side path project on Rt. 209. The project received some press. Mike Dwyer recently met with PA Governor Tom Wolf, and expressed his hope that our project will be considered.

**EMC Regional Parks:** The Regional Parks Committee does not meet until March 20, 2017.

**Announcements:** None.

**Individual Action Items:**

- **Chris:**
  - Schedule the porta potties for delivery for the beginning of March.
  - Arrange meeting between Paul Cimei and Bruce Tarhovicky to develop plan for the bee house.
  - Provide the committee with a link to the full Preview 2017 presentation.
- **Committee:** Come up with ideas for Eggstravaganza activities, send them to Eggstravaganza event leader Jenna.

The next Parks and Recreation meeting will be held on Monday March 6, 2017 at 6:30pm. Jenna made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57pm. Danielle seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Christopher Rain  
Parks and Recreation Liaison