

**EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
January 27, 2016 Minutes**

East Bradford Township Parks and Recreation Board met on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 7:00 pm, in the East Bradford Township Building, 666 Copeland School Road, West Chester, Chester County, Pa., 19380.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Marianne Bausinger, Chair
Joe Hamel

Tony Blanco
John Spangler

Michael Colley
Ash Swayne

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT - John Fidler

STAFF/PROFESSIONALS PRESENT

Michael Lynch, Township Manager
Tenley Adams, Property & Recreation Assistant
John Carroll, Director of Public Works
John Snook, Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jamie Bell and Jason Kupski – Pump Track request

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of Parks and Recreation Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Marianne Bausinger, Chairperson.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

2016 ORGANIZATION

The Parks & Recreation Board re-organized for 2016 with the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman.

On motion of Mr. Spangler and seconded by Mr. Colley, with all in favor, the Parks & Recreation Board appointed Marianne Bausinger Chairperson for 2016.

On motion of Mr. Colley and seconded by Mr. Hamel, with all in favor, the Parks & Recreation Board appointed John Fidler Vice-Chairman for 2016.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the November 18, 2015 minutes was motioned by Mr. Blanco and seconded by Mr. Colley, with all in favor.

PUMP TRACK – Mr. Spangler updated the P & R Board on the pump track proposal which was discussed by the Board of Supervisors at its December 3, 2015 work session. The Board of Supervisors was receptive to the idea and would consider a pump track at the Skelp Level Park land as long as it didn't infringe on future use of the park. No township funding is available and the interested group would have to fully fund the proposal. Some grant funding might be available and should be considered and, depending on the type of grant, the township may have to be the applicant. Mr. Kupski said that they are considering creating a non-profit for fundraising and would like to create a name that would be used for the park. They are also looking at trying to get other municipalities involved (Downingtown Boro, East Caln, West Whiteland) and possibly the school districts (Downingtown and West Chester). Mr. Kupski said that the cost to construct would be in the \$80,000 - \$100,000 range which would include gravel parking and fencing. Mr. Snook stated that a long term commitment would need to be provided by the group and that a signed agreement would need to be created. The P & R Board will consider names for the project and Mr. Spangler and Mr. Blanco will be the contacts from the Board for discussion between P & R meetings. Mr. Snook suggested that a survey could be placed on the website and Facebook to see if the residents have interest in the proposal.

2016 BUDGET – Mr. Lynch was in attendance to discuss the 2016 budget and future projects. He discussed the different budgets and how they are used and the tax increase that was approved as part of the 2016 budget. The monies generated from the tax increase will be used to replenish the Capital Reserve Budget which is used to fund major projects including parks and trails projects. Over the next few years it is hoped that money from the tax increase will help fund improvements and replace existing park facilities. The question was raised about the status of the dog park and Mr. Lynch stated that several items have held this project up including the lease agreement with PECO to install the parking facilities for the dog park. He urged the P & R Board to continue to pursue the dog park and the funding for it.

Mr. Lynch also requested that the P & R Board consider creating a plan to bring people to the parks, with different types of events to engage the residents. He suggested that the plan be finalized by September so that it can be included in the 2017 budget discussions with the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Blanco said that he is going to offer Pickleball clinics this spring to show residents how the game is played now that two pickleball courts have been installed at East Bradford Park.

POLLINATOR GARDEN - Ms. Bausinger discussed an idea for a Pennsylvania State Certified Pollinator Garden at one of the parks which would be a low cost improvement and educational experience for those who would visit the area where it would be installed. She said that pollinator gardens are installed in areas close to a water source for bees, butterflies, moths and birds to visit and feed on the native plants that are in the area selected. Signage would be installed to tell about how the garden works. Residents would be made aware of the need for adding pollinating plants to their own properties. On motion of Mr. Hamel and second by Mr. Spangler it was agreed that creation of a pollinator garden should be pursued.

UPDATES: Ms. Bausinger updated the P&R Board on the following:

Chapel Trail – The township is moving forward with the installation of the bridge with the funding for the bridge yet to be decided. Mr. Schaum, CEO of Paradise Farm Camps will be discussing this with his Board and is hoping that they will be assisting in the funding. A PECO Growing Greener Grant has been applied for with hopes that the township will be awarded a grant. Drainage issues will be reviewed by the Township Engineer, Mark Lucas.

West End Swim Club – nothing more has been received by the township on the proposed project.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) – The Township EAC is requesting assistance with surveying township lands as to the locations and number of Emerald Ash that are in the township. The Emerald Ash Borer has been located in counties surrounding Chester County and once the survey has been completed it can be decided if a plan to treat or remove certain trees will be created. All the P & R Board members are willing to assist in the survey.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Colley asked why the new parks regulations were different than what the P & R Board had recommended for approval. Mr. Lynch suggested that Ms. Cantlin attend the next P & R Board meeting to discuss this with the members.

ADJOURN:

On motion of Mr. Colley and second by Mr. Swayne the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

NOTICE: THE NEXT MEETING FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, February 24, 2016 AT 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Tenley F. Adams
Acting Secretary**