



Susquehanna Township
Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes –June 13, 2018

Call to Order

Chair Tony Wright called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Roll call was read.

Roll Call

Committee Members	Ward	Attend.	Township Personnel Present	Attend.
Christine Broadfield	1	Present	Commissioner Jody Rebarchak	Excused
James Wiley, Vice-Chair	2	Excused	Commissioner Mona Johnson	Excused
Arlene Prentice	3	Present	Director Robert Reichard	Present
Daneisha Dunbar-Yancey	3	Excused	STPR Admin Assistant Ilene Swartz	Present
Christopher Krawczuk	4	Present	Additional Attendees	
Gregory Peters	5	Excused	Kate Krawczuk – STHS Alumnus	
Amy Sturges	6	Present		
Barry Buskey	7	Present		
Tony Wright, Chair	8	Present		
Craig Johnson	9	Present		
Vacant	At Large	n/a		

Approval of Minutes

Amy Sturges noted changes to the minutes. A motion to approve the meeting minutes from June, as amended, was made by **Amy Sturges** and seconded by **Christine Broadfield**. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Special Interest – Public Comment

None

Commissioners Reports

No Report

Committee Reports

By-Laws Committee – Amy Sturges posed a question regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from the Susquehanna Township High School Alumni Association regarding Veterans Park Memorial Gardens, asking if this was a new agreement. **Director Reichard** explained that this is not a new agreement, but that the Township has been somewhat lax in formalizing these agreements in the form of MOUs. Going forward, it may be necessary to clarify the agreements, so it is being put into writing and formalized. There was a discussion regarding the wording. **Amy Sturges** wished to clarify the phrasing of “including the memorial gardens”. **Barry Buskey** requested that Director Reichard revise the MOU and send a copy to committee members.

Recreation Land/Parks Committee – Amy Sturges stated that the subcommittee did not meet this month, but that there will be a meeting before the next RAC meeting. **Chair Tony Wright** said they have been provided with a list of things to look at by **Director Reichard** for consideration at the next subcommittee meeting. **Craig Johnson** pointed out that the list goes hand in hand with a tour of the parks. It was agreed that the subcommittee should take the tour and discussion ensued regarding days and times that would work best. **Amy Sturges** or **Craig Johnson** will coordinate and let the rest of the subcommittee know.

Special Events Committee –

Subcommittee is planning the Grand Opening event for the new playground at Veterans Memorial Park. There was a discussion about when it should be held. **Director Reichard** said the project is not finished yet, so September would probably be best to hold it. **Chair Tony Wright** requested that it be in the first 2 weeks of September. Discussion concluded that it should be held in the evening, invitations should be given to local dignitaries, and there should be a ribbon cutting. **Chris Krawczuk** suggested a subcommittee meeting be scheduled before the next RAC meeting to go over the details, and then present the situation to the whole committee.

Christine Broadfield inquired as to the results of the May Fair. **Chris Krawczuk** said it went really well. There was good attendance and turnout. Some was due to the beautiful weather. **Director Reichard** said that parents did pick up the Summer Recreation Flyer that was also distributed in the schools.

Recreation Director’s Report

Veterans Memorial Park Project

Director Reichard reported that the project is “chugging along.” The playground equipment is installed and the safety surface has been laid. A few hiccups that are still being addressed include the water line being hooked up from Elmerton Avenue, the bathrooms not yet being open, and the parking lot not yet being laid. The parking lot should be done within a week of the meeting. The project is still a bit behind schedule, but projected to be done by the end of July. **Director Reichard** said “if we get a nice stretch of weather, a lot can get done.”

Boyd Park Project

A meeting with HRG is scheduled for June 21, 2018 to look at the site plan to get started. Plans as of now include a trail around the pond, off-road parking (about a dozen spaces) and the possibility of a pavilion (dependent upon the cost). The work is primarily to be done by the Public Works Department.

Summer Programs

The Playground and Day Camp programs are set to begin on Monday, June 18, 2018. The programs are fully staffed. Currently there are about 60 enrollments, with more expected. The Playgrounds Program will be held at Veterans Memorial Park, Crown Point Park, Edgemont Community Park, and Donald B Stabler Memorial Park. As it was last year, the Day Camp Program is being held at the Thomas Holtzman Elementary School.

Old Business

Harrisburg Islanders Professional Soccer Team

Keith Brown, the President of the Susquehanna Township Soccer Club, has had inquiries from the new owners of the Harrisburg Islanders professional soccer team regarding use of the township soccer complex for practices. No further contact has been made at this point.

Basketball Courts at Edgemont

Chris Franklin has been back in touch with **Director Reichard**. The plan is to repave 2 basketball courts, install new basketball hoops with poles, and add new fencing for the lower court. Details, including when, should be known soon.

New Business

Director Reichard is suggesting creating an MOU with the Township Athletic Associations. The associations help out on some of the fields due to staffing issues (such as lining their own fields, etc). Also, it could help clarify responsibility in cases like shingles blowing off the roof of a dugout. In a park setting with multiple users, that would be responsibility of the Township. However, if there is only one user, that situation is different. **Director Reichard** suggested the matter be considered by the Parks Subcommittee. **Amy Sturges** asked if MOUs then had to go to the Board of Commissioners. **Director Reichard** confirmed that they did most of the time.

Chair Tony Wright will add "review of contracts/agreements" to the list of responsibilities for the By-Laws and Nominations Subcommittee. Once the MOUs are reviewed in the subcommittee, they will be brought to the whole committee for review.

Member Concerns/Announcements

Chris Krawczuk made a motion for there to be no meeting in July. Christine Broadfield seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

If you have not already done so, please fill out a Member Contact Card and return it to Ilene Swartz in the Recreation Office so she can update the committee member contact list. If you need a Member Contact Card, please email her at iswartz@susquehannatwp.com.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by **Chris Krawczuk** and seconded by **Craig Johnson**. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

The next RAC Meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2018 at 6 pm.