



Susquehanna Township
Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – September 27, 2017

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	Present	Commissioner Mona Johnson	Excused
Arlene Prentice	3	Excused	Director Robert Reichard	Present
Daneisha Dunbar-Yancey	3	Absent		
Christopher Krawczuk	4	Present	Additional Attendees	
Vacant	5		Dan Fuller, Susquehanna Township Rotary Club	
Amy Sturges	6	Present		
Barry Buskey	7	Absent		
Tony Wright, Chair	8	Present		
Craig Johnson	9	Present		
Wanda Pierce	9	Excused		
Sandy Nevius	At Large	Present		

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the meeting minutes from June was made by **Chris Krawczuk** and seconded by **Amy Sturgis**. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Special Interest – Public Comment

Mr. Dan Fuller, Susquehanna Township Rotary Club

Mr. Fuller spoke to the committee regarding the Rotary Club. He said one of the main purposes of the Rotary Club is to support the Students of Susquehanna Township. Mr. Fuller invited interest in joining the Rotary Club. The club meets every Thursday morning at Giant.

Mr. Fuller also distributed flyers and spoke about Community Aid. Community Aid offers some grant opportunities. They place collection bins throughout this area and are currently looking for sites at Susquehanna Township School District facilities.

Mr. Fuller requested that the Committee consider McNaughton Park, where the bin could be easily seen and approached, as a bin site location due to the limitations of places on Thomas Holtzman School. A discussion of this request by the Committee with Mr. Fuller yielded a possible site on McNaughton Park property. **Director Reichard** said a site to consider would be by the entrance to the parking lot at McNaughton Park just off of Weatherford Way.

A motion was made by **Sandy Nevius** to allow placement of a bin on McNaughton Park property. The motion was seconded by **Amy Sturgis** and was approved unanimously.

Reports of Committees

Committee members were asked by
Chairman Wright to consider new committees
– no new reports.

Commissioners Reports

- A. **Commissioner Mona Johnson** No report was given.
- B. **Commissioner Jody Rebarchak** No report was given.

Recreation Director's Report

A. Veterans Memorial Park Renovations & Playground Project

The project is now out for bid. The estimated cost will be about \$600,000. Included in the cost is the Township's effort to "go green" as much as possible. Bids should be received by November 9, 2017. The project will be awarded to the winning bid on December 15, 2017.

B. Logan Farm Park Project

Public Works Department has agreed to provide assistance in defining the entrance to the park and make improvements on the adjacent retention pond. This will mostly likely happen in 2018, with completion of the loop trail. Opening Ceremony will be in 2018.

C. Summary of Summer Programs

Director Robert Reichard distributed the annual Summer Programs report.

Some highlights of the report included the following:

Of the 31 staff working this year, 18 were new hires. 25 staff members were newly vetted with PA State Police, FBI, and PA Child Abuse clearances.

Summer Recreation worked again with the Harrisburg Summer Feeding Program to provide breakfast and lunch at Day Camp and lunch on the Playgrounds.

The oldest age accepted at Playgrounds Program was lowered to 13 or having completed 7th grade. Playground numbers were slightly down from last year, but there were much fewer discipline issues than in 2016.

Day Camp numbers were up from 2016 this year. There were 131 registered campers over the seven weeks of camp, with an almost even distribution in all four age groups (5-6, 7-8, 9-10, and 11-13). The average attendance per day was 80 campers, making for a very full camp and field trip groups. The average number of weeks attended by each camper was 4 weeks.

D. Proposed Trail to Connect Veterans Park with Edgemont Park via the Greenbelt Spur

Due to safety concerns, the possibility of creating a trail connecting Edgemont Community Park with Veterans Memorial Park via the existing Greenbelt spur is being considered.

Director Reichard said he will speak with Mr. Joshua Weidler of WBCM Architecture, Engineering, Construction Company. Mr. Weidler proposed the trail and reached out to Covenant Christian Academy, since it would also involve school land. This trail may provide safer access from Edgemont Community Park to Veterans Park and the Greenbelt.

E. Development and Future Recreation

Director Reichard said that the Township is just about developed out with little land left for community/residential development. This development is what drives our funding for park projects via the Recreation Developers Fund and accepting land or fee in lieu of land. With a lack of substantial future residential development comes the issue of where we generate funds for future recreation projects. A recommendation was made by **Director Reichard** to add this subject as a recurring agenda topic going forward.

Old Business/Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Recreation Advisory Committee Member Concerns/Announcements

Christine Broadfield commented that she liked Bike Day and hoped to see that scheduled again in 2018.

Chairman Tony Wright made a motion that the November meeting be moved to November 15, 2017. The motion was seconded by Christine Broadfield.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by **Sandy Nevius** and seconded by **Craig Johnson**. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

The next RAC Meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2017 at 6:00 pm.