

Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – July 1, 2019

Chairperson Brian Sulewski called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Notice Statement – The Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied by notification to the Hunterdon County Democrat and Trenton Times and by posting with the Township Clerk and on the Delaware Township bulletin board on January 10, 2019.

Flag Salute – Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Judy Allen, Julie Luster-Roell, Steve Smotrich, Tim Soltis, Brian Sulewski, Linda Ubry

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of June 10, 2019 – Members agreed to postpone approval of the minutes from the meeting of June 10, 2019.

EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATE VINCENT COLALILLO – PROPOSED EXERCISE STATIONS AT DILTS FARM PARK

Vincent Colalillo with Troop 65 presented his proposed Eagle Scout project at the Dilts Park. The exercise stations erected at the Park years ago deteriorated to the point where they were recently removed. He proposed three stations and a map posted on the Park Kiosk showing their locations along the walking trail. He also proposed trail markers and distance markers along the trail. Vincent showed members three sample stations – a pull-up station, a core station, and a push up/rowing station. Members noted that the Township will hopefully be making trail repairs this season, so it was suggested that he mark out the proposed locations. Vincent said he will solicit donations for the materials. He will use pressure treated lumber and steel pipes coated so they do not rust. He will apply mulch around the stations. Tim asked whether he might also look into a QR app for the Park, and Vincent said he would. Vincent hopes to complete the project this summer. Julie moved to approve the project from the Recreation Commission's perspective and to recommend it to the Township Committee for final approval. Tim seconded the motion, and members present unanimously approved the motion. Judy will contact the Township Clerk to request that this matter be scheduled at the next Township Committee meeting.

PROPOSED BOCCE COURT

Members discussed a proposal from Eagle Scout Candidate Ethan Gillispie to construct a bocce court at the Dilts Park. The proposed location near the bathrooms is logistically difficult because of slopes and probable septic system location. A new spot near the Field of Dreams now appears to be a better location. There would be room for a horseshoe court as well and possible future expansion of the Park in that direction. There would be a walk to the bathrooms, but the Township could place a port-a-potty on that side of the Park. Members discussed whether the court should be the regulation 90 foot length or the shorter length previously discussed because of site limitations. Judy asked whether a board could be slid in place on the longer court to shorten it if desired. Brian will talk with Eagle Scout Ethan Gillespie about this new location and ask his recommendation for length.

PROPOSED PICNIC TABLE AT DILTS PARK PLAYGROUND

There is no update on a proposal from Girl Scout Troop 80357 to build a picnic table near the playground at the Dilts Park.

GREAT CRATE RACE

Steve said the plans for this year's Great Crate Race are in good shape. Julie noted that Lower Ferry Road aka Delaware Downs is in poor shape. Steve said he was assured that a road sealer will be applied before Race Day on July 4th. Steve said that John Bradshaw with Bradshaw Trophies donated the trophies. There is no program book this year, but there are two six foot long banners with sponsors' names to be hung. He hoped one could be hung in the Township Building. There are yard signs for the Gold Sponsors. Steve said there are several new sponsors this year, and he thanked Tim for finding five new Gold Sponsors. Financially the Race is in good shape. Janet Hrehowesik volunteered to paint faces using materials the Race Committee purchased. Bob Lloyd will be stilt walking and making balloon animals. The Committee will present Jean and Matt Vecchioni with a gift certificate to thank them for allowing use of their property along the Finish Line. Shop Rite of Flemington again generously donated the food.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

Brian said the Summer Recreation Program is set to go. There were a few issues with payments of deposits for events. Members hoped the employees will be timely paid.

MINI GOLF

Final details will be made for Delaware Township at Pine Creek Mini-Golf with the dates to be announced.

FISHING DERBY

Tim reported that the Copeland Family has agreed to host a Fishing Derby this year. The cost to stock the pond will be \$1,200. He said Jes Stahl is helping to coordinate this event. Brian said the Commission needs a firm date to arrange for insurance and a port-a-potty. Members discussed prizes and categories of prizes deciding on first fish, most fish, biggest fish, last fish, and "best of show". Prize donations will be solicited. Tim will talk to Skip Opdyke of Skip's Outdoors in Stockton for possible help. Julie said she knows of two residents who would offer to help direct parking. Registration with a waiver form from participants will begin at 7 a.m. with hooks cast in the water at 8 a.m. Members agreed Saturday September 28 with a rain date of Sunday September 29 would be a good date if the Copelands agree.

REPORTS:

Teens – Julie suggested a proposed DTS Middle School basketball tournament on November 16 before winter sports start and on the weekend between Teachers' Convention and Thanksgiving.

DTS BOE – Linda said the school year ended. The promotion ceremony was very nice. 45 students graduated, and there were many awards. The Board is pursuing a full time Class III police officer for the school and met with Township officials about who would pay for the officer and how. There are summer repair projects scheduled. Summer Recreation begins soon.

DTAA

Adult men are playing soccer at the Dilts Park.

OPEN SPACE

Steve reported that Open Space Coordinator Katherine Fullerton is researching a grant application to use open space funds to facilitate maintenance of the Township's open space. The Township's Open Space and Recreation Element in the Master Plan was last updated in 2014 and must be updated again this fall. He asked that the Commission discuss the Recreation Element at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF DILTS FARM PARK APPLICATIONS – There were no applications for the Commission to review and approve.

COMMITTEES:

Community Block Party – October 5, 2019 in Sergeantsville. Tim said the band has been reserved. There will be face painting. Julie will send the Township Committee a letter requesting permission for BYO beverages.

Welcome to Fall Fireworks – After discussion members agreed the Township will host Welcome to Fall Fireworks this year at the Dilts Park on Saturday, September 7 with a raindate of September 14. Ice cream, soda and candy will be sold at the Snack Shack. Face painting will be offered. Members agreed to pay Janet Hrehowesik for face painting for this event and for the Community Block Party because she donates her services for the Great Crate Race. There will be no live music this year – last year's band is playing at the Community Block Party. The proposed budget is \$6,000. Julie will send the Township Committee a letter requesting permission for picnicking and BYO beverages.

Holiday Decorating Contest – December 16, 2019 – Final Judging (December 15 if weather conditions on December 16 warrant.)

OLD BUSINESS

Dilts Farm Park – Hand dryers and soap dispensers were to be installed at the bathrooms. The new scoreboard at the Field of Dreams will not be ready for use until Spring 2020. Julie suggested holding the scoreboard dedication in memory of Jerry Hudzik at the Welcome to Fall Fireworks event, and members agreed this would be a good opportunity for this tribute.

Media - Julie said the Recreation Commission Facebook page is up and running.

Adult and Teen Indoor Recreation at DTS – Members discussed indoor adult men's basketball, adult co-ed volleyball, adult indoor soccer and teen co-ed volleyball and basketball. Some adults bring their older children to play on these nights. Members agreed that a teenager 13 years or older can accompany his or her parent or guardian. They agreed that participants will be asked to sign a waiver this year. Brian will get the waiver form. The contact for volleyball is Larry Coffey, and for soccer it is Julie. A contact is needed for basketball. Judy will submit the request to Delaware Township School.

Recreation Element to Master Plan - At the next meeting members will discuss the Recreation Element of the Master Plan.

Julie moved to approve the Welcome to Fall Fireworks event on September 7 with a rain date of September 14 at the Dilts Farm Park beginning at 5 p.m. with picnicking and a designated BYO area. Fireworks will be budgeted at an estimated \$6,000. Tim seconded the motion, and members unanimously approved the motion.

Julie moved to approve the Fishing Derby on September 28 with a rain date of September 29 at the Copeland Farm with registration at 7 a.m. and poles in the water at 8 a.m. The cost is estimated at \$1,200 for fish stocking and port-a-potty with an overall cost up to \$1,500. Tim seconded the motion, and members unanimously approved the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Next Meeting – Monday, September 9, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.