

Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – May 2, 2022

Chairperson Brian Sulewski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Notice Statement – The Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied by notification to the Hunterdon County Democrat and by posting with the Township Clerk and on the Delaware Township bulletin board on March 24, 2022.

Flag Salute – Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Judy Allen, Rebecca Burns, Charles Herman, Heather Opdyke, Tim Soltis, Brian Sulewski, Linda Ubry
Absent: Joe Benincasa, Erin Buchanan, Tyler Kadezabek, Steve Smotrich, Jes Stahl

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of April 4, 2022 – After amendments from Jes and Charlie, Charlie moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of April 4, 2022, Linda seconded the motion, and members present approved the minutes with Judy voting no.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM July 5 to July 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Heather said the DTS Board approved the Summer Recreation Program at the School. It will be preceded by the Summer Academy from 8 to 10 a.m. Covid relief money will pay for the Academy this year. Charlie said CFO Diane McDaniel is working with Program Director Maegan Harrington on staffers' salaries. Maegan said the staff is ready. The registration form will go out in two weeks.

REPORTS

Teen Report

Tyler has planned a hiking event on May 29th at 9 a.m. at the White Oak Trail with refreshments. He would like to hold an outdoor movie night. Members discussed the high cost to rent streaming rights for movies. Brian will let Tyler know.

DTS Board of Education

Heather said the Board will continue work on its Strategic Plan. Earth Day was a big success. The School is working on a composting plan.

DTAA

Brian said DTAA Opening Day was successful, though attendance was a bit lower due to spring break at the School. Closing Day will be June 18. He said the women's bathroom at the Dilts Park broke that day. Members agreed a sign is needed at the restrooms to call the police in the event a bathroom is broken so the door can be locked.

Green Team

Earth Day was a success. .

Open Space

There was nothing new to report.

RECREATION GRANT UPDATE

Charlie said the Township Engineer was verbally notified of a \$40,000 grant award. This week the Finance Committee will discuss how to spend the money pooling grant, county and the open space referendum allocation funds. When it is done, the Finance Committee will present the information to the Park Planner. He said the quote to completely replace the tennis courts was over \$200,000. The courts will probably be resurfaced instead. They will be for tennis use only, not lined for pickle ball.

PARK PLANNER – UPDATE

Charlie said the Township Committee did not engage the park planner it had considered. It will interview for a planner.

Brian said the regraded parking lot at the Park look good. He hoped the tennis courts could be repaired by year end. Members agreed the Park looks great. Charlies said once the Finance Committee has completed its review, various Park work will be considered.

Per Jes, East Amwell Township will not give Delaware Township its bleachers, although it would consider a shared services agreement of some kind.

APPROVAL OF DILTS FARM PARK APPLICATIONS – No applications were received this month. Members discussed use of the Park pavilion. Reservations are required to reserve it for a particular day/time. A better sign at the pavilion would so notify potential users. Otherwise, the pavilion is available for general use. If there is an issue with trash, more cans may be needed. Linda said she frequently cleans up debris at the Park. Members agreed all Park users should dispose of trash in receptacles. Brian asked about lights at the pavilion. Members discussed the implications of lighting the pavilion including use after Park closing hours and the resulting need to provide lighting in the parking lot. Brian said lights at the Park would expand its use and availability.

JUNE NEWSLETTER

Members discussed and approved a draft article for the June newsletter.

COMMITTEES:

Egg Hunt – The Egg Hunt was successful. Erin and Tim and others were very helpful in making this event a success.

Yard Sale – May 21st (Rain Date May 22nd) 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Judy said the Yard Sale is on track.

Plant Swap – May 22nd 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Dilts Park. Jes said the Plant Swap is on track.

Fishing Derby – June 25th (Rain Date June 26th) at the Copelands' Pond. Registration at 8 a.m. Poles in at 9 a.m. Tim said there are no fish in the pond thanks to Hurricane Ida. The price to stock the pond has increased to \$1,500. There will be prizes. Shop Rite of Flemington has generously agreed to provide food.

Great Crate Race – July 4th - Steve and Kathleen Herman continue to organize this event. Hay bales will be set up that morning.

Somerset Patriots Baseball Trip – June 11th – Joe set up an event for the Township at the Somerset Patriots ball field in Bridgewater. The \$33 ticket price includes admission and the bar-b-cue. The link to purchase tickets in advance will be added to the website. Tim will check whether the DTS Chorus would like to perform before the game starts. Members agreed to pay for the Choral Director and guest and an assistant, if needed.

Kite Day – August 20th 11 a.m. at the Dilts Park – Jes is working on a Kite Day.

Meteor Shower Watch Party – November 18th 5 to 10 p.m. at the Dilts Park – Jes is working on a Meteor Watch Party.

OLD BUSINESS –

Adults Recreation at DTS – Indoor adult basketball and volleyball continue. Adult activities begin at 7:30 p.m.

Teen Recreation at DTS – This activity remains suspended until parents volunteer to oversee it.

Dilts Park – The path to the new bridge on the walking trail needs repairs.

NEW BUSINESS

Rebecca suggested a ski club or skip trip next winter. Members agreed it is a good idea. She will look into this.

Rebecca also suggested a 3 on 3 adult coed basketball league this summer at the Dilts Park. Members thought a designated night could be promoted for basketball play. There could also be a volleyball night.

Rebecca also suggested a family mini-golf activity. Members supported this idea.

Tim wanted to plan for a property naming contest for the properties owned by the Township. Charlie will check whether the Historic Advisory Committee would be involved.

Judy asked who will be farming the Reimer tract adjacent to the Dilts Park. Charlie will report.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC

Diana Garibaldi said a ski trip/club sounds great, but there can be serious accidents. She said the Township Committee discussed farming the Reimer tract at its last meeting. She said the Reimer field is being sprayed. The farmer is not posting the spray schedule, and the walking trail abuts the field.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: June 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING 2022 ACTIVITIES

Fall Fun Fireworks – September 10th at Dilts Park

Community Day/Block Party – October 1st at Sergeantsville Green

Halloween Activity – To be discussed.

Holiday Decorating Contest/Holiday Lighting and Parade – Tree lighting and parade December 3rd (Rain/snow date December 4th) Holiday lighting judging December 12 6 to 9 p.m.