

Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – June 6, 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, Joe Benincasa, Erin Buchanan, Tyler Kadezabek,
Heather Opdyke, Steve Smotrich, Jes Stahl, Tim Soltis, Brian Sulewski,
Linda Ubry
Absent: Rebecca Burns, Charles Herman

PRESENTATION BY GIRL SCOUT TROOP 80270

Six members of Girl Scout Troop 80270 along with leader Ginny Lucas presented a proposal to plant a wildflower garden, construct a bee house, and post a sign at the garden at the Dilts Park as their Bronze Award project. The Scouts each displayed posters they had made describing the project and the importance of attracting bee pollinators for plant germination. Ms. Lucas said the Troop will plant an area approximately ten feet by fifteen feet with a 4 foot high bee house and some sort of barrier/fence surrounding the garden. Native species relying on rain water will be planted. They expect to receive donated plants and will purchase the fence materials using donations. The project must be completed by the end of September.

Members supported this project. They discussed possible locations for this garden/pollinator project and agreed to review potential sites this weekend at the Dilts Park.

Tim moved to recommend the Scouts' project to construct a bee garden, bee house, sign and barrier at the Dilts Park to the Township Committee for its approval. The location of this project will be determined. Erin seconded the motion, and members unanimously approved the project.

Ms. Lucas said the girls would like to hang their posters on a bulletin board at the Township Building.

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of May 2, 2022 – Linda moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of May 2, 2022, Jes seconded the motion, and members present approved the minutes with abstentions by Joe, Tim, Steve and Erin.

TEEN HIKE AND REPORT

Brian first thanked Tyler for all he has done to promote teen activities since he became a member of the Recreation Commission. Tyler said previously made plans by teens over Memorial Day weekend prevented the hike from happening. He is now working on possible events like bowling, paintball and rock climbing. Movie nights are prohibitively expensive because of the movie rights that must be purchased. Members discussed the possibility of a teen summer volleyball and/or basketball night at the Dilts Park. Erin said she could help chaperone it. Tyler suggested a teen Field Day as well. He will look into this. Steve said he could use some teens to help with the Crate Race.

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

The Township Committee approved salaries for Summer Recreation Program staffers. Director Maegan Harrington said registrations are coming in.

REPORTS

DTS Board of Education

Heather said the last day of School is June 17th. Field Day is June 16th. The Summer Academy is still accepting applications.

DTAA

Erin said DTAA Closing Day is June 18th. President Seth Buchanan is working with Brant Switzler on a DTAA sponsored instructional tennis program that will hopefully begin this summer. A field hockey clinic will be held August 29th. Goals are needed. Play will be on the Makara Field that must first be graded in sections, then seeded where graded.

Green Team

Jes said there will be a carbon footprint presentation by Fourth Graders at the 6/20 BOE meeting.

Open Space

There was nothing new to report.

RECREATION GRANT UPDATE

The State grant money is in this year's municipal budget. DPW Director Jay Trstensky is soliciting quotes to repair the tennis courts.

PARK PLANNER – UPDATE

Per Deputy Clerk Tiffany Crivelli the Township is still interviewing for a Park Planner.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION – RECOMMENDATION FOR DILTS PARK MASTER PLAN AND OTHER TOWNSHIP CONTROLLED PROPERTIES

Members reviewed and discussed detailed and comprehensive recommendations from the Environmental Commission for the Dilts Park Master Plan dated 3/22/22. The report cited three goals – Water Management, Enhancements with Increased Recreational Activities, and Application for External Funding with supporting facts and points. Members noted in particular the recommendations for ADA compliance at the Park.

RECREATION PLAN ELEMENT OF MASTER PLAN – REVIEW AND FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Members reviewed the latest draft of the Recreation Element of the Master Plan. They agreed to some additional revisions. They also agreed to incorporate language from the Environmental Commission's recommendations for ADA compliance. Members will review these changes at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF DILTS FARM PARK APPLICATIONS – Members reviewed an application including an insurance certificate by Soccer Stars for a soccer clinic 8/22 – 8/26/22. DTAA has

had good experience with this camp in the past. Judy moved to approve the application as submitted, Linda seconded the motion, and members unanimously approved the application. There was an application by a resident for a family picnic and softball game. Members agreed to review the Park facilities' fees.

COMMITTEES:

Yard Sale – May 21st Judy said this event was successful. She may need to purchase a few signs to replace signs that were taken.

Plant Swap – May 22nd Jes said this event was successful.

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 the fish stocking date is set. Shop Rite may donate food. It is always very generous in assisting with Recreation Commission activities.

Great Crate Race – July 4th - Steve said two registrations have been received to date. The test day was held. The tee shirts have been ordered and will be sold. Members of the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company will cook food donated by ShopRite. The VFW and Scouts will participate in a pre-race parade. The insurance has been arranged. The banner has been hung. Steve said volunteers are needed. A temporary line will be applied to Lower Ferry Road for racers to follow. The Commission will give Jenna and Matt Vecchione a gift certificate in appreciation for use of their property for the race. As agreed, there are no sponsors this year. Kyle Richardson from NJ Event Service is donating a port-a-potty.

Somerset Patriots Baseball Trip – June 11th – Joe said 53 tickets have been sold. The balance of the tickets will be released tomorrow. Someone will throw out a first pitch. There will be bar-b-cue and fireworks, weather permitting.

Kite Day – August 20th 11 a.m. at the Dilts Park – Jes said planning for this event is in the process. The Snack Shack will be open for the sale of food. Shop Rite is donating the food. Everything will cost \$1, and proceeds will be donated to the Girl Scouts. There will be prizes.

Sports Swap – September 10th

Fun Fall Fireworks – September 10th - Linda raised a question about the proposed rain date of 9/11. Brian will check whether the Fire Company is available on the 11th. The Commission will request an extension of Park hours and BYOB for this event.

Meteor Shower Watch Party – November 18th 5 to 10 p.m. at the Dilts Park - The Commission will request an extension of Park hours for this event.

OLD BUSINESS –

Adults Recreation at DTS – Indoor adult basketball and volleyball end June 14th.

Dilts Park – The path to the new bridge on the walking trail was repaired. Brian will speak with Jay about the toilets at the Park.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments or questions from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: June 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING 2022 ACTIVITIES

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.