



An agency of the Centre Region Council of Governments  
Serving the Borough of State College and the Townships of College, Ferguson, Harris and Patton

**Meeting Agenda**  
for Thursday, 16 April 2015, 12:15 PM  
**COG Building - Forum Room**  
2643 Gateway Drive, State College, PA 16801

Sue Mascolo, Chair, Township of Ferguson Chris M. Hurley, Vice-Chair, Township of Patton Kathy D. Matason, Secretary, Township of College	Diane J. Ishler, Treasurer, Township of Harris James W. Dunn, Ph.D., Borough of State College Shannon E. Messick, SCASD
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- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC for any item not on the agenda (up to 3 min./person)
- III. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY *(Attachment #1)* (ACTION)  
The draft meeting summary from 19 Mar 2015 is enclosed for consideration.
- IV. VOUCHER REPORTS from March 2015 *(Attachment #2)* (ACTION)
- V. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS & UPDATES
  - Ferguson Twp. Harris Twp. State College Area School District
  - Patton Twp. State College Borough
  - College Twp. & Nature Center Advisory Committee c/o Ms. Matason
- VI. STAFF REPORTS
  - A. Director's Report – Mr. Woodhead
    - Staff Activity Report for March *(Attachment #3)*
    - Updates on year-round, full-time staff hired to fill the vacant positions:
      - Parks Caretaker II: Mr. Andrew F. Foor
      - Parks Caretaker I: Mr. David J. Hartzell
      - Staff Asst. - Sr. Ctr: Ms. Kim J. Hacker
    - Project Updates: Hess Driveway Improvement Project  
Linden Hall Road Curbing & Guiderail Project  
Nature Center Parking Area Project
    - April 25 “Spring Spruce-Up / Park Partner Day” update: Mr. Carpenter

B. Staff Highlights

Ms. Niki Tourscher, Program Manager Mr. Jeff Hall, Sports Supervisor Ms. Cindy Stahlman, Sr. Ctr. Supervisor Ms. Beth Lee, Rec. Supervisor.	Mr. Jim Carpenter, Parks Manager Ms. Molly Hetrick, Nature Ctr. Sup. Mr. Todd Roth, Aquatics Sup. Interns: Tracey, Nick, Brandon
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VII. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

A. **Centre Foundation Updates** c/o Molly Kunkel, Exec. Director

1. **2015 Disbursements:** Ms. Kunkel will present the 2015 disbursements totaling \$5,298.90 from the 4 endowments held by the Centre Foundation to benefit the CRPR Authority:

- Fred & Anita Coombs Fund for Millbrook Marsh \$1,213.00
- Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Fund \$3,204.00
- Robert & Marjorie Manning Fund for S.C. Area Municipal Band \$626.50
- Martin & Margaret Wyand Music fund for S.C. Area Municipal Band \$255.40

2. **2015 CentreGives Participation:** With the encouragement of the Authority Board, Millbrook Marsh Nature Center participated in the Foundation's 2014 CentreGives Campaign. During that 36-hour online fundraising event, 37 donors pledged \$2,278 to the nature center, including matching funds from Centre Foundation and minus 3% processing fees. Upon application to enter the CentreGives campaign set for May 2015, the eligibility rules have been revised, which will prevent the Authority from participating. As a result of a meeting with CRPR staff, Ms. Kunkel has offered to also discuss the qualification process with the Board.

B. **Sportfield Schedule Overview** (Attachment #4)

Sports Supervisor Jeff Hall will review a summary of current sportfield schedules for community sport groups and the increased requests made to the agency so far in 2015. The sportfields added so far, along with the facilities that are planned at Whitehall Road Regional Park, will certainly be welcomed across the community. The continued demand also confirms the needs reflected by the Board in 2002, when the COG Regional Parks Initiative emerged as a community priority.

C. **Nature Center Advisory Committee – Proposed Member Appointments** (ACTION)

1. To transfer the volunteer appointment of **Ms. Jennifer Shuey** to an “At-large” member with a term to expire on 31 Dec 2016. Ms. Shuey has been serving as Chair of the committee.
2. To appoint **Mr. Steve Miller**, Interim Exec. Director of ClearWater Conservancy, as the volunteer representative of that organization with a term to expire on 31 Dec 2015. It is further proposed that this action by the Board automatically transfer that appointment to the new Exec. Director, when finalized.

D. **Updating the CRPR Child Safety Policy**

As a result of changes required by 23 pieces of state legislation, in March a draft policy was presented to the Board which updates the current CPRR Child Safety Policy (adopted in 2003 and amended in 2007 and 2012). While strengthening child safety, the requirements have expanded:

- the number of required certifications,
- the number of staff and volunteers who must obtain the certifications,
- the costs to obtain those certifications, and

- the periodic training required of each employee / volunteer.

Due to the inconsistent answers we are receiving with respect to the detailed requirements, staff recommends that action on the updated policy be tabled until the May meeting. There has also been some indication that legislative revisions may be forthcoming. In the interim, the current CRPR Child Safety Policy will remain in force.

**E. Drones In Parks** *For Discussion* (Attachment #5)

The current municipal park ordinances prohibit the operation of any radio-controlled or tethered aircraft, except by CRPR permit. While very few requests have been made, no permits have been issued by the agency due to the lack of uniform standards / guidelines for suitable facilities and proper operations.

However, the growing popularity of drones will require a more-organized approach to managing this activity, with a continued emphasis on public safety. The Director will highlight the various aspects of this future issue. A regional map is attached that shows the various parks and the required 5-mile radius from the Univ. Park Airport - and within this circle it is necessary for each drone pilot to notify the airport tower in advance of any drone flights. PSU Policy SY45 outlines their regulations with respect to flights on their lands.

Ultimately, this discussion will include this Board, the 5 municipalities, FAA regulations, the local model aircraft club and local drone pilots. This topic is expected to be part of the 2016 CRPR Work Plan.

**F. South Fraser St. Access to the Centre Region Senior Center** *For Discussion*

The Director will relay any updates on this topic to the Board.

**G. Regional Parks Financing Discussion** *For Discussion*

At the 9 Apr 2015 meeting of the COG Finance Committee, the committee reach consensus to consider a proposal from the Concord Finance Group to refinance the existing Regional Parks Loan and to incorporate financing for the Centralized Parks Maintenance Facility as well as the extra cost resulting from the supplemental stormwater controls at Oak Hall Regional Park.

**H. Regional Park Updates: Oak Hall Reg. Park and Whitehall Road Reg. Park** *For Discussion*

- Ms. Tourscher will outline the events planned for the “**CRPR Day of Play**” at Oak Hall Regional Park on Sat., 2 May 2015, including the Dedication Ceremony at noon that day. (Attachment #6 – Ceremony Invitation)
- Mr. Woodhead will provide updates on the status of preparing for the Phase 1 construction of Whitehall Road Regional Park.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

(ACTION)

ATTACHMENTS	FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULES
1 March Meeting Summary (draft)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CRPR Authority Board - Regular Meeting: Thur., 16 Apr 2015, 12:15 PM at the COG Bldg.</li> <li>• CRPR Authority Board - Special Meeting: Thur., 23 Apr 2015, 12:15 PM at the COG Bldg.</li> <li>• Oak Hall Regional Park Dedication Ceremony: Sat., 2 May 2015, Noon, at the park.</li> <li>• Joint Meeting of the COG Parks Capital Comm. &amp; the CRPR Auth. Board: Thur., 14 May 2015, 12:15 PM at the COG Bldg.</li> </ul>
2 March Voucher Report	
3 March Activity Report	
4 Sportfield Schedule Summary	
5 Park Map with Drone Zone	
6 Oak Hall RP Ceremony Invitation	