

CENTRE REGION PARKS & RECREATION AUTHORITY
APPROVED BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 21, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mascolo called the meeting of the CRPR Authority Board to order at 12:15 PM at the COG Building Forum Room with the following individuals in attendance:

Board (6 of 6): Mses. Mascolo, Matason, Conway, Ricketts; Messrs. Hurley, Harpster.

Others: Messrs. Woodhead, CRPR Director; Mascolo, Ferguson Township Supervisor; Keough, Ferguson Township Supervisor; Warner, Harris Township Supervisor; Carpenter, Parks Manager; Roth, Aquatics Supervisor; Hall, Recreation Supervisor; Pashek, Pashek & Associates; Wenger, CRPR Construction Manager; Vidic, President Centre Soccer Assoc.; Mses. Tourscher, Program Manager; Hetrick, Nature Center Supervisor; Lee, Recreation & Special Events Supervisor; Cole, Technical Director Centre Soccer Association; Kisslak, Office Manager/ Recording Secretary.

II. COMCAST DONATION PRESENTATION -

Mr. Rocco asked that the ceremony be tabled until the December meeting.

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A special presentation by Board Chairperson Mascolo to honor the volunteer service of Board Treasurer Donna Conway was made, including a framed Certificate of Appreciation. Ms. Conway has represented the State College Borough since 2006 on the CRPRA Board.

Since Ms. Conway has also served as the Authority Treasurer, it was necessary to **elect a new Treasurer** effective December 2013. A motion was made by Mr. Harpster and seconded by Dr. Ricketts to nominate Mr. Hurley to the position of Treasurer. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - No comments.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Hurley and seconded by Ms. Conway to accept the minutes of the October CRPRA Board meeting as presented. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.

VI. LOCATION OF DECEMBER MEETING

Due to a conflicting schedule for the COG Forum Room, the December Meeting **will be held at the Ferguson Township Building** on Whitehall Road & Research Drive at 12:15 pm.

VII. VOUCHER REPORT

A motion was made by Ms. Conway and seconded by Mr. Hurley to accept the October 2013 vouchers as presented. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS & MEMBER UPDATES

On November 12, **Patton Twp.** held their third public meeting regarding the Gray's Woods Park. As of January 21, 2014, Mr. Hurley will have served the maximum nine year term on the Patton Township Parks and Recreation Committee. Mr. Hurley would like to continue to represent Patton Township on the CRPRA Board if the Patton Township Board of Supervisors approves that at their January meeting. Fasick Park in **Harris Township** was provided with the incorrect type of crushed stone by the quarry for their walking path so that will need to be replaced. The committee is drafting a bike and pedestrian path plan for the township and also reviewing current fee-in-lieu regulations and how they affect the township. The Harris Township P&R Committee members that attended the Oak Hall Regional Park tour really enjoyed the progress walk and subsequent information provided by Mr. Wenger on the tour. Dr. Ricketts announced that she gave the SCASD notice of her anticipated retirement date of June 30. (It is hoped that Donna will continue to serve on the CRPRA Board until the end of her term on December 31, 2016.)

IX. STAFF REPORTS

The Director presented the **October Activity Report** along with the **Fall 2013 Staff Roster** which lists all the employees, both full time and seasonal, employed by the agency. The rental house demolition at **Millbrook Marsh Nature Center** by Penn State is scheduled for mid-December. The land development plan for the parking lot project at the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center was approved by College Township Council. The next step is to identify donors to help fund the project which will cost approx. \$160,000. Stahl-Shaeffer Engineering, Ameron and PSU have offered to run the numbers and confirm the cost estimate.

The Interim Parks Maintenance Facility lease with Robert Stewart has been signed and executed effective November 1, 2013. This is a two-year lease and staff is preparing to move once the restrooms and other items meet Code requirements. Staff expects to be in the new facility by the end of 2013.

Twenty-one (21) complete applications have been received for the Senior Center Supervisor position of which six (6) will be interviewed by Mr. Woodhead, Ms. Tourscher and the Acting Director for the County office of Aging on December 5. The finalists will be invited for a second interview the following week with Mr. Steff, Chairperson Mascolo and Ms. Tourscher; the selection will take place with an early-January start date as a target.

Mr. Carpenter selected five (5) of the fourteen (14) complete applications to interview for the Parks Caretaker (Mechanic) position that will also be filled in January 2014.

Staff highlighted programming items of interest that they are working on for the Winter/Spring programs. The Active Guide will be published and distributed in the Centre Daily Times on December 8, 2013. The Senior Center is dealing with some issues with homeless folks coming in to get warm and staying without participating in programs or following the established rules of the center. A local cross country ski group will again experiment with organized skiing in Circleville Park (Patton Twp.) with their own members grooming the trail with manual trail equipment. The agency will allow the group to store the equipment in the existing shed on the site. Mr. Hurley added that Patton Township is currently entertaining a new bicycle path through the park as well and will keep staff up to date on that project as news develop. The 2014 softball tournament

schedule for Hess includes 9-10 tournaments. These will be firmed up over the course of the next few weeks. Once Oak Hall opens, most tournaments require more than four fields so both facilities will likely be used for tournaments. The Tournament Coordinator for USSSA softball was at the Oak Hall Regional Park progress walk (on Nov, 8) and was very excited about the new facility. The pools will re-open in 184 days, but for now they are completely winterized. The UV system installation at Park Forest Pool is still ongoing. Startup will occur next Spring when the pools are filled again. Summer camp planning is underway for camps beginning in 207 days. The Historic Harvest Festival was a success the first Sunday of November. 900 people attended the 3-hour event, which is a record number.

X. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

Based on a motion by Ms. Conway and seconded by Dr. Ricketts, the board unanimously agreed that no compensation be provided to Benner Township with regard to their request for funds to maintain the **Spring Creek Canyon Trail**. Mr. John Elnitski, a Benner Township Supervisor made the request and was invited to present the request at today's meeting. Mr. Woodhead will relay the motion to the General Forum and they can go from there.

The **2014 Fee Policy** was distributed at the meeting and will be on the December 19th meeting agenda for approval. Overall the summary of changes are listed on the cover page.

Mr. Wenger updated the Board on the status of the construction at Oak Hall Regional Park.

Following a motion by Mr. Hurley and seconded by Ms. Matason, the Board unanimously approved the **CMT purchase order** for construction testing be increased by \$10,000.

Mr. Pashek updated the Board on the Whitehall Road Regional Park. In summary, the soccer group is interested in the possibility of widening the existing soccer fields from 60 to 80 yards. In order to do this, the designers could make the community gardens and dog park smaller and keep the same number of fields (4) OR eliminate one smaller soccer field and widen the remaining three without having to make the gardens and dog park smaller. This would give the bulk of the soccer participants (U12 and younger) more fields to play on. Mr. Pashek added that any change to the Master Plan may require General Forum approval. If that is the case, CSA may be asked to help fund the costs associated with the additional changes to the construction drawings. Mr. Pashek is meeting with the Toll Brothers engineering firm to coordinate utilities going into the park. The intention is to bid this project in summer 2013 with construction starting in fall 2013 or spring 2014.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the November meeting of the CRRA Board was adjourned. The Board will meet next on December 19 at the Ferguson Township Building Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Christeen J. Kisslak, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved for distribution per Board action on 19 Dec 2013.