

**CENTRE REGION PARKS & RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD**  
***APPROVED MEETING SUMMARY***  
**October 16, 2014**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

Board (5 of 6): Meses. Mascolo, Ishler, Messick; Messrs. Hurley, Dunn.

Ms. Matason was out of town and unable to attend.

Others: Messrs. Woodhead, Director; Carpenter, Parks Manager; Hall, Rec. Supervisor; Viglione, COG Finance Officer; Steff, COG Executive Director; Daubert, State College Borough Council; Mascolo, Ferguson Twp. Supervisor; Pawelczyk, SCASD School Board; Brown, SCASD Business Administrator; Harlow, ELA Group, Inc.; Nestor & Jones, Massaro CM Services; Garrigan, Stromberg/Garrigan & Associates; Keough, Anderson, residents; Meses. Stahlman, Sr. Center Supervisor; D.J. Liggett, Centre Regional Planning Agency; Tuttle, State College Borough Planning Dept.; Anderson, resident.

**II. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public.

**III. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY**

A motion was made by Mr. Hurley and seconded by Dr. Dunn to accept the meeting summary of the September CRPRA Board meeting to include the typographical revisions provided by Ms. Ishler. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.

**IV. VOUCHER REPORT**

Ms. Ishler questioned whether one entry on the voucher report should have been under Aquatics, and Mr. Woodhead said that it will be checked. Ms. Ishler made a motion to accept the September Voucher Report, seconded by Mr. Hurley, and the motion passed unanimously. (It was later confirmed by Mr. Viglione that the invoice was not related to Welch Pool as listed in the description. While that description was in error, the expense was correctly assigned to the Regional Parks Fund.)

**V. SPECIAL PRESENTATION #1 - WELCH POOL AND THE HIGH SCHOOL RENOVATION PROJECT**

Mr. Woodhead introduced this topic by noting that there were two topics in this presentation about the High School project: (1) evaluating the ADA parking for Welch Pool and (2) how the project will impact patron parking for Welch Pool. He pointed out that the project will also impact the CRPR camps and programs held in school facilities - since High School activities will be moved from the High School to other facilities and may thereby limit other facilities available for CRPR programs. He noted that the Authority leases the land for the pool facilities and shares the pool patron parking with SCASD via a Shared Parking Agreement and that the ADA parking complaint should also be addressed as part of the larger parking issue. Further, the COG General Forum has asked the Authority for a status report on the ADA parking complaint at their November meeting.

(Note: The School District's PowerPoint presentation has been [posted HERE](#) for review.)

Mr. Pawelczyk began the update by stating that the referendum in May passed with a 73% voter approval rating. Currently 30% of the design plans are complete and are being presented to the public. Regarding the Shared Parking, he said the goals are Sufficiency, Utility and Proximity. Mr. Harlow showed graphics of current site plans for parking, noting that the stormwater basin above Welch Pool really limits what they can do on the south side of the project. Mr. Nestor addressed the phasing of the project, explaining that for summer 2015 there should be no major changes to the south parking lot. Summer 2016 will be greatly affected and will probably require all pool parking on the north side of Westerly Parkway or on the far south end of the HS South property. Summer 2017 will see an improvement, and by summer 2018 the project will be nearly complete.

Mr. Pawelczyk proposed a modification to the 2009 parking agreement while showing a graphic of the 400' radius from the pool gate as required in that agreement. He showed where there will be four ADA spaces near the pool gate, some seasonal spaces. Overall, pool patrons may have to select from five or more location choices on where to park. Instead of requiring that many parking choices by pool patrons, he then reviewed a Preferred Concept Plan by SCASD as an alternative with a signalized intersection and a defined pedestrian crossing across the Parkway to the pool. In that case, most pool parking would be across the parkway.

Mr. Pawelczyk then asked that the Authority Board agree to considering striking the words "only on the south side" from Recital 3 on Page 5 of the Shared Parking Agreement to allow the changes so that the 106 spaces will still be provided but mostly on the north side of the parkway. Mr. Pawelczyk asked that the Board take action on this request at their November meeting and pass an amendment to that effect.

Mr. Hurley expressed his concerns about both the plan proposed initially and the SCASD Preferred Concept Plan with the agreement modification request. He suggested that the plans should adhere to the original agreement, noting:

- the appearance that the shared parking for the pool was an afterthought in the design process,
- to place the pool parking in the front of the south building on a pedestrian plaza area that is used seasonally for pool parking spaces, as shown on their original plan, was not practical, and
- the potential danger of backing out of the planned parking spaces into the new two-lane traffic loop on the south side property.

He said that it appears to him that neither plan is a good solution. Mr. Hurley asked about the possibility of adding speed bumps on the school loop road. Mr. Pawelczyk said that has not yet been decided. Mr. Hurley also stated that it would be better if there was a larger safety buffer area where people could pull off to drop off and pick up people from the pool rather than on the two-way loop road beside the pool.

Ms. Mascolo asked about closing off the two-way loop road during the pool season. In response, Mr. Pawelczyk said that it has not been decided yet; the road could be closed off or made one-way, etc. since it is a private drive.

Mr. Mascolo asked whether the north side parking lots could be placed closer to the pool, and Mr. Harlow said those spaces on the plan are now right at the 30' setback but they are asking for a variance from the Borough. Mr. Pawelczyk also pointed out on the plan which lands belong to SCASD and the lands leased to the Authority for the pool property. He also stated that while there may be areas closer to the pool gate for potential parking spaces, the slope does not qualify them to be designated as ADA spaces. Mr. Anderson asked that everyone consider ADA access when designing this project and that space on the leased pool parcel also be looked at for possible ADA parking. Mr. Harlow pointed out the stormwater basin spillway (in the area of the current bike racks) and noted that it limits where parking spaces can be added on that parcel.

Mr. Daubert stated that SCASD is assuming they will have a traffic signal for the parkway intersection beside the pool entrance, but it is not a definite, and pool visitors do not want to park on the north side of the parkway. Mr. Harlow said that traffic data collection had been done for the Traffic Impact Study and the intersection by the pool does meet a signal warrant. Mr. Pawelczyk said that the Parking Agreement states that for interim parking, the plans must be satisfactory for both the District and the Authority. In January 2015 they hope to present a 60% design and seek to codify that "satisfactory" in a Memorandum of Understanding.

## **VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATION #2 - "FINAL DRAFT" MASTER PLAN OF HOLMES-FOSTER PARK**

Ms. Tuttle noted that a grant from PA DCNR allowed the Borough to evaluate Holmes-Foster Park and develop a 20-year-plan. Mr. Garrigan presented a draft Park Master Plan; he termed it as a Park Enhancement Plan, which took into account the information gained at several meetings in August. The plan will preserve the tree canopy while creating a more active recreation and play area in the lower part of the park and using the upper part of the park for passive recreation. Ms. Ishler asked about restrooms in the lower part of the park, and Mr. Garrigan said that when the pavilion is replaced there, new restrooms could be constructed. Mr. Garrigan said that a Final Draft Plan must now be developed and brought back for a Board recommendation.

(Mr. Hurley left the meeting at 1:25 PM to attend another meeting.)

## **VII. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS & UPDATES**

Ferguson Township - nothing to report

Patton - September 16 was their park tour. They are working on citizen surveys to update the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan for Patton Township. They are also reviewing a proposal to expand the disc golf course from 9 to 18 holes. On November 4<sup>th</sup> their residents will vote on an Open Space Referendum.

State College Borough - nothing to report

Harris Township - Their meeting was cancelled.

SCASD - Ms. Messick encouraged everyone to attend the High School Information Fair regarding the 30% Site Plan for the High School Renovation Project from 6-9 PM (open house) on Oct. 29.

## **VIII. STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Woodhead noted that the Activity Report and the United Way Day of Caring Report were provided in the agenda packet. He also reported that he represented the Authority in Harrisburg on October 8 at a workshop about the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

For the first time, a major priority of the plan will be a focus on assisting local parks and programs across the Commonwealth instead of focusing solely on state parks and forests as has been the case since the 1960s.

**Staff Highlights:**

Molly Hetrick's report presented by Mr. Hall – Puddle Jumpers is underway and plans are being made for Scarecrow Stuff-It and the Harvest Festival.

Beth Lee's report presented by Mr. Hall – The "Dark in the Park" program became "Dim in the Gym" due to weather with 100 attending. Fall programs are going well, and she is preparing for the next Active Guide distribution on December 14.

Todd Roth's report presented by Mr. Hall – Fall swim lessons are underway; the pools are being winterized; and he is preparing for 2015 programs.

Mr. Hall – The final, major 2014 softball tournament, "the USSSA Pumpkin Smash," will be held at Hess Field and at Blue Spring Park this weekend with 26 teams (the organizer turned away 34 other teams). The Collegiate Tournament on October 4 was cancelled due to weather, but they hope to return next year. He is working on tournament dates for next year, and he expects to have tournaments every weekend from mid-May through the mid-August except during Arts Fest.

Mr. Carpenter – The parks crews are finishing sportfield renovations, shutting down water and restrooms for the winter, and mowing and mulching. He reported that he and four staff people attended several safety training sessions at a Resource Operations Workshop offered by PRPS.

Ms. Stahlman – The Day of Caring was successful (except for a shattered refrigerator shelf).

October 30 will be their "Carn-e-vil" fundraiser in conjunction with Penn State students. The public is invited.

Mr. Steff announced that the Code Office has received a building footer and foundation plan, so the Fraser Centre construction project will be proceeding across from the Senior Center.

**IX. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Update on the 2015 Budget Proposals – Mr. Woodhead reported that the annual budget hearing was held by the COG Finance Committee; they supported what the Board and staff had proposed; and the board will be receiving the COG Summary Budget booklet soon.
- B. Presentation of the 2015 Fee Policy – Mr. Woodhead pointed out that recommended changes to the Fee Policy are on the front page of the distributed packet. Mr. Woodhead requested Board action on the Fee Policy at the November meeting so 2015 pool season pass sales can begin on December 1. Mr. Hall noted that the figure for satellite sportfield reservations is \$175 in the policy details vs. \$150 incorrectly shown on the cover page. The cover page will be corrected on the final proposal to be included in the November agenda packet.
- C. Whitehall Road Regional Park (Phase 1)/Centralized Parks Maintenance Facility – Mr. Woodhead reported on a meeting held at PennTerra Engineering, Inc. (the local consultants for Toll Bros.) to specifically discuss the park ~ schedule, roadway access, utilities, and traffic improvements. Planning for the park project is expected to resume depending in the Toll Bros. timetable. The park may be able to be opened fall 2017, but more likely spring 2018. The Water Authority may also be asked for permission for construction access across their property during park construction.
- D. Authorize changing banks for CRPR Authority funds to First National Bank – Mr. Viglione explained that in connection with the setup of the new COG Finance Office, it is being

requested that funds from the PLGIT account be transferred to FNB, which is paying a higher rate of return than PLGIT, and that once the funds are transferred, the Finance Officer be given permission to close the PLGIT account since it would no longer be necessary. The motion, made by Dr. Dunn and seconded by Ms. Ishler, was passed unanimously:

*“The Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority Board authorizes the COG Finance Officer, Mr. Joseph Viglione, with the assistance of State College Borough staff, to close out the PLGIT bank accounts for the “Centre Regional Recreation Authority” after transferring the funds to First National Bank.”*

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the October meeting of the CRPRA Board was adjourned at 2:00 PM. The Board will meet next on November 20 in the COG Building Forum Room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ginny L. Altenderfer, Recording Secretary

*These minutes were approved for distribution by the Board on 20 Nov 2014.*