

CENTRE REGION PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD
APPROVED MEETING SUMMARY
APRIL 9, 2015

This advertised meeting was held during the time scheduled for the monthly Joint Meeting with the COG Parks Capital Committee. There was no business involving that committee, so the Authority Board met to conduct regular business.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Board: Sue Mascolo, Ferguson Twp.; Chris Hurley, Patton Twp.; Diane Ishler, Harris Twp.; Kathy Matason, College Twp.; Shannon Messick, SCASD; Dr. Dunn, State College Borough.

Staff: Ronald J. Woodhead, Director; Niki Tourscher, Program Manager; Cindy Stahlman, Senior Center Supervisor; Jim Carpenter, Parks Manager; Jeff Hall, Sports & Fitness Supervisor; Beth Jada Light, Acting Office Manager; Jim Steff, COG Executive Director

Others: Tom Fountaine, State College Borough Manager; Mark Whitfield, State College Borough Public Works Director; J.R Reed, Director of the Centre County Office of Aging; Laura Dininni, resident.

II. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

III. REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETING

As requested by staff, Mr. Hurley made a motion to hold a special meeting April 23 for the purpose of (1) considering action on the bids submitted for the Hess Field Complex Driveway Project and (2) considering any other business that comes before the Board. Mr. Dunn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IV. SPECIAL PRESENTATION- THE FRASER CENTRE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Public Works Director Mark Whitfield presented two different options that the general contractor has proposed to the Borough. They have asked the Borough to consider closing Fraser St. for:

- (1) a 4-day period to erect the construction crane in mid-May, and
- (2) a 14-month period from mid-June 2015 through mid-August 2016.

(On 20 Apr 2015, Borough Council approved the street closure for erecting the crane for 4 days: Monday 18 May 2015 through Thursday 21 May 2015. These dates reflect the consensus of the Downtown Improvement District . The original dates requested were Saturday May 16 through Tuesday May 19 but the merchants preferred the weekday closures instead of using the weekend.)

The Fraser St. Garage will also be closed the 4-day crane project. The two travel lanes on Beaver Ave. will remain open during the crane installation.

With respect to the proposed 14-month closure of S. Fraser St. starting in June 2015, the Fraser St. Garage will remain open as usual, but there is concern about providing a safe and close-by loading zone for the County Vans that serve the senior center. Ms. Stahlman stated that, due to traffic and illegal parking, the van drops off at Nittany Quill over half the time already. Dr. Dunn asked what is to keep more people from illegally parking in the loading zone since they are already parking there. Mr. Fountaine stated that they weren't aware of the parking issues on Fraser St. and that more patrols could be directed to that area. The vans are too high to enter the parking garages and using Kelly Ave as the van loading area has proven to be problematic during prior construction projects.

Ms. Mascolo asked if it was in the Authority's best interest to look for another rental site for the Senior Center? Mr. Fountaine said that the Borough is willing to look at the lease provisions but they would like to find an alternate solution so the center would remain in place in the long term. Ms. Ishler stated that regardless of the Fraser St. closures, she is concerned about the seniors getting confused with all of the congestion and the construction, and then not having a good experience - or staying away entirely.

Borough staff will continue discussions with all parties before taking a recommendation to Borough Council - and they will also keep the Board up to date as those arrangements are finalized. How can the impacts be minimized so as to provide the seniors the best experience possible?

V. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Matason made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Ishler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jada Light, Recording Secretary

This summary was approved by action of the Board on 23 Apr 2015.