COLLEGE TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
PARK TOUR MEETING AGENDA
Monday, June 12, 2023
6:00 PM
In-Person Park Tour Meeting

General Meeting Information
To attend in-person, this meeting will start at Spring Creek Estates, 187 Creekside Drive, State College, PA 16801 at 6:00pm and proceed to Fogleman Overlook Park then Stoney Batter Natural Area. If there is enough daylight, the meeting will proceed to Fieldstone Park or Mountainside Park.

• THIRTY (30) MINUTES WILL BE ALLOTTED FOR EACH PARK  *the following schedule gives approximate times
  o 6:00 Meet at Spring Creek Estates; Call to Order; Roll Call; Approval of Minutes
  o 6:10 Open Discussion at Spring Creek Estates
  o 6:40 Travel to Fogleman Overlook Park
  o 6:50 Open Discussion at Fogleman Overlook Park
  o 7:20 Travel to Stoney Batter Natural Area
  o 7:30 Open Discussion at Stoney Batter Natural Area
  o 8:00 Possibly Travel to Fieldstone Park/Mountainside Park; Announcements; Adjournment

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS: For specific agenda items and for items not on the agenda, written public comments may be submitted until 12:00 noon the day of the meeting by emailing smeyers@collegetownship.org.

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL:

OPEN DISCUSSION (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA):

MINUTES:  April 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes
           (Approval)

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

PARKS REPORTS: (Written reports received are emailed to all members the Wednesday prior to the meeting date)

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<th>Bike Paths</th>
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<td>CRPR</td>
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<td>Fieldstone</td>
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<td>Thompson Woods Preserve</td>
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<td>Planning Commission</td>
<td>Staff</td>
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**STAFF INFORMATIVES:**  
**SI-1**  
Charrette Flyer

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**  
August 14, 2023 at 7 PM

**ADJOURNMENT:**
CALL TO ORDER:
Mr. Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL:
Mr. Moore reviewed Zoom protocol as there were participants via Zoom.

OPEN DISCUSSION:
- Ms. Smith announced the trees are coming to Pike Street and should be planted prior to the dedication on Friday, April 21, 2023.

MINUTES:
Ms. Matason moved to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2023 meeting as written. Mr. Spoonamore seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:
OB-3 Park Sign Standardization
- Ms. Kerner introduced the topic and pointed out the sign mock-ups.
  - One had a brown background with white lettering
  - The other had white background with brown lettering

Mr. Schulte moved to approve for Township use at all parks with parking areas the sign with the brown background and white lettering. Ms. Smith seconded. The motion passed with a vote of six to two.
OB-2 Five Year Plan

- Ms. Kerner introduced the topic and explained the grant submitted for Spring Creek Park. It was discussed a column for the current year should be added to the Five Year Plan document so the committee can see what is to be accomplished during the current year.
  - Glenn Park $4,000 is to be used at Mountainside Park in 2023
  - “G” should be added to Spring Creek Park where a grant is to be used
  - Hydroseeding to be added to Dalevue Park at $6,000
  - Fogleman Overlook memorial benches
    - Requests to place benches at the fields should be directed to school district
    - Application should be submitted to either School District or Township depending on desired placement
  - Fieldstone willing to switch timing for Pavilion and Playground based on want/need after survey
  - Boy Scout bridge over Slab Cabin upstream from covered bridge needs attention
    - Ms. Kerner to notify Township Engineer
  - Bike Path saplings to be moved to “future” column but may be completed by crew during down time as general maintenance
  - Discussion of garbage can use by picnic table along bike path close to the Township Building
    - Littering suggested to be reported to police; difficult to enforce

Mr. Spoonamore moved to accept the Five Year Plan as amended. Ms. Sittler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

OB-1 Official Map

- Ms. Sittler thanked Mr. Spoonamore and Ms. Simpson for their attention and work done for the Official Map topic
- Mr. Spoonamore attended multiple Planning Commission (PC) meeting and the following observations:
  - There is no one biking that is planning
  - PC doesn’t look at the health and welfare of the community
  - There is plan for continued development of roads and amenities
  - PC is made up of car drivers who think about cars and parking
  - PC plans to strike waterway easements suggested by Parks and Rec
- Ms. Matason, Ms. Sulzer, and Mr. Schulte explained their understanding of the Official Map as they have all been through this process in the past with the Township.
  - Explained the Planning Commission may not have the same point of view on the Official Map as the Parks and Recreation Committee
  - Also explained the Official Map doesn’t kick in until there is a sale of property, a land development plan, or a subdivision plan
- There was discussion of several Township and Regional maps from various decades past which may have been public or internally used

Ms. Sittler moved to forward comments made by Ms. Simpson and Mr. Spoonamore to Council. Ms. Smith seconded. Motion passed with six for the motion, one against, and one abstained.
• The committee discussed prioritization of certain facilities on the Official Map
  o It was determined that all facilities adopted as part of the Official Map are considered important and they cannot be prioritized as some projects may take years to complete

Mr. Spoonamore moved, the Parks and Rec Committee, wish to forward to Council that they recognize Planning Commission concerns and wish to promote that the Official Map recognize the need to secure options for non-motorized modes of transportation and other recreational opportunities to residents as a long term vision for the future. Ms. Smith seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:
NB-1 June 12th Field Meeting
• Ms. Sulzer will not be in attendance
• Discussed a convoy like the prior year vs renting a large van for the committee to travel together
• The following parks were recommended to visit this year:
  o Spring Creek Estates
  o Fogelman Overlook
  o Stoney Batter
  o If time permits Mountainside Park or Fieldstone Park

PARKS REPORTS: There were no questions or further discussion regarding the parks reports.

STAFF INFORMATIVES: None presented.

OTHER MATTERS:
• Mr. Kalp resigned his position for the Parks and Recreation Committee and it was determined the parks which he was assigned to represent should be temporarily reassigned until a new member is appointed by Council
  o Fogleman Overlook to be temporarily represented by Mr. Spoonamore
  o Penn Hills to be temporarily represented by Mr. Schulte
  o Spring Creek Estates to be temporarily represented by Ms. Sittler

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Mr. Moore announced the next Parks and Recreation Committee meeting will be the park tour meeting on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:00 pm, and the May 8th meeting is not needed.

ADJOURNMENT:
With no other matters to discuss, Mr. Moore adjourned the April 10, 2023 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By,

**Draft**

Sharon E. Meyers
Recording Secretary
College Township Parks and Recreation Committee

June 12, 2023

Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority

April 20, 2023

Approved unanimously to schedule special meetings throughout the rest of 2023 as detailed in the agenda.

Approved unanimously “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes payments to the University Area Joint Authority (UAJA) for the sanitary sewer permit, tap fees, and inspection costs in the amount of $9,721.23” for Whitehall Road Regional Park.

Approved unanimously “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes payment to CMT for past invoices in the amount of $756.25 and authorizes estimated additional materials testing and inspection services from CMT in an amount not to exceed $3,500” for Whitehall Road Regional Park.

Approved unanimously “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes a change order for Sippel Development Co., Inc. in an amount not to exceed $16,314.25 for inflationary increase in cost of concrete and related materials per the attached request dated 4/6/23” for Whitehall Road Regional Park.

Approved unanimously “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes the cost for professional services from Michael L. Norris Associates Consulting Engineers for fundamental commissioning and LEED services for Spring Creek Education Building Phase II, per the proposal dated 4/12/23 in the amount not to exceed $14,000.”

Approved unanimously “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes the cost for additional professional services from AP Architects, LLC for coordination of the commissioning and LEED services for the Spring Creek Education Building Phase II in the amount not to exceed $1,400.”

Discussed potential dates for the ribbon cutting ceremony for Whitehall Road Regional Park. Staff will bring back proposed dates for late August or early September, plus suggestions for potential activities for the event. Authority members had suggested that we consider making it more of a grand opening than just a ribbon cutting.

Discussed a potential partnership with Trout Unlimited Spring Creek Chapter for the proposed Slab Cabin Run streambank stabilization project. Noted that approval from Penn State will be required before proceeding with these site improvements per the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center lease agreement, and from ClearWater Conservancy per the conservation easement. Authority members are interested in pursuing this partnership, which will be at no cost to CRPRA. Trout Unlimited and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will apply for a Department of Environmental Protection Growing Greener grant to support this project. This project aligns nicely with the Boardwalk Feasibility Study Phase II streambank stabilization recommendations. Estimated total cost is $450,000.
Received an update on the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center SCED Phase II and Diane Kerly Welcome Pavilion project and Whitehall Road Regional Park. Substantial completion date for WRRP remains at 6/23/23.

**May 18, 2023**

Unanimously approved “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes the approval of a Letter of Commitment for the Dept. of Environmental Protection Growing Greener Grant in partnership with the Trout Unlimited Spring Creek Chapter, to complete the Slab Cabin Run streambank stabilization that runs through Millbrook Marsh, pending approval by the Pennsylvania State University and ClearWater Conservancy.”

Unanimously approved “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes a change order to increase the contract sum for Strouse Electric Inc. in the amount not to exceed $6,909 for the 600 Volt, 400 Amp disconnect required by the utility provider West Penn Power.”

Discussed the MMNC Boardwalk presentation by LAN Associates to the General Forum and key stakeholder survey results. Survey results will be shared with LAN Associates and will help determine the next steps in planning. Tours of the Boardwalk will be coordinated later in the year when construction activity slows on the Welcome Pavilion.

Discussed potential UAJA sewer main upgrade through Millbrook Marsh. This project is in very early stages of development.

Received updates on the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center SCED Phase II and Diane Kerly Welcome Pavilion Project and the Whitehall Road Regional Park Project.

Received an update on the new Thompson Woods Preserve Governance Committee from Bill Keough, chair of that committee.

Next scheduled meeting is June 15, 2023, 12:15 pm, Homestead Park Pavilion

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**Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority Work Session**

**May 18, 2023** - cancelled

Next scheduled meeting is June 15, 2023, 10:00 am, Homestead Park Pavilion

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**Centre Regional Parks and Recreation Special Meeting**

Unanimously approved “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes the allocation of the accrued funds through the first quarter of 2023, in the amount of $100,723.98 to be applied to the Whitehall Road Regional Park Phase I Project.”
Unanimously approved “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes a request for additional funding to amend the awarded $300,000 grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program administered by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNRX) to support additional costs incurred related to the playground for the Whitehall Road Regional Park Phase I.”

Unanimously approved “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes a request for additional funding to amend the awarded $132,300 grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program administered by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to support additional costs incurred related to field lighting for the Whitehall Road Regional Park Phase I.”

Unanimously approved “that the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority authorizes payment to West Penn Power in the amount of $115,370.92 for engineering work, labor, and materials for the electric service at Whitehall Road Regional Park.”

Updated on the on-site electrical service at Whitehall Road Regional Park.

Next scheduled special meeting is June 2, 2023, 9:00 am, COG General Forum Room. This meeting was cancelled.

Next scheduled special meeting is June 30, 2023, 9:00 am, COG General Forum Room.

**COG Parks and Recreation Governance Special Committee**

**April 25, 2023**

Met with facilitator, Nancy J. Hess, HR & Organization Development Consultant, to review retreat outline.

Unanimously approved “that the Parks and Recreation Governance Special Committee requests that the Finance Committee review and recommend that the General Forum approve the use of Contingency Funds in the amount of $5,000 to retain a facilitator for the Parks and Recreation Governance Special committee during 2023.”

Next scheduled meeting is July 28, 2023, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm, Schlow Centre Region Library, Downsbrough Community Room.

**Coordination Team for Whitehall Road Regional Park and Millbrook Marsh Phase 2**

Meets every other week to discuss progress. Team consists of COG Parks and Recreation Director, COG Executive Director, COG Facilities Manager, COG Finance Director, Project Manager, a representative from COG General Forum, and CRPR Authority Chair.
COG Finance Committee, COG Executive Committee, and General Forum – I have been attending, via Zoom, the meetings of Finance and Executive in order to keep abreast of developments relating to Authority activities. I attend General Forum meetings when needed as they generally occur on evenings when I have an ongoing prior commitment.

College Township Council and Planning Commission - I am attending College Township Planning Commission and College Township Council meetings when agenda items are related to Parks and Recreation.

Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Boardwalk Feasibility Working Group

Next scheduled meeting is TBD

COG Parks Capital Committee (joint meeting with the Authority)

April 13, 2023 - cancelled

Next scheduled meeting is July 13, 2023, 12:15 pm, COG General Forum Room

Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Advisory Committee

Next scheduled meeting is June 21, 2023, 4:00 pm, Spring Creek Education Building

Special Events with Centre Region Council of Governments/Parks and Recreation Agency

I participated in initial screening interviews for Parks and Recreation Director on April 20, 21, and 26, 2023.

I participated in a tour of Whitehall Road Regional Park with Happy Valley Adventure Bureau on May 24, 2023.

I participated in meet-and-greet for final candidates for Parks and Recreation Director on June 1, 2023.

Prepared by Kathy Matason
Parks and Recreation Report

Date: June 2023  Park Name: Stoney Batter/Nitt Orch+Terrace

Parks Rep: S. Spoonamore

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Report: - Nittany Terrace
Only two visits, but nothing seems amiss in the park proper. Will be there on July 4th and put up an AMA sign for that day. Substantial construction activity nearby.

Report: - Nittany Orchard
Multiple visits. Pickleball court being used. More Deer Activity in the park this year vs last year.

Report: - Stoney Batter
Parking - with the signage and added lot is substantially better than pre-2022. In four trips up the mountain in the last 6 weeks only one had an illegally parked car which was in the No Parking Area. This was on PSU Graduation weekend Saturday and the parking lot was nearly full at 2PM

A Spotted Lantern Fly trap is up again via the State (?). Nothing was in it on June 3rd.

Heavy 4-Wheeler/Dirtbike activity on the Camp Road, including running dirtbikes up-down on the uphill bank of the dirt road. Still unclear what, if anything, should/can be done about it. This activity seems to be increasing.

ADDED Issue- Batting Cages.
A number of baseball/softball coaches asked why College Township does not have any Batting Cages for Little League etc to practice at our Park’s baseball diamonds. Harris, Ferguson and Halfmoon do have them. They are heavily used often overbooked. Is this possible to add at Spring Creek?
College Township  
Parks and Recreation Report

Date: 06/04/2023  
Park Name: Dalevue  
Park Rep: Schulte

Report:

The park rules sign near the Goldfinch entrance has been moved as requested. It is now readily visible from vehicles entering the lot. Thank you!

Maintenance Issues:

(2023-06-04) Please repair broken picnic table.

(2023-01-07) Please re-install the two(2) "NO MOTOR VEHICLES" signs that were removed when the ID signs were refurbished. The signage reminds park users about township ordinance chapter 139-3(K):

"No person shall use a snowmobile, mini-bike, motorcycle or any vehicle, recreational or otherwise, except on designated roads, trails or areas set aside for their use."

and about 139-5(C):

"No person shall operate any vehicle in any part of a park except on roadways established for the operation of vehicles, nor shall any person park any vehicle in any area except those areas specifically designed for parking purposes."

Signage at Mayberry entrance:
Signage at Goldfinch entrance:

(2022-06-15)
1. Remove both overgrown bushes by park ID sign to remove hiding places and for easier mowing.

(2022-10-17)
Refurbish or replace both basketball backboards.
2. Remove stumps and re-grade around tennis court, sloping ground away from court to improve drainage;
3. Plant grass in disturbed area to facilitate ongoing maintenance.

(2022-06-15)
3. Clear/"brush-hog" low growing vegetation from swale between pine trees along 322 and park to remove "hiding places".
4. Mow occasionally to maintain appearance and to prevent re-growth.
(2020-03-2) Please continue the project to remove the stumps, root, low hanging branches, and brush around the multi-purpose field. This is a prerequisite for the next phase in the park redevelopment plan. This field is to be used for ad-hoc field games. Regular mowing under the trees would make it safer and more useable.

(2019-9-1) Please acknowledge that Dalevue Park is on the list of facilities NOT accepting unsolicited donations of trees, benches, etc. (e.g. https://www.crpr.org/parks/remembrance-trees  https://www.crpr.org/gift-benches  etc)

(2019-9-2, updated 2021-04-12) Please remove items encroaching on the park along the border. (For reference: The pine trees were planted by the township approximately 5 feet inside the property line. Anything between the trees is on park property.)
Report: Since there are funds available ($35,000) for this park now, I reached out to residents who have been in touch with me about ideas for this park if funds became available. I also emailed the Lemont Village Association’s email list, as this seemed quicker and easier than a survey that would not be as effective as personal contact. We met and they looked at catalogs. Amy agreed to compile a list of those pieces of equipment that might be possible. We will meet again, soon, to choose the finalists, and they will be ordered and installed this summer. I also reached out to Scout Troop 367 in case they had a potential Eagle Scout candidate who might be interested in re-doing the signage. We also discussed the invasion of many invasive plants in the wooded area of the park.

Maintenance Issues: While we were there, we discussed these issues that the township crew can add to their tasks.

- There is a tree down blocking the Nature Trail path.
- There is a wasp’s nest on the slide that needs to be removed.
- One of the swings needs to have the chain shortened.
Report

The township has removed dead trees and cleared brush and in several areas. The landscaping improvement is very much appreciated. THANK YOU!

Maintenance Issues:

Please continue the above landscaping improvements, especially near the basketball court.

(2022-10-23 B) For the safety of the basketball players, please remove the brush between the basketball court and the park property line. Let's try to get 10' of unobstructed space around the court.
College Township
Parks and Recreation Report

Date: 05/25/2023  Park Name: Penn Hills
Parks Rep: Schulte

Report

Maintenance Issues:

(2023-05-25) Please remove the broken sign and sign-post.

(2023-05-25) Please repair the broken trash-can holder.
(2025-05-25) Please remove broken tree limb.

(2023-05-25) Reminder— the hillside should be mowed entirely once or twice a year to prevent being overgrown with brushy vegetation. Ideally, before July 4th, and again in the late fall.
College Township
Parks and Recreation Report

Date: 06/06/2023  Park Name: Slab Cabin
Parks Rep: Earl Moore

Report

Maintenance Issues:
Pavilion near lower parking lot has truss and roof damage on back left corner.
DALE SUMMIT AREA
REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Your Input Matters!

During the charrette, we will explore big ideas for the future of Dale Summit.

We have many different ways for you to engage. The Opening and Closing Presentations and the Work-in-Progress Open House are public meetings where you can get an overview of the whole project and hear about the developing ideas. The topic meetings give a chance for people interested in specific topics to discuss the issues and provide input. The open studio hours are drop-in times where you can stop by to speak one-on-one with team members and see the designers at work.

CONTACT: Lindsay K. Schoch, AICP @ lschoch@collegetownship.org or (814) 231-3021

SCHEDULE

Monday, June 19th
10am - 12pm: Open Studio
5:30 - 7pm: Opening Presentation

Tuesday, June 20th
10-10:30am: Open Studio
10:30am-12pm: Marketability
1-2:30pm: Transportation & Infrastructure
2:30-4pm: Parks, Trails, & Schools
4-5:30pm: Open Studio
5:30-7pm: Work-in-Progress Open House

Wednesday, June 21st
10-10:30am: Open Studio
10:30am-12pm: Land Use & Zoning
1-7pm: Open Studio

Thursday, June 22nd
5:30-7pm: Closing Presentation