



*Embraced by nature. ♦ Inspired by progress.*

**Liberty Township Parks Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
6:30pm, April 25, 2017  
Liberty Township Meeting Center  
6400 Princeton Road**

**I. Call to Order 6:30**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Rhonda Freeze

- Roll Call : Rhonda Freeze, President;
- Michel Price, Vice President; Kurt Feldmann, Secretary;
- Ron Aylward, Treasurer; Members: Dave Linter, Chuck Holliday, Laurie Ballenger, Bill Walker, Maureen Mowl, Parks Liaison, Rick Plummer; Kristen Bitonte, Township Administrator; Tom Farrell Trustee;

**III. Approve Minutes (3/28/2017)**

- Motion to Approve: Ron
- Second: Chuck
- Roll Call: All in Favor; Unanimous passage;
- Discussion nay; Kurt Feldmann abstains due to absence in March.

**IV. Treasurer's Report (Ron Aylward)**

**Balance of \$1354.00 quarterly statement (1-1-17 thru 3-31-17) disseminated at meeting.**

The balance in the account as of March 31<sup>st</sup> was \$1354.00.

1. From March 31<sup>st</sup> through April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 additional deposits were:
  - \$50 generated by Maureen's sale of 5 Buddy Cards
  - \$265 income from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Disc Golf Tournament on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017
  - \$10 from sale of Buddy cards at Disc Golf Tournament
  - \$125 from Steve Lennartz from the Native Plant Sale.
  - Discussion: Maureen sold 5 Buddy cards; Plant sales for Allen park Butterfly Garden \$125
  - Motion to Approve: Laurie
  - Second: Bill
  - Roll Call: All in Favor; Unanimous passage;

**V. Report from Township Liaison (Rick Plummer)**

- Planned/Scheduled/Completed Park Improvements: Shingles fixed at Reserves Park shelter. Park restrooms are now open at all parks. Two large trees were felled and removed from eastern portion of Allen Park.
- Wear issue of slide repaired at Ft Liberty with plastic weld. The slide will be replaced as soon as possible. Cherokee Park project: Rick is concerned with the viability of a seeding & straw to effort to facilitate a trail from the parking lot to pond. Rick mentions asphalt is a likely option. Dave had a specific discussion with Rick about the south and middle field portions of the park. The northern edge has been a problem zone as a neighbor has consistently ignored boundary signs and mowed into the conservation zone. Rick has had multiple discussions with the offender. This is now a township matter exclusively. Bill asked about spraying poison hemlock at reserves park- Rick said June based on his priorities of work.

- Christy: The new marketing officer has been updating Google maps, updating our website. She has added the fishing event to Butler County Connect.
- Metro Parks/Dudley Park Update: There is a meeting on Thursday to officially accept the park. Butler County Metro Parks will remove all Metro signage including the dog waste station. The trail markers and other signage will remain. The transfer is official on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Further stream remediation follow up communications from Cardo New will be directed to the Township. Any spraying schedules will be posted at the park kiosk. Rick will receive pictures of the Holliday in the Parks Dudley event from Bill Walker. Windsor estates residents want a trail to be established from their easement to the park. We need to identify the connector trail with an aerial and then utilize their residents as willing volunteer labor to blaze the trail. This will be brought up in earnest at the next Trails Committee meeting on Monday at 2PM at Township Hall.

## VI. Reports

- Disc Golf (Michel Price)
  - 4/22/2017 Disc Golf report 18 Participants; 7 volunteers; we made \$ 90 on the event. Bad Weather reigned but we still had a great turnout; Rhonda will report back on the feasibility of future events after subcommittee discussion. One goal is to increase family participation.
  - Danny Runk, Sammi Cornish and Joseph Jivoin finished 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively in the Beginner category.
  - Brock Jones(46), Bryce Edmonston (47) and Dan Runk(48) finished 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively in the Experienced category.
  - There was a survey conducted by Maureen Mowl which should give us feedback not later than May 9<sup>th</sup> at the subcommittee meeting.
- Wildflower Walk/Dudley Woods (Chuck Holliday)
  - 4/15/2017 report: Good weather was enjoyed and over 35 people attended the event. Bob Henn was remarkable. Flowers were obscured by grasses. Bob has agreed to do the event next year. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year for Bob's walk. April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 is the date for next year's event. Chuck wants to designate a contingency transition POC for Bob.

## VII. Upcoming Events

- Barry Thiel Memorial School of Fish (Kurt Feldmann/Michel Price)
  - Date: 6/17/2017
    - Kurt performs dedication and introduction of event. Michel is responsible for the execution and implementation of the event. Bill Walker will implement the event if Michel cannot. We will have many of the same fishing stations as previous years.
    - Raffle prizes from sponsors.
    - Four volunteers are needed at a minimum.
- Return to Cherokee Park (Chuck Holliday)
  - Date: 10AM until noon 6/3/2017 Dave is going to lead a Saturday walk to highlight the restoration project. This is a pretty mild walk. The total distance 1-2 miles. Attendees can walk as little or as much as they like. This event will be disseminated on the Township website.
  - May 18<sup>th</sup> Dudley Woods: Bill Walker conducts a Tree Walk from

6:30-8:30 PM. Walking distance is no longer than one mile dependent upon conditions and personnel attending

- May (TBD) Dudley Woods: BCSWO conducts Lakota school training during the school day.
- May 31<sup>st</sup> Dudley Woods: Volunteer work day for garlic mustard and other invasives from 7pm til 9pm

- Parade/5 K Run (Laurie Ballenger)

- Date: 7/4/2017 Review Laurie's document and assign tasks

#### **VIII. Work-in-Progress**

- Lakota YMCA – Yoga in the Park (Rhonda & Michel) Andrew is the POC for YMCA. The YMCA will supply the instructor for a Friday night event at Dudley Memorial- “Sunset Yoga”; Implemented on the third Fridays of every month; We can begin as early as May running through September; park needs to be mowed. Events will occur at 5:45 PM
- KURT Motioned to go forward with Sunset yoga as described due to it being a resounding win win scenario with the potential for future collaborative synergies. Kurt: First; Maureen: Second; All in Favor; Unanimous passage;

#### **IX. Board Discussion**

- Letter from Michele Allen re: Allen Park (Chuck Holliday) Chuck doesn't see the need for the full \$12K. We can sustain the current spraying efforts from the township- the spraying technique worked. We just need to remove DEAD honeysuckle. The only way to get rid of the dead honeysuckle is to use a FEECON ( Bobcat with a grinder) Rentals cost \$2950 week. Rick and the Township provides the labor and fuel. Michele Allen approved of the smaller disbursement of funds. Next year we can focus on the Eastern side of the park and south of panther run. Bridging is not an option.
- Park Events (Rhonda Freeze)
- Wear your t-shirts at events
  - Sponsorship Protocol
  - Release Forms
- Board Member Topics
- Dave and Laurie want improved signage for Cherokee Park
- Chuck: Park maps laminated in kiosks; Kiosks need to be updated
- Ron: Everyone sell Buddy cards. We have approximately 20 left.
- Kurt commends the dynamic contribution of our newest members.

#### **X. Next Meeting:**

- 5/30/2017 @ 6:30 p.m.  
Liberty Township Meeting Center 6400 Princeton Road
  - Review Parks Committee options for meeting locations

#### **XI. Motion to Adjourn 7:55 PM**

- Motion Chuck
- Second Bill
- Roll Call: All in Favor; Unanimous passage;

