

**East Vincent Township
Park & Recreation Meeting
August 27, 2024, 7:00 PM**

Brian Wilde opened the meeting at 7:00PM. Also in attendance were Chris Cobb, Doug Schmidt, Todd Palmer, and Christine McNeil. Also in attendance was the Township Manager, Bob Zienkowski.

1. Meeting minutes from July 23, 2023, were read and approved. Modifications were noted.

Moved: C. McNeil

Second: T. Palmer

Vote: Unanimous

2. Old Business

{A. Independence Park}

{a.} HRG Kickoff Conceptual Plan and Layout

J. Robinson of HRG reviewed the current master site plan and reviewed the scope of the work to be done at Independence Park. HRG also presented a sample master plan from another township in anticipation of the plan that will be provided to Independence Park. The proposed project schedule was provided covering the months of August through November. C. McNeil commented that we would like to obtain cooperation from the community through a survey that can be distributed to the township residents. It was suggested that a letter be sent from the township with a link to the survey so residents could provide their feedback. It was requested that the survey be available before Community Day. There could be other interest groups that may have needs in the park.

T. Strickland of HRG presented the concept of a “court” area within the upper campus of the park. She also reviewed the proposed ADA trail in the current plan and suggested how to better incorporate an ADA trail into the park at a different location.

The existing veteran clinic buildings will come down.

T. Obara commented that a sign with an explanation of the Pennhurst State School & Hospital, and other interpretive signs about how the area was used and the children that lived there is needed within the park. This would help tell the story correctly about what happen to the facility.

{b.} Signs Quote

T. Palmer presented the signs that would be developed for the entrance of the park as well as the wayfinding signs. B. Wilde motioned recommending an engagement with Virtual Farm Creative (VFC) to design and produce the pillar and wayfinding signs for Independence Park, as per their provided quote. Seconded by C. McNeil. T. Palmer abstained. Remaining vote was unanimous.

{c.} Model Airplane Field

J. McCann and his staff did a great job cutting down the high grass at the new model airfield. T. Palmer, assisted by D. Schmidt, did a great job with the final first cut making the field perfect for model aircraft activities. A local resident of Spring City Boro spoke with C. McNeil and D. Schmidt the day of the engineering overview walk at the park. M. Capoferri volunteered to assist with mowing operations at the airfield.

{B. Park on the Ridge}

{a.} Community Day

The postcard flyer is in the works and H. Baer will be sending them out soon as a reminder for township residents. Signs are needed to direct folks to the “demo” events and the other activities. A Parks & Recreation tent will be staffed and will have a map of Independence Park and other layouts. The food vendors and other participants are all confirmed.

{C. People’s Park}

{a.} Land Survey

C. McNeil has a map of the original land survey completed by Horizon Engineering. A motion was made by B. Wilde to recommend engaging Wilkinson Engineering to conduct a survey of People’s Park, including mapping and staking, as per their quote. Seconded by C. Cobb, The vote was unanimous.

{D. Budget 2025}

B. Wilde provided a packet containing the proposed Parks & Recreation budget for 2025. Only new items are required to be in the budget. Open Space bond act funds should be available to assist in obtaining the right-of-way/conservation easements to connect Park on the Ridge to People’s Park. Trail blazing at the park can begin whenever staff is available. The Sheeder Rd. parcel will be available for additional trail work. A grant has been obtained to support the building of the trails. There will be a need for budget money to support the grant application writing and processing.

3. New Business

{A. Consideration of a motion to recommend the appointment of a new member to the Park and Recreation Board }

T. Obara has been a township resident since December 1999. B. Wilde made a motion to recommend the appointment of EVT resident T. Obara to the Park and Recreation board. D. Schmidt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

4. Miscellaneous Discussion

T. Palmer commented that he has been on the board for the last two years and has seen more progress in the last year than he has seen before. T. Palmer presented a gift to B. Zienkowski for his support of the Indy Trail. He was presented with a framed copy of the trail map.

B. Zienkowski commented that Paul Friel and Katie Muth would be helpful to us to obtain funding for our parks.

C. McNeil commented that it would be nice to have an indoor pickle ball facility constructed within the Jone's Motor property. There is a franchise that is looking for space to build one.

5. Public Comment

None.

6. Adjourn

Moved: C. Cobb

Second: T. Palmer

Vote: Unanimous