

**East Vincent Township
Park & Recreation Meeting
January 24, 2023, 7:00 PM**

Brian Wilde opened the meeting at 7:01 PM. Additional board members in attendance were Chris Cobb, Doug Schmidt, and Todd Palmer. Also in attendance was Township Manager, Catherine Ricardo.

1. 2023 Reorganization

Nominations were made for Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary. B. Wilde was nominated for chairperson by D. Schmidt and seconded by C. Cobb. Vote was unanimous. C. Cobb was nominated for vice-chairperson by B. Wilde and seconded by D. Schmidt. Vote was unanimous. D. Schmidt was nominated for secretary by B. Wilde and seconded by C. Cobb. Vote was unanimous.

2. Meeting minutes from November 22, 2022, were read and approved with the modification of adding the date of the Pennhurst Museum Visit email of 11/28/2022.

Moved: D. Schmidt

Second: C. Cobb

Vote: Unanimous

3. Old Business

The Independence Park park plan has been sent to the planning committee and was then sent to the township for approval and movement to the next step. It is scheduled to be adopted in March and then sent out for bids. Beginning of construction is possible for late summer. The survey that T. Palmer put together is still waiting to be distributed to township committees and the supervisors. The results are to be reviewed in May.

The visit to the Pennhurst Museum will be rescheduled.

4. New Business

The suggested date for the 2023 Community Day is September 16, 2023. We will continue to use the same vendors as 2022. Will be looking into prepackaged foods for out-of-town guests that show up on the day. Pony ride, petting zoo, the rock wall, and the bouncy house were hits and will be returning. It was suggested that we seek more volunteers to help manage waiting lines and helping kids get in and out of the bouncy house. Will also be looking for a wildlife vendor. A suggestion was made to have more than one face painter. There also should be a representative from the county parks office, and the Schuylkill River Greenway Association (trail and river). It was suggested to think about other groups that might fit into the day.

5. Miscellaneous Discussion

E. Milito of the EAC commented that they have started to do a lot of things. Park & Rec is always invited to attend. The EAC is planning an event for Earth Day 2023. Earth Day 2023 is on April 22, 2023. The EAC is planning on planting a pollination garden. More information to be posted in the East Vincent Voices facebook group. EAC is looking for a sign for the pollination area that will have a QR code for further information about the area. They are

also thinking about giving out seeds and plants. There may also be a scavenger hunt. B. Wilde brought up a suggestion about deciding on a location to provide for a community garden somewhere in the township.

E. Milito is planning on a volunteer day at Independence Park to review the invasive plants in the park that need to be removed. A date is being planned.

C. Ricardo presented the letter that was received from T. Comitta regarding the Open Space Plan. After review of the options, it was recommended to proceed with option 3.

C. Ricardo highlighted the priorities for Park & Rec for 2023: Independence Park; Open Space Plan (grants and investigations); Community Day; and Township Walking Trails research.

T. Palmer questioned the process to starting a simple, unimproved trail project within the Reiff Farm property. He commented that French & Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust's preserve manager, Jim Moffet, volunteered to help create the trail as the park is in the French Creek watershed. The suggested trail would be something like the trail in Templin Woods Preserve managed by French and Pick. This issue will be added to future priorities.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Adjournment

Moved: D. Schmidt

Second: C. Cobb

Vote: Unanimous