

**East Vincent Township
Park & Recreation Meeting
October 28, 2025, 7:00 PM**

Brian Wilde opened the meeting at 7:00PM. Also in attendance were Chris Cobb, Doug Schmidt, Todd Palmer, Christine McNeil, and Tim Obara. Also in attendance was the Board of Supervisors liaison Craig Damon II.

1. Meeting minutes from September 30, 2025, were read and approved as amended.

Moved: C. Cobb

Second: T. Palmer

Vote: Unanimous

2. Guest Discussion

None.

3. Old Business

Reviewed the packet provided by B. Wilde. He provided an addendum to the meeting minutes of September 30, 2025. T. Obara motioned that the addendum be approved. T. Palmer seconded motion. Motion carried.

The packet also contained a schedule for the Independence Park project. It is projected that there will be a groundbreaking on December 1, 2025.

A. Open Issue List

Independence Park

#1 It was suggested that the demolition be held after the Rugged Indy event.

#4 Construction of the wayfinding sign is still pending conversations with the hospital and the guard.

#5 It is expected that the cemetery interpretive signs will be completed by 11/11/2025.

#6 It may be beneficial to discuss this with the arborist on 11/16/2025 at the Rugged Indy event.

#7 It was suggested that there be a coordination meeting with EMS to discuss the design of the restroom and the plaza area.

#8 There is a request for a monthly progress report from the construction company.

#9 The SEVC Discover Independence Park day event will be scheduled in the Spring of 2026.

New Item: New funding is needed for the next phases of construction in Independence Park. The grant application period is in the Spring of 2026. A full list of items needed and the cost for these items will need to be gathered for the grant application.

Park on the Ridge

#16 through #18 have been designated as the top priorities.

#22 C. McNeil is working with M. Todaro on the grant application. B. Zienkowski and H. Baer will present the grant application at the next BoS meeting.

B. Independence Park

From B. Wilde: The bid specifications and general contractor selection process are now complete. Township Engineer Mike Kissinger of Pennoni issued the bid tabulation and recommendation to the Township Manager Bob Zienkowsli on October 13, 2025, who then forwarded it to the Board of Supervisors for consideration. The BOS approved the recommendation for the award to MECO Constructors of Bensalem, PA, on October 15, 2025.

a. Project Schedule

The project schedule was reviewed. The park groundbreaking is expected to be December 1, 2025.

b. General Contractor Introduction (MECO Constructors)

Information on the contractor can be found by searching for the company name on the web. B. Wilde reported that there is good information there.

c. Indy Trail extension

Work will be performed on November 8, 2025, at 9:00 AM to complete the trail extension.

Motion: C. McNeil motioned that a letter to the BOS be written to thank them for all their support. C. McNeil will write the letter. Second, by T. Palmer. Motion carried.

d. Cemetery interpretive sign

The sign will be completed by November 11, 2025.

e. 2nd Annual Rugged Indy Race - Nov 16

B.Wilde confirmed for the record that beer will be available at a food vendor station during the Rugged Indy event on November 16, 2025. This has been reviewed and approved by the BOS.

Motion: D. Schmidt motioned to approve the budget for the event as presented by T. Palmer. Second, B. Wilde. Motion carried.

f. Pharaoh Dogs Lure Coursing event – Dec 3rd & 4th

There is confirmation from Julie Gwin that the event is still scheduled.

C. Park on the Ridge

a. Food Forest - PECO grant

C.McNeil reported that the grant application is nearing completion.

b. Community Day – Recap

There was a discussion that Community Day may need to a better time of year and that there is a need to avoid professional sporting events on that day. It has been reported that the event needs additional communication with township residents. It would be immensely helpful to have better coordination/planning for Community Day 2026. It was suggested that Independence Park be considered for the 2026 event.

It was also suggested that the local 4H club be asked to join the event where they may be able to support a petting zoo for township children. It would be interesting to see a horse and hounds' demonstration on Community Day.

D. Peoples Park

Natural Lands will be working on a plan for Peoples Park.

E. Sheeder Woodlands Park

The township has taken ownership of the park land. The open parcel is on the market for sale. The township arborist will play an important role in developing the park. A study of the trees within the property will be important. The first walkthrough of the park will be scheduled for the spring.

F. Parkerford Historic Riverfront Park

No discussion.

G. Budget 2026 - present Nov 5 to BOS

The final Park & Recreation budget will be presented.

4. New Business

A. Vincent Canal Interpretive Sign Research

The board reviewed a potential sign for the canal. C. McNeil commented that she has historical photos of the canal that she can provide to the Historical Commission. Further research will be conducted.

B. Mini covered bridge plan

B.Wilde provided an update regarding the mini bridge plan. He reached out to J. McCarthy of Lancaster Timber Frames, Inc for information. T. Obara suggested that the bridge be constructed from cypress wood for longevity reasons. T. Palmer volunteered to draw up a sketch of a proposed bridge that will be provided to J. McCarthy.

C. Independence Park Visitation Insights (Azira Pinnacle Data 2023-2025)

T.Palmer provided additional information about the report. He will investigate if the results could be narrowed down to the perimeter of the park.

5. Miscellaneous Discussion

C.McNeil asked about how we plan for expansion of sports fields within East Vincent Township. There is a previous survey that noted some of this, but it may be outdated. We do not know what sports our current residents participate in. It may be helpful to organize a meeting with local sports groups to discuss their needs.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Adjourn

Moved: C. McNeil

Second: T. Palmer

Vote: Unanimous