

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
RE-ORGANIZATION & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 5, 2022

7:00PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Michele Tipton-Walters, Committee Secretary at 7:00 P.M.
The following notice requirement was read aloud:

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by being published in the Hunterdon County Democrat on December 30, 2021. A copy of this notice was also telefaxed to the Express Times and posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and the Township website on December 30, 2021.

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of these committees, and also members of the public are requested to speak only when recognized by the Chair so that there is no simultaneous discussion or over talk and further, all persons are requested to utilize the microphones which are provided for your use by the Township. Your cooperation is appreciated.

ROLL CALL

Present

Andrew Russano
David Hewitt
Chuck Kolvites
Richard Dodds
Jack Niciecki
Timothy Jordan
Mara Tippet
John Kika

Absent

Karen Nuckols

Reorganization

Motion for Nomination of Chairperson for the Parks and Recreation Commission

It was moved by Andrew Russano, Jr., seconded by Timothy Jordan and carried to nominate **David Hewitt Chairman** of the Parks and Recreation Committee for the year 2022.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Russano, Jordan, Dodds, Kolvites, Niciecki, Jordan Kika, Tippet
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- Hewitt
	Absent	- Nuckols

Motion for Nomination of Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee

It was moved by Richard Dodds seconded by Timothy Jordan and carried to nominate **Chuck Kolvites, Vice Chairman** of the Parks and Recreation Committee for the year 2022.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Russano, Jordan, Hewitt Dodds, Niciecki, Kika, Tippet
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- Kolvites
	Absent	- Nuckols

Motion and Approval of Local Newspaper for Advertisements for 2022

It was moved by David Hewitt, seconded by Jack Niciecki and carried to approve the Hunterdon Democrat and the Kingwood Township Website for all Parks and Recreation meeting notices and advertising for 2022.

All members voted "Aye" on Roll Call Vote.

Motion and Approval of Scheduled Monthly Meeting Dates and Time for 2022

It was moved by Chuck Kolvites, seconded by David Hewitt and carried to approve the following monthly meeting dates scheduled the first Wednesday of each month (except January), at 7:00PM for the Parks and Recreation Committee for 2022:

January 5, 2022	July 6, 2022
February 2, 2022	August 3, 2022
March 2, 2022	September 7, 2022
April 6, 2022	October 5, 2022
May 4, 2022	November 2, 2022
June 2, 2022	December 7, 2022

All members in voted "Aye" on Roll Call Vote.

Privilege of the Floor

Michele Tipton-Walters represented a request from Linzi McCormick to use the Morton building for youth (8-10 yrs. old) soccer practice. Ms. McCormick is a professional soccer coach and stated that they would need to use the building each Monday for one hour for the next 5 weeks. They would be using a very heavy futsal ball which would not be airborne.

Motion to Allow Timothy Jordan to Represent the Parks and Recreation Committee in a Meeting with Linzi McCormick to Determine if the Morton Building is Suitable for Youth Soccer Practice.

It was moved by David Hewitt, seconded by Jack Niciecki to allow Timothy Jordan to represent the Parks and Recreation Committee in a meeting with Linzi McCormick to determine Morton building suitability for youth soccer practice.

All members voted "Aye" on Roll Call Vote

Timothy Jordan asked the Committee if there is a process in place to determine when meetings should be held live and when they should be held remotely via Zoom based on Public Health considerations. Mr. Dodds stated that last year the Township Committee left that decision up to each individual Committee/Board. Parks and Recreation does not currently have a specific policy.

Motion to Officially hold Parks and Recreation Meetings during February, March and April Remotely via Zoom. Meetings from May through November to be Held at the Kingwood Park Pavilion. Committee to determine November and December meeting location in October of 2022.

It was moved by Chuck Kolvites, seconded by Timothy Jordan to approve holding Parks and Recreation meeting remotely via Zoom for February, March and April 2022. Meetings to be held at Kingwood Park Pavilion from May through October. Committee to decide meeting location for November and December by October 2022.

All members voted “Aye” on Roll Call Vote

Horseshoe Bend Park/Ukarish Property Update

Jack McConnell, reported to the Committee that a hunter had violated hunting rules by not posting his name and hunting license number on his tree stand and by cutting vegetation around the stand. This individual was apprised that Parks and Recreation Committee would contact him regarding the violations.

The Committee discussed that although the posting of identification on tree stands is addressed at the mandatory Hunters meeting each year the subject regarding State rules that no trees or vegetation can be cut on State land is not discussed. Moving forward this information will be included in the mandatory hunting presentation.

Mr. McConnell asked for input from the Committee regarding opposing a fine requiring restitution by working time at Horseshoe Bend Park. Some members of the Committee felt is sufficient to give a warning. Mr. McConnell felt that would then become the precedent for possibly greater violations.

The Committee asked Andrew Russano, Committee Liaison, to ask the Township Attorney for input on how best to handle violations by hunters at the Horseshoe Bend Park. This topic was tabled to the February 2, 2022 meeting.

R Dodds discussed a statement on the Friends of Horseshoe Bend Park website regarding signage of vendors. Mr. Dodds read a letter set to Friends of Horseshoe Bend Park by the Township Attorney, Katrina Campbell. The letter stated that the private organization cannot permit corporate sponsorship on Township property.

Mr. Dodds made note of many other Township activities over the years that have allowed temporary sponsored signage.

Andy Russano, Committee Liaison, to gather more information on this subject and report back to the Committee at the February 2nd meeting.

R. Dodds discussed the State grant for the Lindsey White House at Horseshoe Bend East. He stated that operating costs above revenue from rentals can likely come from the Open Space Trust fund. Mr. Dodds asked for a recommendation to the Township Committee that they approve the Township matching funds of approximately \$202,121. for this initial State Historic preservation grant.

Some Committee members have not yet seen the building. These members will tour the building and report back at the February 2nd meeting.

Calendar of Events Scheduled for the Horseshoe Bend Park for January 2022:

None

Kingwood Township Park/Applications/Updates

None

New and Pending Business

Motion to Approve the Minutes of the December 1, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes for the Parks and Recreation Committee

Due to Township emails, which included copies of the minutes, not being received by two members of the Committee it was requested that approval of the December minutes be tabled to the February 2nd meeting.

Kingwood Park Playground

No update.

Old Business

Kingwood Park encumbered an amount of \$2,100. from 2021 budget for the purchase of a new refrigerator for the Kingwood Park kitchen. D. Hewitt determined that the refrigerator was not working because the receptacle that the refrigerator was plugged into was connected to a breaker that was off.

It was suggested by Michael Ewing, DPW Foreman that the money allotted to Kingwood Park be used for stone dust to be applied to the walking, running trail.

Motion to Approve the Purchase of Stone Dust for the Walking/Running Trail in the amount of \$2,100. instead of a New Refrigerator.

It was moved by Timothy Jordan, seconded by Richard Dodds to approve the use of an encumbered amount of \$2,100.00 from the 2021 budget towards the purchase of stone dust for the Kingwood Park walking/jogging trail.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Russano, Hewitt, Kolvites, Dodds, Niciecki, Jordan, Tippet, Kika
	Nay	- None

Abstain - None
Absent - Nuckols

The Committee was informed that the State has approved the Italian-American Heritage Club's donation of \$300.00 to be used to purchase a new picnic table and benches at the Kingwood Park Pavilion.

Mr. Dodds stated that there are four picnic tables at Horseshoe Bend Park not in regular use. He suggested one of those tables be moved to the Kingwood Park Pavilion. The Committee discussed using the \$300.00 for maintenance materials for the picnic tables.

Secretary Walters to review with Diane Laudenbach, CFO, to determine if changing the use specified in the donation would be permitted by the State.
To be further discussed at the February 2nd meeting.

New Business

Motion to approve reimbursement in the amount of \$49.30 to David Hewitt for the purchase of candy for the Tree Lighting ceremony December 4, 2021.

It was move by Chuck Kolvites, seconded by Jack Niciecki and approved to reimburse David Hewitt \$49.30 for the purchase of candy for the Tree Lighting ceremony on December 4, 2021.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Russano, Kolvites, Dodds, Niciecki, Jordan, Kika Tippet
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- Hewitt,
	Absent	- Nuckols

Volunteer Forms

T. Jordan stated his opposition to the Volunteer Injury Waiver form and recommended that volunteers not sign it. A. Russano noted that this is a requirement from the Township's Insurance company. Committee requested that the Township Committee revisit this requirement at their February meeting.

Kingwood Park House

A. Russano communicated to the Committee that they are waiting for the Engineer to give us a date when he come out to Kingwood Park.

T. Jordan asked if any other municipalities had resident directors overseeing their parks.

R. Dodds stated that the County and State do have that coverage but no members had knowledge as to whether or not other municipalities had resident park directors.

Reports

Financial report – December Expenses

Reviewed.

Discussed the Outerspatial program renewal cost of \$3,000.

This topic was tabled to February 2nd meeting.

Correspondence

Committee reviewed Heidi Diminick's resignation from the Parks and Recreation Committee as of January 2022. D. Hewitt stated his disappointment in Ms. Diminick's decision and speaking for the entire Committee, accepted her resignation regretfully. Mr. Hewitt remembered Ms. Diminick's many years of service to the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Kingwood Community at large stating that Kingwood Township has benefited greatly from her time and effort.

T. Jordan requested the Committee give Ms. Diminick a standing ovation.

Donations

None

Other Matters

A. Russano, speaking for the Township Committee, thanked Heidi Diminick for her time and hard work over the past 25 years.

Mr. Russano suggested that the Parks and Recreation and Township Committees work together to offer Community events this year while acknowledging that may require a more creative approach than in the past.

The Township Committee is trying to advance communication within the Community and asked that the Parks and Recreation Committee share information regarding activities or projects that they will be working on so that the Township Committee can support, advocate and push these projects forward.

R. Dodds stated that every Sunday morning between 9-12 there will be a working crew out at the Horseshoe Bend Park. He welcomes involvement from the Parks and Recreation Committee members.

Adjournment

It was moved by Richard Dodds and seconded by Mara Tippet to adjourn the meeting at 8:40PM.

All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Tipton-Walters
Secretary, Parks and Recreation