

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
RE-ORGANIZATION & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

January 11, 2023

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 22, 2022. A copy of this notice was posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and the Township website on December 19, 2022.

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.

Swearing in of New Parks and Recreation Members by Township Committee Member

Lance Riggio

Heidi Diminick

Laura Linton

Maureen Bydalek

ROLL CALL

Present

Lance Riggio

David Hewitt

Richard Dodds

Mara Tippet

Heidi Diminick

Maureen Bydalek

Lori Linton

Absent

Jack Niciecki

Cynthia Niciecki

Re-organization

Motion for Nomination of Chairperson for the Parks and Recreation Committee

It was moved by Richard Dodds, seconded by Mara Tippet and carried to nominate **David Hewitt** as **Chairperson** of the Parks and Recreation Committee for the year 2023.

Motion to Close Nomination of Chairperson for the Parks and Recreation Committee

It was moved by Heidi Diminick, seconded by Richard Dodds and carried to close the nomination for **Chairperson** of the Parks and Recreation Committee for the year 2023.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye	- Riggio, Hewitt, Dodds, Tippet, Diminick, Bydalek, Linton
Nay	- None
Abstain	- None
Absent	- J. Niciecki, C. Niciecki

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

It was moved by David Hewitt seconded by Heidi Diminick and carried to nominate **Richard Dodds** as **Vice Chairperson** of the Parks and Recreation Committee for the year 2023.

Motion to Close the Nomination of Vice Chairperson for the Parks and Recreation Committee

It was moved by David Hewitt, seconded by Heidi Diminick and carried to close the nomination for **Vice Chairperson** of the Parks and Recreation Committee for the year 2023.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye	- Riggio, Hewitt, Dodds, Tippet, Diminick Bydalek, Linton
Nay	- None
Abstain	- None
Absent	- J. Niciecki, C. Niciecki

Motion and Approval of Scheduled Monthly Meeting Dates and Time for 2023

It was moved by Richard Dodds, seconded by Mara Tippet and carried to approve the following monthly meeting dates scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month (except January), at 7:00PM for the Parks and Recreation Committee for 2023:

January 11, 2023	April 5, 2023	July 5, 2023	October 4, 2023
February 1, 2023	May 3, 203	August 2, 2023	November 1, 2023
March 1, 2023	June 7, 2023	September 6, 2023	December 6, 2023

All members voted “Aye” on Roll Call Vote.

Motion and Approval of Local Newspaper for Advertisements for 2023

It was moved by Richard Dodds, seconded by Heidi Diminick and carried to approve the Hunterdon Democrat and the Kingwood Township Website for all Parks and Recreation meeting notices and advertising for 2023.

All members voted “Aye” on Roll Call Vote.

Regular Meeting

Privilege of the Floor

J. MacConnell stated that the boiler at Horseshoe Bend Park needed repair.

Mr. MacConnell requested that the Parks and Recreation Committee draft and send a letter to State regarding the damage the Cooley property is causing to the area surrounding the property and to the Horseshoe Bend Park. The Committee discussed whether a letter would be beneficial. R. Dodds stated the goal should be to note that the tax payers have paid for the property and, as such, should be permitted to use the parking lot on the Cooley property at no charge. The Concessionaire should either pay for the parking lot, reimburse the State for the land, or they should pay business taxes to Kingwood Township.

Motion for Parks and Recreation Committee to Recommend to the Township Committee that a letter be written to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection Stating Grievances.

It was moved by David Hewitt, seconded by Mara Tippet and approved to request that a memo be sent to the Township Committee Recommending that a Letter of Greivance regarding the Cooley Property be Sent from the Township Committee to the NJ State Department of Environmental Protection.

All members voted "Aye" on Roll Call Vote

Mr. MacConnell request that the fire truck, that had been stored at Horseshoe Bend Park for three years, be brought back. Green Acres required that all equipment that did not directly support outdoor recreation be moved off of the property. R. Dodds stated that the fire truck does support the park safety. L. Riggio will discuss this with the Township Committee at the February 2nd meeting during the Parks and Rec liaison report.

J. Scricco voiced his frustration about the status of hunting on the State land at Horseshoe Bend Park. Mr. Scricco accused the previous Township Committee of lying in the past. He stated that all the issues presented, so far, have been blamed on Richard Dodds. Mr. Scricco stated that he "Can't get the truth out of Dave (Hewitt), Andy (Russano) or Michele (Tipton-Walters)."

Mr. Scricco is requesting that the Parks and Recreation Committee do whatever they can to get the Kingwood Township managed hunting back on the State land.

J. Scricco voiced his concern and grievance over no longer being permitted to park up at the Cooley property without having to pay a fee for \$6.00 each time he chooses to park there. He has asked for representation by the Parks and Recreation Committee for the Kingwood residents.

Horseshoe Bend Park Update

Maintenance Plan

R. Dodds reviewed the list of work that is done by volunteers at Horseshoe Bend Park. D. Hewitt asked that trash pick-up should be added to the maintenance list.

Calendar of Events Scheduled for the Horseshoe Bend Park for January 2023:

Del Val Jr. Terriers Cheer

January – 10th, 11th, 12th, 17th, 19th, 25th, 26th and 31st

New and Pending Business

Motion to Approve the Minutes of the December 7, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes for the Parks and Recreation Committee.

It was moved by Richard Dodds, seconded by David Hewitt to approve the December 7, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes Parks and Recreation Meeting with noted grammatical corrections.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Hewitt, Dodds
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- Riggio, Tippet, Diminick, Bydalek, Linton
	Absent	- J. Niciecki, C. Niciecki

Parks and Playground and Recreation Accounts Budget Request for 2023

Motion to Keep the Parks and Playground and the Recreation budget amounts the same for 2023:

Parks and Playground Account – \$6,000.00

Recreation Account - \$9,000.00

It was moved by David Hewitt, seconded by Heidi Diminick and approved to keep the Parks and Playground and the Recreation budget amounts the same as 2022:

Parks and Playground Account - \$6,000.00

Recreation Account - \$9,000

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Riggio, Hewitt, Dodds, Tippet, Diminick Bydalek, Linton
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- J. Niciecki, C. Niciecki

CART – County Animal Rescue Team

Jack MacConnell explained that Horseshoe Bend Park is one of multiple locations set up by the County to be used as a location for farm animals requiring emergent placement. D. Hewitt asked if there is an agreement on file. Mr. MacConnell stated that there is not at this time but will work on getting one.

Old Business

OuterSpatial Invoice

It was discussed that when the Committee agreed to fund the OuterSpatial program for 2022 they requested a report that would show the volume of public use of the app or the 2022 calendar year before deciding to fund the program again in 2023. M. Tippet will try and run the required reports. This topic was tabled to the February meeting.

Confirm date for the 2023 Community Day

September 16, 2023

Park Fee Increase for 2023

Committee discussed 2023 fees for use of Kingwood and Horseshoe Bend Parks.

Motion to Not Increase Facility Use Fees at Horseshoe Bend Park and Kingwood Park for the Calendar Year of 2023.

It was moved by Heidi Diminick, seconded by Mara Tippet to not increase Facility Use Fees for the Kingwood and Horseshoe Bend Parks for the Calendar Year 2023.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Riggio, Hewitt, Dodds, Tippet, Diminick Bydalek, Linton
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- J. Niciecki, C. Niciecki

Discuss Kingwood Park Use of Field fees for Youth Sport Leagues

Maureen Bydalek volunteered to query other towns on their Parks Sports Field Use Fee Schedules. This topic was tabled to February meeting.

Sub-Committee Updates

Park Director's House

Members: David Hewitt, Michael Ewing, DPW Foreman, and Richard Dodds

Update: Need to schedule a meeting to discuss information already obtained through inspection of the Park Director's House.

Lindsey White House

Members: Richard Dodds, David Hewitt, Betty De Sapio and Jack MacConnell

Update: None

Kingwood Township Hunting Program

Members: Jack Niciecki, Richard Dodds, David Hewitt, Jack MacConnell, John Scricco (Resident)

Update: None

Maintenance Plan

Members: Richard Dodds, David Hewitt and Mara Tippet

Update: None

Volunteers

Need for Informal communication method when looking for volunteers for events.

Operations and Reports:

None for January 2023

Correspondence

M. Tippet reported that Green Acres plans to update their rules which were established in 2005. There will be a stakeholder meeting scheduled for public comment. Once that is scheduled she will disseminate that information to the Park and Rec members. M. Tippet suggested that since the Green Acres rules are currently being updated that this would be a good time for the Township Committee to write a letter to NJ DOT regarding the concerns with how the Cooley property is being handled.

Annual Egg Hunt

April 8, 2023

Annual Senior Picnic

June 10, 2023

Fishing Derby

June 17, 2023

Community Day

September 16, 2023

Townwide Yard Sale

October 7th and 8th, 2023

Annual Tree Lighting

Review 2022 Event

December 2, 2023

Donations

None

Other Matters

Green Acres Stewardship Grant Application. Table to Feb meeting.

Adjournment

It was moved by Heidi Diminick and seconded by Lauri Linton to adjourn the meeting at 9:35PM.

All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Tipton-Walters

Secretary, Parks and Recreation