

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**August 2, 2023**

**7:00PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by David Hewitt, Committee Chair, at 7: 00P.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 January 19, 2023. A copy of this notice was posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and the Township website on July 26, 2023.**

**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. Your cooperation is appreciated.**

**The Parks and Recreation Committee convened at Kingwood Park Pavilion for this meeting. They will continue to convene at the Kingwood Park for scheduled meetings during pleasant weather. Details of meeting locations can be found at [kingwoodtownship.com](http://kingwoodtownship.com)**

**ROLL CALL**

**Present**

David Hewitt  
Richard Dodds  
Heidi Diminick  
Maureen Bydalek  
Chuck Kolvites  
Mara Tippet-Environmental Committee Liaison  
Laurie Linton – Open Space Liaison

**Absent**

Lance Riggio  
Ti ina Seres

**Privilege of the Floor**

Frank Floyd, OEM updated the Committee on the status of the concrete covert repair or replacement at HSB East. The current quotes from the Township engineer are:

Replacement - \$562,000.00

Repair - \$142,500.00

Awaiting response from FEMA.

The Committee discussed the Township website and in particular, the Parks and Recreation page. They believe the current website is difficult to navigate and the information is not clear.

**Motion was made to recommend to the Township Committee that they simplify and improve the Township website and in particular the Parks and Recreation page. In addition, the Parks and Recreation Committee requests that the Township Committee consider using a web designer for the maintenance of the website.**

**It was moved by David Hewitt and seconded by Maureen Bydalek to recommend to the Township Committee that they simplify and improve the Township website, and in particular the Parks and Recreation page. In addition, the Parks and Recreation Committee requests that the Township Committee consider using a web designer for the maintenance of the website**

#### **ALL VOTED AYE ON ROLL CALL VOTE**

#### **Motion to Approve the Minutes of the June 6, 2023 and July 5, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes of Parks and Recreation Committee.**

R. Dodds brought attention to an event that had been listed on the July agenda and minutes which was scheduled at Kingwood Park on July 29<sup>th</sup> as a picnic/meet and greet. He stated that this event was hosted by a political organization that should not have been permitted use of the Park. The Committee discussed the legality of refusing any group use of public space. Mr. Dodds felt that the Parks and Recreation Committee did retain rights to choose who could or could not use the Park. It was determined that the Committee members would submit questions on this topic to M. Bydalek who will forward that list to the Parks and Recreation secretary. The list of questions regarding selective use of public space will be forwarded to L. Riggio, Township Committee Liaison to address with the Township Attorney and report back at the October meeting.

**It was moved by Richard Dodds, seconded by Mara Tippet to approve the Minutes for the June 6, 2023 and July 5, 2023 Regular Parks and Recreation Committee meeting amending the event listed as “Don Miller – Picnic” to “Don Miller – KTDC Meet & Greet”.**

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>- Hewitt, Dodds, Diminick Bydalek, Linton Tippet</b>
	<b>Nay</b>	<b>- None</b>
	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>- Kolvites</b>
	<b>Absent</b>	<b>-Riggio, Seres</b>

#### **Horseshoe Bend Park Update**

Leash Free Dog Area topic tabled to the October 4, 2023 meeting.

J. MacConnell reported that a person had called to report a group of bumblebees that were located by the Leash Free Dog Area gate. She felt that the bees were a danger to people and animals. Mr. MacConnell informed her that they did not pose a serious danger and we were not able to kill the bees. He did let the person know that there is another dog park on Rt. 12 in

Raritan Township. Mr. MacConnell alerted D. Hewitt to the complaint who call the woman. He informed her that we could not spray a pesticide in a public location without proper public notification. He also explained that the bees are necessary to the plant as pollinators. He let her know that it is a short period of time that they will be a nuisance. The person was satisfied with this information.

The Committee reviewed a report submitted by the NJ Mycological Association of the results of their mushroom foray at Horseshoe Bend Park on July 30<sup>th</sup>. R. Dodds questioned secretary Walters why this organization did not have to submit a Facility Use Agreement. She explained that this was not a public event, no fees were collected from attendees and no reservations were required. Private groups are permitted to use open space without a signed agreement.

R. Dodds requested that all Facility Use Applications be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Committee in advance.

### **Kingwood Park Update**

None

### **Old Business**

Follow up daily large group use at Kingwood Park

D. Hewitt reported that the one local organization that had used the Kingwood Park on a daily basis for a day program for adults has since been terminated that program. The organization is currently applying for Group Residential Housing through the Kingwood Board of Adjustment. If and when that is granted D. Hewitt will revisit the discussion of how best to balance the needs of the residents with the overall care of the Kingwood Park.

### **New and Pending Business**

**Motion to Approve the Purchase of \$25.00 Worth of Additional Trees for the 2023 Free Tree Seedling Give-away.**

**It was move by Richard Dodd, seconded by Mara Tippet to approve the purchase of \$25.00 worth of additional trees for the 2023 Free Tree Seedling give-away.**

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>- Hewitt, Dodds, Diminick. Bydalek, Kolvites Linton, Tippet</b>
	<b>Nay</b>	<b>- None</b>
	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>- None</b>
	<b>Absent</b>	<b>-Riggio, Seres</b>

**Motion to Approve the Purchase of Games and Activities for the Community Day and Family Fun Night Events in an Amount Not to Exceed \$999.00**

**It was move by Richard Dodds, seconded by Heidi Diminick to approve the purchase of games and activities for the Community Day and Family Fun Night events in an amount not to exceed \$999.00**

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>- Hewitt, Dodds, Diminick. Bydalek, Kolvites Linton, Tippet</b>
	<b>Nay</b>	<b>- None</b>
	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>- None</b>
	<b>Absent</b>	<b>-Riggio, Seres</b>

### **Sub-Committee Updates**

#### **Parks Activities Sub Committee**

L. Linton discussed the possibility of having a recreation survey for residents completed in time to distribute at the Community Day. As a member of Open Space and Agriculture Committee she was asked to work on the Open Space and Recreation Plan. There was information in that plan regarding a previous survey that was mailed to residents asking them to respond to questions regarding their choices of recreational opportunities that might be offered by the Township. The Activities Committee will continue to work on the questions and method of dissemination to residents.

#### **Lindsey White House Sub Committee**

On Hold.

#### **Kingwood Park Manager's House Sub Committee**

Work is at a standstill awaiting the boiler inspection by Yard plumbing.

### **Operations and Reports:**

Financial Report for 3rd Quarter 2023

Reviewed

### **Correspondence**

None

### **Community Day**

September 30<sup>th</sup>

L. Linton reviewed the schedule of events for Community Day addressing the status of each. Lack of volunteers for parking remains a problem. R. Dodds to contact Delaware Valley Soccer Association to see if they might be able to assist knowing that they can seek donations for their organization.

D. Hewitt will contact car clubs to see if they would like to participate.

### **Town Wide Yard Sale**

October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

## **Annual Tree Lighting**

December 2, 2023

## **Donations**

John Mathieu - \$300.00 for Community Day Fireworks

## **Other Matters**

D. Hewitt shared that he had met with Charley McBride and an Eagle Scout at the Melnyk Pond. The Scouts are interested in building either some bat houses, Purple Martin houses, Bluebird boxes or Wood Duck boxes to be placed around the Pond area. D. Hewitt will ask the Scouts to present their ideas/plans at the Parks and Recreation September 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **Events Scheduled for the Horseshoe Bend Park Morton Building for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023:**

Del Val Cheer:

July 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

September 28<sup>th</sup> – October 2<sup>nd</sup> - Eric Salas Dog Workshop

## **Events Scheduled for the Kingwood Park Pavilion for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023:**

Italian American Club Bocce Practice Start – Every Monday and Thursday April 3<sup>rd</sup> through October 30<sup>th</sup>.

Sandy and Friends Bocce Practice – Some Tuesdays and every Wednesday evening April 11<sup>th</sup> through October 25<sup>th</sup>.

August 26<sup>th</sup> – R. Lerch AA picnic

September 10<sup>th</sup> – Hunterdon County Hiking Club Picnic

September 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> – C. Bloksberg Dog Luring Event

September 30<sup>th</sup> – Community Day

## **Adjournment**

**It was moved by Mara Tippet and seconded by Richard Dodds to adjourn the meeting at 8:00PM.**

**All Members in Attendance Voted “Aye” on Roll Call Vote.**

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