

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 1, 2023
7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by David Hewitt, Committee Chair, at 7:22 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 January 19, 2023. A copy of this notice was posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and the Township website on December 5, 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.

ROLL CALL

Present

Lance Riggio
David Hewitt
Richard Dodds
Heidi Diminick
Tiina Seres
Chuck Kolvites
Mara Tippet - Environmental Committee Liaison

Absent

Laurie Linton – Open Space Liaison
Maureen Bydalek

Privilege of the Floor

John requested to use Horseshoe Bend Park East park for future sites, unknown when or how many times. Request was sent to Michelle, she stated that it had to be brought to the committee for approval due to the dogs being off the leash. Dogs are trained by air scent from a puppy to find someone who has their toy. When you tell them to go find their toy, if they find anyone in the park and they do not have their toy they do not pay them any attention and continue to look for their toy. All insurance coverage will be met. Give a minimum of two weeks notice to use the Horseshoe Bend Park East, try to avoid people that are in remote areas. Richard Dodds suggested no fee for them to use the facility. Dogs do have a cow bell, vest and GPS on their collar, the handler usually has sight of the dog unless they get into heavy brush but the point is to have them close to the dog.

Motion to approve the use of the Lambertville New Hope K9 Search and Rescue unit to be able to initially use Horseshoe Bend Park East and work with Jack MacConnell on dates and times of these occurrences for 2023 and 2024, off leash, not to exceed 1 dog off leash at one time.

It was moved by Richard Dodds, seconded by Dave Hewitt.

Roll call

Aye -Riggio, Hewitt, Dodds, Diminick, Seres, Kolvites, Tippet

All in favor no opposed

Betty Desapio, resident from 90 Stompf Tavern, the township inquiring about the White House, Richard Dodds advised working on the manager house, then focusing on White House. Betty Desapio said she would be happy to help on the sub committee.

John Strecko, resident from 749 RTE519, wanted to give an update from his incident at the park and thank everyone for their help in saving his life.

Motion to Approve the Minutes of the October 4, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes of Parks and Recreation Committee.

It was moved by Chuck Kovites, seconded by Heidi Domnik Dave Hewitt asked if any other changes.

Roll Call

Aye - Lance, Hewitt, Dodds, Diminick, Kolvites, Seres, Tippet

Horseshoe Bend Park Update

Jack MacConnell having a problem with cheerleaders leaving lights on at Morton building overnight. Requested a letter written to them that if they leave light on and become a nuisance we are going to start fining them \$25 a night for leaving the lights on. Receiving complaints from neighbors that the lights are on. Richard Dodds said Dave Hewitt will write the letter and Richard Dodds will review it and then send it out.

Jack MacConnell would also like to do research on the course "To stop the bleed". Everyone at the park carries tourniquets, it is imperative that we have them available.

Jack MacConnell said on windy days everyone has to wear a helmet if you are going to be working in the park. Would like a sign that can be folded up or dropped down on the lower kiosk at the south entrance that says "closed for high winds". Winds 20 mph or greater the park needs to be closed due to the ash trees falling.

Jack MacConnell stated Garden State Water will be testing at the park pavilion in early December and put on a suspension list for Kingwood Park.

Jack MacConnell stated if this works out with the rescue people this is a great place for them to work. There are great areas for them to go and would like to see them on the mason dixon side and axel rod side if we lose someone up there we may not find them.

Kingwood Park Update

Dave Hewitt has a proposal from Richard Yard, recommending to the Township Committee that they obligate this money for Richard Yard to get this fixed before it gets much colder. Dave Hewitt confirmed he has not billed us anything yet, this is the only invoice to come up with the proposal after he was in there so he knows what he has to do. Richard Dodds asked if we should also be getting a price for a double wall interior oil tank identical to what we have in this building. The current invoice does not list the oil tanks but he can do the oil tanks, we need an all in one price invoice. Chuck Kolvites made a motion we ask the town to pay the \$2500 plus the cost of the oil tank installed. Lance stated we need the price of the oil tank and this is not on the agenda for tomorrow night's meeting. Richard Dodds asked if we get a price quote from Richard Yard tomorrow can we ask the Mayor at tomorrow's meeting to put that on the agenda, items can be added to the agenda. Lance Riggio stated we needed the exact amount in the motion tonight.

Motion to spend up to \$6000.00 on the heating system at the manager system.

It was moved by Chuck Kolvites, seconded by Richard Dodds.

Roll call vote

Aye - Hewitt, Dodds, Diminick, Kolvites, Seres, Tippet

Abstain - Riggio

New and Pending Business

Dave Hewitt stated they needed input regarding Outside Together – State Comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. October 18th the availability to comment on that ended.

Dave Hewitt approval for one portable toilet to be delivered by December 4th at the pavilion for tree lighting for the winter.

Motion to approve portable toilet for Kingwood Park starting December for the rest of winter.

It was moved by Richard Dodds, seconded by Dave Hewitt

Roll call vote

Aye - Riggio, Hewitt, Dodds, Diminick, Kolvites, Seres, Tippet

Sub-Committee Updates

Parks Activities Sub Committee

Lindsey White House Sub Committee

Kingwood Park Manager's House Sub Committee

Operations and Reports:

Financial report 4th quarter 2023 anything to know asked Dave Hewitt. Richard Dodds stated he wants it known a little bit of the math is off on this. Donation was given for fireworks and should

be taken off the fireworks price actual cost \$2,511.89 then minus the donation.. Richard Dodds stated the math errors on this is important because it changes the total remaining recreational events budget to \$599.81.

Correspondence

Dave Hewitt received a letter from the Italian American Club saying they would like a table, we talked about purchasing another picnic table.

Dave Hewitt read a thank you letter from Township committee Mr. Andrew Russano Jr. for assistance with Community Day. Lance Riggio stated thank you to everyone on the committee and recognized their hard work into the event.

Dave Hewitt stated Jimmy Desapio made a \$300.00 donation as a thank you for using the facilities at the Kingwood Park.

Annual Tree Lighting

Dave Hewitt made up the flyer and will drop it off to the Kingwood School. Students' drawings will be picked up on November 21st which will give us time to review them for the winner to be at the December 2nd tree lighting. Dave Hewitt will check the pavilion for what we need. Heidi Diminick stated she would handle the ShopRite donations. Candy canes need to be purchased or we can ask them for a donation along with the cookies and hot chocolate. Dave Hewitt will work with the fire company. Event begins at 4pm. Santa arrives at 4: 30 and tree lighting is 5pm or when it gets dark. Committee members should get there around 1pm. DPW should handle the lights, we will make a note to remind them. Presents look good, do not have to be rewrapped. Backdrop needs a work session we will work with our group on.

Donations

Richard Dodds appreciating all individuals and companies that donate towards fireworks: The Strober-Wright Roofing and Integrated Clinical Systems donated \$2000.00. Dave Hewitt will run it by Michelle to see if they got recognized. Other donations received from John Mathieu, De Sapio Construction, Phil Lubitz, Stuart Freedenfeld, Maureen Syrnick, Russano Family, Calandra Family Bakery and Round Valley Dental for \$2,925 in donations. Richard Dodds thanked everyone for donating.

Jack MacConnell asked Kingwood School PTA 5K are we going to pay the DPW double time to come out and put cones out or are we going to have volunteers. States PTA going to place them. Richard Dodds stated if the DPW comes out they get double time. In the past we have had the volunteers come out and set the cones up. Discussion followed. Look into more of the plan behind this.

Other Matters

Richard Dodds sent an email regarding a sign to put in front of the leash free area. Nice kiosk up there now. The Eagle Scout did a great job there. Richard Dodds would like to put a sign at the entrance to the leash free area too.

Motion made to make the sign and post.

It was moved by Charles Kolvites, seconded by Heide Diminick

All in favor: Aye.

Richard Dodds said at the end of year we try to get a supply of everything we need for next year. He has a list but does not have a price, difficulty is who will be doing the ordering. If we put this together and get it approved at the next meeting we can get DPW to order. If they have not over spent at Home Depot or Northern Tool they can order most things for us.

Lance Riggio stated to think about moving the Parks and Rec meeting to the 2nd week of the month. Having the meeting back to back with the Township meeting is not logical.

Events Scheduled for the Horseshoe Bend Park Morton Building for the 4th Quarter 2023:

Del Val Jr. Terriers Cheer Practice November 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 8th, 9th, 14th, 15th and 16th
November 11th & 12th – North Jersey Kennel Club Dog Event

Events Scheduled for the Kingwood Park Pavilion for the 4th Quarter 2023:

November 4, 2023 – Jessica Simcox Birthday Party
November 23rd – Kingwood School PTA 5k Race – Not using the pavilion. DPW to bring cones to Kingwood Park for this event on the 22nd and will collect cones on the 27th. Members of the PTA will be placing them along the route.

Adjournment

It was moved by Heidi Diminick and seconded by Chuck Kolvites to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Tomasina Corley-McGuire,
Secretary, Parks and Recreation