

1. **Meeting Called to Order** – The meeting was called to order by David Spirk at 6:05 p.m. at Southeastern Park.
2. **Roll Call – Present** – Dave Spirk, Chairman; Tom Butera, Vice Chairman; Keith Meier (by phone at 6:15 p.m.), Frank Thompson, Niloofar Aflatoonni, Bill Ross Members. Jason Banonis, Council Liaison; Diane Palik, Staff; Jr. Council member, Colin Griffith. Absent: Krista Baum. Guests: Atom Kallen & Greg Best.
3. **Approval of September 13, 2021 Minutes** – Motion by Frank Thompson to approve the September 13, 2021 minutes, second by Tom Butera. Roll Call: 5-0 (Absent: Krista Baum & Keith Meier)
4. **Presentations** – None
5. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items** – None
6. **Updates** – None
7. **Old Business** - None
8. **New Business**
 - **Review of Active Transportation Plan** – Dave Spirk said it as a good plan, all great stuff. Jason Banonis said Leslie Huhn, Township Manager is starting to implement some of these things. Dave said keep thinking how to keep Lower Saucon Township a vibrant community and we need to try to connect all the parks. Jason said the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) has been implemented into the Saucon Valley Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan so the ATP will get visibility. Bill Ross said it is a well done piece of work. Tom Butera mentioned the Meadows Road Bridge and said you will have to consider that. Jason said the Meadows Road Bridge is County-owned. It will be removed as it's collapsing into the Saucon Creek. To remove it, Federal, State and County funds will be used. There should be a new bridge by 2023-2024 with two lanes of travel and a bicycle and pedestrian lane. The Lower Saucon Bridge is also closed on an emergency basis. The reason it took so long for this bridge is they have to do a Bog Turtle survey and it has to be done in certain months. It is in the works and should be done by Spring 2022. He said he had asked Leslie Huhn to create a list and identify all the bridges in the Township with the ones that need to be replaced and get a study done and be proactive before they need work on them.

Motion by Bill Ross, second by Tom Butera that the Parks & Recreation Board supports and endorses the Active Transportation Plan and what Council has done. Roll Call: 6-1 (Absent: Krista Baum).

- **Discuss Upgrades to the Easton Road Ballpark Including Parking and Lighting** - Greg Best was present from Hellertown-Lower Saucon Little League (HLLSL) and Saucon Valley Diamond Sports (SVDS). He works for Graybar Electric. He had a proposal budget estimate from Musco Sports Lighting. He said Town Hall's softball field was eliminated because it has irrigation issues. They are proposing to put lights on Easton Road Ballfield and it's under their purview. It would get used a lot more if it had lights on it. He said this would be a similar structure like Dimmick Park. It's universal to both fields. They would want to use LED fixtures as they can put a shield on them to cut off the emissions with diodes (stops light emission). The proposal he has would have four pole light locations and would have LED instant on. At the Easton Road Ballfield, they would do away with the upper field and use the lower field. In the proposal, they would do everything but the excavation. Dave said that Public Works could probably do the excavation. Greg said they would also need a building to use as an electrical closet/shed in which the electric would go to each pole underground. Jason said they could probably tie in easily with the warehouses across the street. He said Polk Valley Park field is smaller and there are wetlands.

Parks & Recreation Board Minutes

September 13, 2021

Dave said we already have a plan for the parking area and ballfield which was before other Council's and then it just fizzled away. He asked if we could use Open Space money for these upgrades. Jason said yes.

Bill Ross moved to recommend to Council that the Township look at the plans that were approved for the enhanced design on Easton Road; get the consultants back in that direction and expand the lower field and make one big plan with one field. The plan that was approved also was ADA compliant. Second by Tom Butera. Roll Call: 6-1 (Absent: Krista Baum)

Greg said they are trying to get donations to change the lights at Town Hall basketball court as the kids are playing then all of a sudden the lights go out. For the Easton Road Ballfield they would be able to control the lights. If they wanted them out at 10 p.m., they could just punch it in digitally. He said that in the fall they use Dimmick as a football field.

- **Discussion/Comments on Southeastern Park** – Dave Spirk said the park looks great and is very well maintained. There is a natural wildflower field and it was the first one they tried. It's just now starting to work. It's in a natural setting and it looks great.

Dave said they still did not install the Little Free Library at Southeastern Park and discussed where the LFL should be put. Roger Rasich has to give this blessing with anything that they come up with. They can put it to the left or right of the driveway mouth. Jason said the right side would be better as there is a light there. Dave asked Diane to ask Roger if that would be okay and if not, to come up with a spot. They suggested the right side by the light at the mouth of the park but Roger may have a better location because of plowing. Tom said to relay to Roge that they need a 6'x6' pressure treated post. Have Public Works put it in the ground and they need about 48" out of the ground to set the LFL on. When Public Works has that finished, let Diane know and Dave and Tom will come to the park and put the LFL on the post as it's all ready to go.

9. Public Comment

- Atom Kallen, guest said that the Polk Valley Park Little Free Library is well stocked with books.
- Jason Banonis said he did talk to Leslie about Steel City Park and she will be having Roger look into the items that were talked about at the September 13th Parks & Recreation meeting.
- Jason Banonis said he had a complaint from a resident who walks his dog up at Polk Valley Park. The garbage cans are overflowing after someone rents the pavilion. There is all kinds of garbage and even diapers. Jason suggested that Public Works check out the garbage cans at the Polk Valley Park and have them emptied on a Monday. Diane said that Public Works usually does go up on a Monday morning after the pavilion is rented and empties the garbage cans.

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Tom Butera, second by Frank Thompson. The time was 6:52 p.m. Roll Call: 6-1 (Absent – Krista Baum)

11. Next Meeting: Monday, November 1, 2021 at Town Hall starting at 6:30 p.m.