

# Lower Paxton Township Community Engagement Committee

## Meeting Minutes January 18, 2023

### Members in Attendance

Jim Seidler  
Pat Crawford  
Stan Smith  
Denise Hussar  
Bob MacIntyre

### Members Absent

### Also in Attendance

Rachelle Scott, Staff Liaison

## ANNUAL REORGANIZATION

Chairman: Mr. Seidler was nominated by Ms. Hussar, seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously approved.

Vice Chairman: Ms. Crawford was nominated by Mr. MacIntyre, seconded by Ms. Hussar, and unanimously approved.

## CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Seidler called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm on the above date in Room 174 of the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg.

## MINUTES

The minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting were approved with a motion by Mr. MacIntyre, a second from Ms. Hussar, and a unanimous vote.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

## 9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ARTS & PARKS 5K 2023

### 2023 Fees

Ms. Scott reviewed the rates from 2022, and noted she would like to firm the registration fees up so the website can be updated. Mr. Seidler suggested keeping the registration fees the same as last year, noting that they are in line with other small races in the region. The primary source of revenue is sponsorships not the registrations, so it will not have a negative impact on the bottom line. Ms. Hussar noted that there isn't much senior aged participation and asked if a discount would have any impact on that. Mr. Seidler stated that this age doesn't have as many participants normally. Mr. Smith noted that the course for the race up till now was difficult, so it may be beneficial to describe the difference this year. Ms. Hussar suggested describing the terrain might also be helpful. Mr. Seidler will add something about the course terrain.

### 2023 Sponsor Solicitation Flyer

Members reviewed the 2022 flyer used to solicit the sponsors. Basic changes were noted and will be updated for the February meeting.

### Theme

Members discussed ideas for this year's goal. The goal last year was to raise funds to install interactive musical pieces in the new playground at Brightbill Park. The cost of that was estimated around \$30,000 and CEC pledged 50% and not more than \$20,000, so the donation will be approximately \$15,000 and there is also grant money to be used for this location. Mr. Smith noted it makes sense to continue the same goal if there is more to be done there. Ms. Hussar agreed it is nice to complete a project before starting another. She also noted that could also be appealing to the public to see money was raised last year and the thing was done, now this year you are tackling a new project.

Mr. MacIntyre suggested continuing the theme of music in the park, because it did generate conversation. He added that the project wasn't completed yet, so it may not be great to change to a new goal without being able to show the results of last year's efforts. Mr. Seidler agreed noting the participation was not very high so allowing the conversations to continue around music in the parks would be helpful with the identity of the race since there is a location change. Even though the project from last year won't be completed by July, there will be plans or designs that can be shared with the participants. He felt that doing something new without completing the first one is premature. Mr. MacIntyre added that keeping the theme of music in the parks can be a general theme and can be applied in different ways such as concerts or performances or other activities.

Mr. MacIntyre suggested that by keeping this race focused on music, another race or fun walk could be organized for another time of year for a different theme such as a dog parade that would benefit the dog park. Ms. Hussar would like to be able to publicize the things that are done with the money.

Ms. Hussar asked about the priorities identified in the Master Plan. Ms. Scott noted that the top priority is the park at Hodges Heights, and others with a lot of attention are the Forest Hills renovations without amenity changes, relocation of the cricket field paired with improvements to the dog park.

Ms. Hussar made a motion to continue with the theme of music in the parks for the 2023 race. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed.

### Race Course

Mr. Seidler shared the updated route. He moved the course off the parking lot and onto the incline plane adjacent to the parking lot, which is still a nice running surface for running.

### Trophies

There are 8 categories, and Ms. Scott asked if Mr. Seidler wants to reduce the number of awards given, but he didn't, because if the race grows the categories are appropriate. The original course was designed to host up to about 600.

### Neighbors

Mr. Seidler suggested a mailing to the neighbors so they are informed ahead of time. Yard signs or hand-delivered flyers could be used too, but a mailing would be more efficient.

The course being used is where the paved path has been shown on the George Park plan for years. Ms. Scott noted that the paved pathways along the perimeter of most of the parks were highlighted in the Master Plan. The path for George Park isn't scheduled for 2023, but it is still planned for a future year.

### **FUNDING REQUESTS**

There were no requests to review this month.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### Concert MCs

Ms. Scott stated that planning is well underway for the summer concert series, and staff would like to see if the Board of Supervisors would like to be the MC to introduce the band/concert. They would only need to say a few words and introduce the band to get the night started.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### Trail Maintenance Day

Mr. Seidler stated that February 10<sup>th</sup> is the next day for trail clearing from 2-4 pm. On January 13<sup>th</sup> they did some clearing in the densest part of the trail.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at 5:05 pm. The next meeting of the Community Engagement Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 4:00 pm in Room 174 of the Municipal Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Hiner,  
Recording Secretary