

PERKASIE BOROUGH PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES OF THE MEETING, August 15, 2023
Perkasie Borough Hall, 7:00 p.m.

The monthly meeting of the Perkasie Parks and Recreation Board was called to order at 7:03 pm on August 15, 2023 by Lauren Moll. Members present were Dave Broadbent, Lynne Kallus Rainey, Kathy Rocchetti, Robyn Rapp, and Lisa Walters. Absent was Emily Greco and Bethany Schwendy. Staff Present: Lauren Moll, Director of Parks and Recreation, and Dave Worthington, Perkasie Borough Councilman.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Forum - none

3. Approval of May 2023 Meeting Minutes – Motioned by Lisa, seconded by Robyn, all in favor.

4. Old Business

- Lenape Park LED Sign
 - Lauren gave an update on the status of the LED sign. The sign was installed the end of July, staff were trained last week, and are awaiting final Code inspections.
- Kulp Park Renovation Project
 - There is no update at this time. Staff applied for two state grants earlier this week and are looking at additional grant funding.
- Park and Recreation Sponsorships
 - The Perkasie Rotary sponsored the movie in the Park for July Park and Recreation Month. Staff will continue to work on new Park and Recreation Sponsorship information to go out early 2024, separate from the major Community Events to aid in finding sponsored for continued free programming. Kathy requested that the Board continue looking into the previous meeting's idea of a 'Chalk Walk' in the park system for next year.
- Winter Bus Trip
 - To follow up from last months meeting Lauren came in update regarding the holiday decorations in New York City and that bus companies do have availability in December to do another New York City bus trip.

5. New Business

- Skate Park
 - Lauren gave an update to the Board regarding the status of the Skate Park in specifically the mini-half pipe ramp. Lauren reminded the Board that staff have been looking into the future updating of the skate park starting early last year. The Board had discussed possible reconstruction ideas at the November 2022 meeting. Since then the mini half pipe broke and through Public Works review and outside contractors review has been determined to be beyond repair. Last month staff gave a similar update to Perkasie Borough Council and earlier this month staff met with our insurance provider who stated that the mini-half pipe is past it's warranty, is past it's life span, and is no longer safe to use nor safe to weld and fix. Being that the park itself is 20 years old and though the other

pieces are currently usable they have outlived their life expectancy and over time will need to be replaced as well. Lauren explained that for the short term the Board could recommend to Borough Council to replace the mini half pipe with a similar mini half pipe which would be approximately \$133,000 and could ask for user feedback to assist in the longer-term planning of a larger reconstruction project. Once receiving feedback from the community, the Board can then recommend to Borough Council how their recommendations on proceeding. Kathy then opened the floor to public comment.

- Ashley Denny of 107 7th Street Perkasio commented on the importance of the skate park because some children cannot be involved in other sports or programs.
- Joel Nieto of 326 S 5th Street Perkasio gave the Board different ideas for a new and updated park that include replacing the mini half pipe with a small mini stating that many parts of the park are not ideal for new skaters and insisted when creating a new park the Board should keep in mind the need for the design to flow, be versatile, inclusive of beginners with space to turn. He made note of the need to have designers or contractors that are skaters and even smaller pieces of concrete for tricks would be good.
- Kyren VanDemark of Sellersville commented on his willingness to help clean up the park as well as the need to repair the asphalt. Kyren also commented that he recommends a concrete pad over asphalt for the future.
- Steve Burk of Quakertown commented on the need to revive the skate park and how he was a young skater and there were also older skaters at the park before and after school that showed respect.
- Mikey Leven & Matt Keenen of Ottsville commented that they believed the prices given to the Borough were overpriced and mentioned Local Skaters Union LLC and Gene Rosmarin which are local companies and/or contractors. They also commented on some of the ways staff fixed holes at the park are not ideal.
- Adam Mellow of 101 N. 4th Street Perkasio commented that he loves the skate park and asked about moving it out of the flood zone. Adam also mentioned that Revivals would be interested in helping.
- Katie Santora of 278 Barnhill Road Perkasio commented that a sub committee would be a great idea because those involved see this as their sport and love it.
- During public comment the Lisa made a motion that the Board recommends putting together a skate park sub committee to assist with perspective and design process. This motion was seconded by Lynne, all in favor.
- Menlo Update
 - Lauren gave an update for the summer season stating that staffing is ending the season at about 100% retention which mean the pool was able to remain open normal hours until school was back in season along with keeping after school hours the last week of the summer. Staff are running the annual Doggie Dip on 9/9 and looking into surveys for current and past members to assisting in the 2024 planning.
- Programming Update

- Staff are working on finalizing Fall and Winter programs which include Multi Sport Sundays in Lenape Park September into November, three school's out day camps, Free Medicare workshop, babysitting course and holiday themed programs.
- Tennis & Pickleball Courts
 - Lauren explained to the board that there has been an increase in pickleball court usages due to a local municipality having courts closed for renovation. Many users are reaching out about asking for additional lines to be added to the tennis courts for pickleball usage. A quote from the original court constructor company is about \$3,000. This upgrade of additional lines was unbudgeted for.
- Lenape Park Pedestrian Bridge
 - Lauren gave an update to the Board about the Local Share Account Grant through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that was awarded to Perkasio Borough for \$99,210 for the replacement of the pedestrian bridge in Lenape Park by the Pennridge Little League. The grant contract has been signed and staff are working with the engineers and contractors to replace the bridge. Meetings started in July and the next step includes surveys and test pits done by Borough engineers.
- Lenape Park Twin Bridges
 - Lauren reminded the Board that in past years the Borough has white lattice work along the bridge for safety. Public Works has been looking for something similar but more durable and approved for bridge safety. Lauren presented the Board with a stainless-steel mesh as a possibility. Dave Worthington questions if this was something the Public Works Department could install.
- Volunteer program and event opportunities
 - Lauren explained to the Board that this weekend was the Annual Car Show. The Events and Park and Rec department are looking for volunteers to help with barricade assistance. Lauren also reminded the Board that a Sign-Up Genius was sent out but staff are still looking for volunteers for other upcoming programs as well.

6. Reports

- April 2023 Report – no comments
- May 2023 Report – no comments
- June 2023 Report – no comments

7. Other Business and Discussion – The Board asked questions regarding the turnout for the 2023 Summer Basketball League which Lauren said was typical for the adult league and low for the youth. The Board asked about the 2020 Trail Survey. Lauren explained that recently the Borough engineers reevaluated the survey and reminded the Board that originally the cost estimate was broken down by rating which was not ideal. Engineers reworked the cost estimate to be broken down by park and updated the costs.

8. Adjourn: There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm. Motioned by Kathy, seconded by Lisa, all in favor.

Next Meeting: September 19, 2023 – 7:00 PM at Perkasio Borough Hall.

“The mission of the Perkasio Park & Recreation Board is to preserve and enhance the park system while planning and supporting events for the benefit and enjoyment of our community.”

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Robyn Rapp

Secretary, Perkasio Borough Parks & Recreation Board