

**East Hanover Township Park and Recreation  
Advisory Board  
Regular Monthly Meeting Agenda: July 10, 2023, at 7 pm  
8848 Jonestown Road, Grantville, PA 17028**

**Attendance:** Becky Richards, Karen Henry, Yvonne Sharrow, Angie Welt, Stacy Dove

**Supervisors:** Becki Oller, Mike Yingling

**Guests:** Jeff Rettig, Esq., Abraham Prozesky, Esq., Tom Kunisky, Scott Sharrow

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Karen Henry.
2. **Guest presentation:** Pickleball group came to present proposed improvements related to the safety aspect of playing pickleball in the park.
  - A. First concern was the one pickleball court that has a consistent problem with slippery conditions. They are requesting that the Township remedy that problem.
  - B. The second request was to partition off the two left courts from the two right courts (i.e. erect a temporary partition between the courts that prevents balls from migrating from one court to another. The safety concern is slipping and falling on balls that have gone across courts.
  - C. The third request was to move the shoe sign from the door of the court to the fencing so that it is clear due to the sign not being visible once the gate is opened. Additionally, it was requested that the sign be amended to include pickleball, i.e. "Tennis and pickleball shoes only."
  - D. The fourth request was for the Township to put in a bench where the tables are where the group can affix a plaque in remembrance of players who have died. The group had a member who died recently. The group indicated they would pay the cost of the plaque. Yvonne Sharrow made the point that in the past, when groups wanted to do a remembrance bench, they have donated the bench or equipment.
  - E. The fifth request was for permission to use the hockey court to play on. They reported that there are 20-30 minute waits some mornings between 8 a.m.-11 a.m. for pickleball space. The group proposed that they be allowed to put temporary tape markings down to make a temporary court in the hockey rink. They indicated that if hockey players or rollerbladers would arrive, they understand that those individuals would have preference and would vacate the court. Becki Oller asked if they extend the same preference to tennis players if they come to play tennis. Tom Kunisky indicated that they do extend the same preference. Yvonne Sharrow raised the question of whether that was the case today. There was discussion with the pickleball players that we have reviewed the request for the hockey rink previously and determined that we did not want to allow the use of the hockey court as a temporary court. Yvonne Sharrow shared the locations of pickleball only courts in the area: South Hanover. Discussion of other area pickleball courts that are out there.
  - F. The final suggestion was related to future development based on the knowledge that the existing tennis courts will need to be redone at some point in the future. The group proposed the Township consider erecting four dedicated pickleball courts where there used to be a tennis court and permanent lines for two more pickleball courts on the remaining tennis court or having 8 dedicated pickleball courts replacing the existing two tennis courts and tennis courts erected somewhere else or having 8 dedicated pickleball courts somewhere else.
  - G. The group also thanked the Township for the two new pickleball nets.
  - H. Becky Richards requested of the group in attendance to share with the other pickleball players to stay within the designated parking area where the white line is in the middle of the parking lot while the Summer Rec program is going on as it is creating tight space at the park entrance. Tom Kunisky asked if the traffic signs that direct people to the entrance & exit were accessible so that

they could be put out. Becky indicated that they were not accessible and were locked overnight and put out by Summer Rec staff.

- I. There was discussion of whether the group of pickleball players is an organized group, league, or legal entity. The guests indicated they aren't a legal entity nor are they a league. Karen Henry asked how they would go about controlling people who aren't respecting what the rules are if they are not a formal organized group with a go to person and raised concerns that have come up regarding people not following rules. Jeff Rettig questioned if there are rules for other rec activities like frisbee golf that are enforced. Tom Kunisky asked if the rules are posted on the courts. Becky Richards shared findings from conversations with other Parks & Rec professionals related to laying out ground rules when a park has a court that is shared use. Jeff Rettig indicated willingness to help the group abide by the rules once shared use rules are set and posted. Becky Richards questioned how to equitably show who is waiting to play (pickleball has a system in place but there is no way to indicate that tennis players are waiting).
  - J. Scott Sharrow recommended as a property owner abutting the Community Park that if dedicated pickleball courts were done that they be put behind the soccer fields given that there is parking, there are no homes close enough that it should be a noise nuisance. Scott recommended that the players play with one ball rather than buckets of balls in order to improve safety from balls being around the court that was raised in the second recommendation. Abraham Prozesky shared why so many balls are used based on recommendation from American Pickleball Association.
  - K. Becki Oller indicated that the solution to many concerns raised from the pickleball group seems to be to have their own dedicated pickleball courts but that the funding is the issue.
3. Mike Yingling presented on the park development plan from 2016 and reductions in gaming grants awarded over the last several years. He indicated his appreciation for the Parks & Rec Board. Yvonne Sharrow asked Mike about the focus on maintaining what we have in the parks versus spending on new projects. Mike discussed the need for additional revenue to support Parks.
  4. **Approval of the June minutes.** Stacy motioned to approve the minutes from June. Yvonne seconded.
  5. **Review of the January-June 2023 expenditure report.** No questions or concerns were noted from Board members present.

## 6. Director's Report

- A. PA Master Naturalist program. The program is done and they are looking at potential workdays to come and work on the meadow.
- B. Pavilion restrooms. These are finished, inspected, and open to the public.
- C. Park Maintenance vehicle. It has been purchased and is in our possession.
- D. Summer Rec Camp
  1. Going well. Becky assisted at camp twice to help with counselor coverage.
  2. There have been eight incident reports over the first three weeks.
- E. Updates on Park Improvements & Capital Projects
  1. Community Park & Playground Redevelopment Project
    - Looking to see if we can use some of the funding to put a fence around the park. Looking at ribbon cutting and it was suggested to do it at lunchtime. Stacy Dove suggested doing it the last day of Summer Rec. Becki Oller recommended giving out Park Day flyers at the Summer Rec picnic.
    - Gutters are up at the pavilion but Becky reported that they seem to hang low. A representative from Century Home Improvement did inspect them and Becky is waiting for their report.
    - Becky Richards met with Kevin from Play & Park today related to the playground. He

noted several issues- rust in some spots and some items that may need replaced.

2. Tennis/Pickleball Courts

- Becky has been getting quotes related to reconstructing the courts.

F. Review of Long-term Goals- The Board agreed that there are no changes right now.

**7. Old Business:**

A. Proposals from EHBSA on 2023 and future projects for the ballfields. Board reviewed list that was provided. Becky Richards spoke with Jaci (sp) to find out what kind of permitting would need to be done. No zoning or building permits would be required as long as . Becky is working on setting up a meeting with EHBSA to discuss additional items that were added on related to clogged drainage at the fields. The Board is in favor of putting forth some of the ideas to the Board of Supervisors. EHBSA will be funding the majority of the projects with the exception of the lighting. Becky is going to ask their President to come to a Board of Supervisors meeting to discuss. The lighting and maintenance is projected around \$25,000 for the lights plus an additional \$500-\$1000 per year. Becki Oller requested that Becky Richards hold off on bringing the lighting to the Board of Supervisors. Becky Richards requested that the EHBSA get the Board a capital funding list. Board agreed that we need to have more discussion on the lights before making a decision about that.

1. Four Dugouts
2. Pitcher's practice mound by the Batting Cages
3. Lighting to baseball field
4. Adding a bullpen behind the current score board
5. Installing fencing down the tree line
6. Backstop fencing
7. Drainage

B. Great American Camp-out & Movie was rained out. Looking to reschedule in mid-to-late August, potentially the 18th into 19th.

C. Parking at the YSC- Becky Richards has emphasized the rules of parking at the YSC with the soccer clubs who are renting.

D. Update on Well project and potable water at pavilion- no new updates.

E. Rules posted at the Tennis/Pickleball Courts

1. Angela suggested putting the rules somewhere visible in the parking lot as well as on the court. Becki Oller suggested putting the rules in the newsletter and Karen Henry added social media.
2. Further discussion of the suggested rules that Becky Richards shared with the Board was postponed until the next meeting.

F. USTA Grant

1. Would not be able to have anything pickleball related in the tennis courts in order to potentially obtain one of these grants.

**8. New Business:**

A. Ongoing & Upcoming Events & Programs:

A. **Summer Rec Camp**, June 19-August 4, M-F, 9 am- 12 noon

- B. **Ice Cream Social & Movie**, Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm (2-3 volunteers requested- Stacy can help with the ice cream part, Becki Oller suggested asking two summer staff and paying them).
- C. **National Night Out**, Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 6-8 pm, SHT Patriot Park (2 volunteers requested-) Planning to do snacks and water. There has been a request to contribute to the inflatable with the other townships. Becki Oller and Karen Henry will be available for National Night Out.
- D. **Peach Fest**, Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, ordered desserts and peaches from Farmstead Market vendors. Will need 4-5 volunteers to serve dessert and to call bingo. Volunteers: Karen Henry, Becki Oller, Stacy Dove, Yvonne Sharrow.
- E. **Park Day**, Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>- list of participating groups to date. Angela suggested inviting a representative from DCNR to Park Day.
- F. Looking ahead to the Fall 2023 Newsletter & events/programs:
  - a. September 10<sup>th</sup>, Grandparents Day
  - b. September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Community Park Day
  - c. October 21<sup>st</sup>, GVFC Fall event & Haunted House
  - d. Set Trick or Treat Night for EHT: will recommend 10/31 to the Board or matching other municipalities dates, no rain date
  - e. November 18<sup>th</sup>, Fall Indoor Yard Sale- Becki Oller will get information from Fire Company meeting to see if they are doing fall yard sale.
  - f. Save the Date for our December events:
    - 1. 12/1 - Community Tree Lighting
    - 2. 12/8 & 12/9 - Fresh-Greens Wreath Workshops
    - 3. 12/16 - Breakfast with Santa
- G. Park Survey- sample questions- table for next meeting to have available for Peach Fest and/or Park Day.
- H. Potential Project submissions for the 2023/2024 Dauphin County Gaming Grant
  - a. Tennis Court reconstruction: Yvonne asked if we could put in for the USTA grant if we don't get monies through the Gaming Grant that would cover reconstructing the tennis courts. Becky Richards indicated that she believes we have a better chance of getting the USTA grant than getting more from the Gaming Grant. The group discussed how many tennis courts would be needed. Becki Oller raised the point that if we got the USTA grant, we could then use the monies that would have been dedicated to reconstructing the courts to pay for dedicated pickleball courts. We need to research what the potential cost of putting in a dedicated pickleball court would be. We discussed if the tennis court renovation could be pushed off by one year to allow us time to gather all the information about different questions that have come up. Karen questioned if the basketball court and hockey rink could be moved to a different location near the garage. Angela questioned if we could request that some of the pickleball group assist with potential grant application processes related to State grants. Becki Oller suggested showing our DCNR representative information that was put together regarding pickleball courts when Becky Richards stated she would be meeting with them soon.

- b. Field House for the Youth Sports Complex- the Board is not in favor of putting this into the Gaming Grant or focusing on this as a project at this time due to desired focus on maintaining what exists in the parks at this time.
  - c. Baseball Field lighting for the Youth Sports Complex- the Board is not in favor of putting this into the Gaming Grant or focusing on this as a project at this time due to the desired focus on maintaining what exists in the parks at this time.
  - d. Feasibility Study of the existing Township building- the Board is not in favor of putting this into the Gaming Grant as it pertains to Parks and Rec at this time.
- I. Schedule Splash Pad representative to attend an upcoming Park & Rec Board meeting.

**9. Next Meeting: Monday, August 7, 2023, at 7:00 pm**

**10. Adjourn**

Stacy Dove motioned to adjourn the meeting. Yvonne Sharrow seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

| <b>Park &amp; Rec Board Members</b> | <b>Terms (Expiration):</b> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Angela Bard-Welt                    | 12-31-27                   |
| Karen Henry                         | 12-31-26                   |
| Kirby Reichert Jr.                  | 12-31-23                   |
| Laurie Reichert                     | 12-31-25                   |
| Stacy Dove                          | 12-31-26                   |
| Yvonne Sharrow                      | 12-31-25                   |
| Zach Jackson                        | 12-31-23                   |

Board of Supervisors' representative: Becki Oller

Park Director:  
Becky Richards, CPRP