

## Elizabeth Township Park Board.

### Meeting Minutes for January 5, 2024.

In Attendance: Rodney May; Mike Landis; Bernadette Cisney; Tom Moyer; Lisa Rothermel; Steve Garman, and Ken Fillo.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Annual reorganization: Ken made a motion to keep the existing slate of officers. Mike seconded the motion. All approved.

The minutes of the September 2023 meeting was approved as written.

Supervisor's report: Rodney may reported that the 2 existing benches adjacent to the playground were "purchased" for dedication plaques by Mr. Richard Sweater. One for his son and one for himself.

Glen took the damaged 'stepping- stone" mushrooms to be "plastic welded." The pieces are 12 years old. Glen has suggested replacing these pieces with an Ascend Web whirl, (This is similar to a merry go round with a climbing component geared for ages 5-12. Prices range from \$13,200 to \$19,800 based on the height. Replacing the 10 Mushrooms would cost \$8,000+.

Last year, Mike suggested we consider adding playground equipment for this age group. Expanding the existing playground to accommodate more equipment for the 5-12 age group does not seem feasible.

Lisa noted that children seem to be more aggressive on playground equipment, of late, often to test the strength of the equipment.

Rodney will ask Loren to send a Thank You card to Mr. George on Keener Road for rebuilding the Little Library Box.

Penn Elm Park: The members reviewed the improvements that were done in 2023.

Ken gave an overview of his report to the Supervisors regarding the State grant program for park improvements the deadline of which falls in the first week of April 2024. The supervisors were not in favor of pursuing this grant in 2024.

Ken had contacted Swing Kingdom to try to get information on the date when the equipment was installed and the cost of the equipment. Unfortunately, the company has changed ownership 2 times, and that information is not available.

We asked Bernadette to ask Kevin Zook to inspect the equipment in the near future, to determine what if anything needs to be done to the equipment. We do know that the "Safe Fall Zone" needs to be increased by 10 feet around the climbing equipment and many of the sections of plastic "curbing" are cracked and need to be replaced. Glen has removed the merry go round and dropped it off with a contractor so that it can be refurbished.

Ken suggested that a Pad and walkways be installed to increase handicapped accessibility. There was a discussion of types and materials for the walkways. It was suggested that the sandbox be removed.

Other issues: Rodney will talk to the Penryn fire company about removing the shed at the park. It was suggested that it be put up for sale at the Penryn Mud sale and that the fire company be allowed to keep the proceeds of the sale.

It was suggested that the sink on the exterior wall of the pavilion be removed.

New Business: Community Park: Ken suggested that the members look for places to plant additional trees. Perhaps in the southwest corner or to provide shade along the walking path and near the playground. He also suggested the removal of the crimson barberry shrubs (Note: I misidentified the shrubs. They are burning bushes.) around the playground since they are on the state's list of invasive species.

The Earth Day clean-up of the park will be held on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, from 8 a.m. until Noon. Rain date Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>. It will consist of weeding and light mulching. We asked Bernadette to contact Ron to make sure that no athletic events are held until after noontime, to avoid the conflicts that occurred in 2023.

Tom believes that the sponsorships for the disc golf course are up for renewal this year. We will check with Loren. It was noted that due to the popularity of disc golf in the region, Bomberger's Store is an official vendor for the "Tree Magnets" brand of equipment. They stock 21,000 discs.

Warwick Little League: Currently there is no contract with the organization. The board feels that since they received a grant for the dugouts, and built a press box, that they pay for the "diamond tax" for the infield, especially since they do not contribute to the cost of mowing the fields where as the Lititz youth soccer does contribute. Rodney will ask Loren the cost of the diamond tax in 2023.

In addition, there have been conflicts with supporters parking on the grass and blocking access to the disc golf course, and this is ongoing.

Bernadette reported that the pavilion rental calendar is open for 2024. In 2023 there were 58 rentals at Cp, and 9 new and 12 grandfathered rentals at PEP.

Rodney is working on booking the "Music in the Park" events. July 20<sup>th</sup> will have Terry G's one man show. The second will be based on the availability of a band. It is expected that the Lions club food truck will be on site again in 2024.

The Lions club would like to hold an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Time TBD. We may open the restrooms early to accommodate this event.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ken Fillo.