



MT. LEBANON
PENNSYLVANIA

**Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 6, 2018 - 6:30 p.m.
Municipal Building Room C**

I. Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum

Mr. Farrell called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM, and proceeded with the roll call. The meeting was attended by Jonathan Farrell, Gregory Newman, Ron Block, Elaine Kramer, Richard Heyse, and Megan Zadecky.

The meeting was also attended by the Municipal Manager, Keith McGill, Director of Public Works, Rudy Sukal, Facilities & Parks Coordinator, Phillip Avolio, and Commissioner Kelly Fraasch.

Pam Burrett was absent.

II. Citizen Comments

No citizens' comments to report.

III. Approval of February 2018, Meeting Minutes

Mr. Farrell asked the group to please review the February 2018 meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Mr. Farrell and a second by Mr. Block to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed, and the minutes were approved.

IV. Project Prioritization & Ranking:

The group reviewed all current projects highlighted in the updated prioritization table.

The group decided that they would like to see preliminary design and engineering estimate to improve access and add a potential fenced dog park to McNeilly Park.

Mr. Farrell discussed keeping the second phase of Twin Hills Invasive Control on the table to show that the group is interested in the follow-up treatments and plants that are slated to follow in 2019.

Mr. Sukal noted that he would provide the 3-phase pricing that Gateway provided to replace the single lump sum pricing that is currently shown on the prioritization table.

Mr. Block reviewed the Robb Hollow Parking Project. He pointed out how the steep valley almost separates the park into two areas, and a second parking area would help to get volunteers and materials into the park to make improvements.

Mr. Block suggested that the group review any current plan that has been created regarding the Bird Park Streambank Restoration. The group discussed addressing access through the park by potentially adding gabion baskets at the Youngwood crossing.

The group decided to leave the PA Blvd project on the list just as a place holder in case any opportunity to use the space for a park application.

The group finished discussions by listing any new ideas or projects that are not on the current list.

Ms. Kramer noted that it would be a nice gesture to focus on a completely accessible park or play area fully geared towards special needs and accessibility, offering play to all residents alike. The group decided that this would be a perfect item to incorporate into a strategic plan.

Mr. Block noted that he would like to see a project focused on the accessibility of the valley in between the sections of Robb Hollow. He stated that either a switch back path or cable suspension bridge would be a cool feature to aid in crossing the valley.

The group decided to add an additional item of adding funding to update the current Parks Master Plan as the eighth item, (not ranked-numerical only) and the addition of a Natural Areas Study as the ninth.

The group went around the room to identify their 1-3 ranking of projects:

Megan Zadecky: 1.) Twin Hills 2.) North Meadowcroft 3.) McNeilly

Greg Newman: 1.) North Meadowcroft 2.) McNeilly 3.) Strategic Plan / Urban Forestry

Richard Heyse: 1.) Bird Park 2.) Twin Hills 3.) McNeilly

Ron Block: 1.) Twin Hills 2.) North Meadowcroft 3.) McNeilly

Jonathan Farrell: 1.) McNeilly 2.) Twin Hills 3.) Parks Master Plan

Elaine Kramer: 1.) McNeilly 2.) Twin Hills 3.) North Meadowcroft

Pam Burrett: 1.) Twin Hills 2.) McNeilly 3.) Natural Areas Study

(Read by Mr. Avolio from Pam Burrett email)

Mr. Farrell noted that he would be providing a matrix for the group to review for next meeting. Mr. Sukal noted that he would provide the breakdown of North Meadowcroft Park and any project documents he can find on the Bird Park stream restoration that were already created.

V. New Business

Mr. Block noted that the Library Garden Tour Staff had reached out to him inquiring if the PAB would like to highlight any specific park as well for the garden tour. Mr. Block shared that they would be using the recently replanted area above the soccer field in Bird Park as a highlighted area to be included in the garden tour.

VI. Old Business

Mr. Farrell reviewed the trail walk of Robb Hollow that had taken place the previous Saturday. He highlighted areas that will be changing during the site portion of the Public Works Master Plan. The group also shared their findings on sections of the trail that are in need of improvements. They also noted that there may be a chance to incorporate a trail from the cross walk at Painters Run to the new green space.

Mr. Farrell reviewed a drafted statement regarding the conservation of the ACT 70 Land located to the south of the proposed firing range. A motion was made by the group unanimously to adopt and record the drafted statement.

VII. Announcements:

Commissioner Fraasch noted that the Commission would be reviewing the potential for creating a new Parks Master Plan as well as Boards and Authorities Goals in the upcoming discussion sessions.

Ms. Kramer reviewed the draft of the Spalding Circle pamphlet for the upcoming garden tour. She asked if the group could please review it and provide her with any changes or feedback.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Block and seconded by Ms. Kramer to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM.