

**Hamiltonban Township and Fairfield Borough
Joint Parks and Recreation Commission (JPRC)
Minutes of Tuesday, June 12, 2018**

REGULAR MEETING:

Call to Order by Chairman Terry Scripture at 7:06 PM

Attending: Terry Scripture, Chairman; Dean Thomas, Fairfield Member and Vice Chairman; Matt Inskip, Treasurer; Laura Morgan, Secretary; Bob Gordon, Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors (BOS) Liaison, and Coleen Reamer, Community Grant Volunteer

Public: John Strahler, Kim Bream, and Lori Borden.

Approval of Agenda with Additions: 1st motion by Dean Thomas; second by Laura Morgan. Motion approved. Additions to the agenda were:

- Grant updates
- Meadow fence
- Meadow grass kill
- Music in the Park
- Park sign for entrance
- Brochures
- Park donations
- Interpretive panels

Approval of Minutes from May 8, 2018: 1st motion by Dean Thomas; second by Terry Scripture. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report: Fund Balance as of 5/31/2018 was \$35,039.24. No further discussion.

Public Comment: Lori Borden, Carroll Valley, addressed the Commission about Fairfield school parents interest in creation of volley ball courts. Carroll Valley had courts in place, but the sand for the courts has repeatedly washed out. The parents group approached Carroll Valley about reestablishing the courts, but they are unwilling to do so because of the continued issue with water, but they did express a willingness to donate the equipment for the courts (poles and nets), if the parents found another site willing to host. The school itself has expressed a willingness to reestablish their existing courts, but the parents would not be able to bring children and occupy them during play at that location. Lori asks whether the Hamiltonban Community Park has a site that they would be willing to commit to courts. The choice of the park is based on a desire to make use of the children's recreational opportunities while parents play volleyball. Commission members discussed the request and asked that Lori return to the next meeting for more discussion. Points raised by Commission members were as follows:

- The park is grant-funded and no funds exist that could be directed towards creating and maintaining courts. The Fairfield parents (a loose and ad-hoc, if committed group) will need to return to the Commission with a proposal for excavation and removal of dirt from the courts' site, donation of sand, and maintenance of courts. Commission members wonder whether a better course for the first year is to select a site and install nets on existing turf (as is currently the case in Oakside in Biglerville) in order to get a sense of the magnitude of commitment and use before moving ahead with installation of sand.
- Two possible sites at the park exist, but members need to make a park visit to measure out and consider the impact and possibilities at these two locations. Court dimensions (if considering two side-by-side) are around 55' X 55'. A visit to assess possible sites is planned for Friday, June 15th at 2PM and in advance of the July meeting at 6PM on Tuesday, July 10th.

- Commission members like the collaborative opportunities (partnering between Carroll Valley, Fairfield, and Hamiltonban) inherent in this proposal and are actively considering it.

Old/New Business:

- A. **Grant updates:** Coleen Reamer announced award of a grant from the Adams County Community Foundation (ACCF) for \$8,130 in support of the natural play area being installed during Stage 2 park development. The original grant application was submitted to the Robert C. Hoffman Trust, but ACCF (which manages the Trust grant award process) made the decision to provide funding under one its three new strategic focuses that targets the building of healthier communities through support for youth activities. Commission members will use these funds to include low-maintenance park structures in the natural play area (for some examples, see the log balance beam and log steppers offered by Landscape Structures for nature-inspired play: <http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/10090026#/10090026/12>). This grant award is heartily welcomed and appreciated by Commission members.
- B. **Stage 2 update:**
 - The park is now approved by DCNR for Stage 2 construction and has received its NPDES approval, too. Coleen is waiting word from Sports and Recreation (Mark Ford) on when work on Stage 2 will begin.
 - Terry Scripture, Laura Morgan, and Richard Johnson have installed two horseshoe pits near the grills in the park. The equipment and sand were donated by Bob Gordon. Terry Scripture donated the wood framing.
- C. **Meadow fence and meadow grass kill:** Beautiful fencing has been erected around the area that will be converted into a pollinator demonstration meadow. Fencing was installed by Commission members Dean Thomas, Matt Inskip, BOS member Bob Gordon, community volunteer John Strahler, Fairfield Athletic Director Crystal Heller, the Fairfield wrestling coach, and four student athletes. Dean Thomas has thanked the School Board for staff and student assistance at the School Board meeting on June 11th.
 - **Next steps:** Coleen Reamer will be at the park on Friday, June 13th, at 2PM to map out the remaining fence section and get a count of posts and rails still needed. Once a count is determined, an order will be made for posts, rails, and weed killer (Round Up) for the meadow grass kill. Acquisition of these materials will require a new purchase order to be drawn up before placement. Installation and the meadow grass kill will be scheduled once materials are received.
- D. **Music in the Park:** The June "Music in the Park" event was rained out. Commission members voted unanimously to add a month to the schedule. Future "Music in the Park" events are now scheduled for 2nd Sundays in July, August, and September. The July date is July 8th. A rain date possibility will be researched by John Strahler and added. Each month the event will feature musicians Bo Hek, Ed Kaplan, and Dane Wagle with Open Mic as an additional draw.
- E. **Park sign for entrance:** A vinyl 6.2' X 3.2' sign with the park's logo has been ordered by Dean Thomas. The grommated sign is being donated by Ski Liberty. Dean proposes use of a gas-line pipe frame to erect the sign. He will bring the sign to the next meeting for members to see.
- F. **Brochures:** Matt Inskip has provided some additional brochures to the Township office. Terry Scripture has some that she will also make available (the park kiosk needs restocking). The Commission members do not see a need to reorder additional brochures at this time. They have been well received and widely distributed.
- G. **Park donations:** Decisions on this item was tabled until next meeting (July 10th). Commission members would like to include plaques acknowledging individual contributions/underwriting of benches or trees. No additional grills are needed at this time and would not be included in items that can be underwritten. For discussion next time will be the size of donation needed to purchase and install benches and trees so that any donation that carries a donor acknowledgement will fully underwrite the cost.

- H. **Interpretive Panels:** Coleen Reamer has quotes for interpretive panels. This is seen as a winter project and will be back-burnered by the Commission until the winter for further discussion.
- I. **Park Maintenance:** Bob Gordon will inform the Township Secretary Nina Garretson that she should notify him whenever there is a park pavilion rental. Bob will then let Commission members know so they can arrange for someone to post the rental notice and visit the park in advance of the scheduled rental to ensure that the park is in good order and any grass is swept from the pavilion foundation and bridge.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM. 1st motion by Laura Morgan; second by Terry Scripture. Motion approved.

Respectfully Submitted by Laura Morgan, Secretary