



**PATTON TOWNSHIP
CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

100 PATTON PLAZA – STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA – 16803

PHONE: 814/234-0271 -- FAX: 814/238-7790

EMAIL: epz@twp.patton.pa.us -- WEB SITE: <http://twp.patton.pa.us>

DATE: June 16, 2022
TO: Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC)
FROM: Susan Wheeler, Project Manager
SUBJECT: Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 21, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.
Meeting Location: Large Meeting Room
Patton Township Offices
100 Patton Plaza, State College, PA 16803

Please note that this meeting will be held in person, but a zoom link is provided for some attendees who must attend virtually.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4843545752>

Meeting ID: 484 354 5752

+1 929 205 6099

Our agenda for the Committee meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. is as follows:

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Enclosed are the minutes from the April Recreation Advisory Committee, which should be reviewed and accepted. The May meeting was the spring parks tour.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE POSTED AGENDA

At this time, the Chair may announce and/or ask the Committee members for the addition of agenda items that are not already on the agenda.

Any Committee member wishing to add an item to the agenda shall ask for recognition by the Chair and shall make a motion to add an item, including stating the nature of the item and reason for changing the agenda. If the motion is seconded, the Chair shall oversee discussion and a vote on the motion to add the item. If the motion is approved by a majority vote of the individuals present and voting, the item shall be added to the agenda. The Chair shall determine the placement of the added item within the meeting agenda.

4. GHANER DRIVE PARKLET ENCROACHMENT

In mid-April, the township received an anonymous letter concerning an encroachment into the Ghaner Drive Parklet which lies to the rear of the properties in the 200 block of Ghaner Drive (location map included). Township staff investigated and found that an adjacent homeowner had placed a garden shed on the park property and created “home-made” recreational spaces for children. Staff informed the homeowner, by letter, that all personal property must be removed from the public park property. The homeowner refused to remove the items and asked to address the Board of Supervisors.

A full chronology, as well as photos and other materials that was provided to the Board of Supervisors at their May 25, 2022 meeting is attached. The Recreation Advisory Committee (Committee) visited Ghaner Drive Parklet during their May 17, 2022 parks tour and viewed the items that have been installed in the encroachment.

At their May 25, 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board heard from Ms. Mali, reviewed the available materials and discussed the issue of the encroachment. The Board has asked the RAC to discuss this issue and provide them with a recommendation.

On May 28, 2022 a safety inspection was done by *Safe-4-Play* and a report was prepared. This is included in the agenda. The report evaluated each item found encroaching into the parkland. Each installed item was found to be unsafe and the report recommendation was “immediate removal” of all items.

An email from a resident close to the encroachment (recently received) is included in the agenda.

Ms. Mali has been invited to briefly address the Committee. The Committee should discuss this issue and make a recommendation that will be provided to the Board of Supervisors at their July 20, 2022 meeting.

5. SCOTIA ROAD SHARED USE PATH SCOPING STUDY/ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS UPDATE

Wilson Consulting Group (Wilson) was retained as the design professional for the Scotia Road Shared Use Path Alternatives Analysis Study.

The first public input meeting (the “Local Concerns”) meeting was held on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Since that meeting, Wilson has been collecting data and information and prepared three (3) alternatives for consideration.

The second public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2022, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm.

The Committee should discuss the comments from the public meeting. Staff will update the Committee on recent discussions with University Area Joint Authority (UAJA) and any impact this may have on the proposed alternatives and timeline for making a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

6. SPIN E-BIKE PROGRAM

As a reminder, the Committee initially discussed the e-bike program at the April meeting.

In 2021, Penn State Transportation Services partnered with the Borough of State College and Spin, a San Francisco-based micro-mobility unit of Tier Mobility, to offer the Penn State and State College Borough communities a new bike-share program. Ms. Cecily Zhu, Penn State's Sustainable Transportation Program Manager has been the lead in this project.

Spin's electric-assist bike (e-bike) program has a fleet of 300 bikes that can travel within Penn State and the State College Borough. E-bike parking locations have been established on campus and in surrounding State College Borough to offer both Penn State and community members convenient access to the e-bikes. Users can see all e-bike locations in the Spin app, as well as service areas,

no-ride zones, and so on. The service area for the e-bikes is currently bound within the University and the State College Borough boundaries.

Ms. Wheeler made preliminary enquiries with Ms. Zhu and Spin as to whether the e-bike network could be expanded into the Toftrees area of Patton Township along the Bellefonte Central Rail Trail (BCRT). This route and this expansion could provide a sustainable transportation alternative for area residents. Ms. Zhu indicated that the University would be happy to expand into this area if the details of the program can be worked out with Patton Township.

After reviewing the mapping, it was found that the shared use path traverses through a small portion of Ferguson Township to get from Sunset Park and onto the Patton Township section of the BCRT.

Staff has spoken with Ferguson Township staff and they are interested in pursuing a cooperative agreement with Spin so this expansion can be made.

Review of the micromobility agreement has been completed and the Committee should consider the following questions before making a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

1. Who, at the Township, decides where the expansion can occur.
2. What is the process to review and approve expansions.

Ms. Wheeler will share additional information at the Committee meeting. The Committee should make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

7. CENTRE COUNTY DISC GOLF ASSOCIATION (CCDGA) – CIRCLEVILLE AND BERNELE ROAD PARK DISC GOLF COURSES

At the May spring parks tour, the Committee visited the two (2) disc golf courses in Patton Township parks and also visited the disc golf course at Harvest Fields in Boalsburg.

Members of the CCDGA led the tour to point out and discuss their concerns about maintenance and the playability of the two course on Patton Township.

Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) maintain both courses and over the years the fairways have been allowed to grow in which affects the ability to play many of the fairways.

The CCDGA suggested new mowing patterns and also suggested the re-routing of two (2) fairways to allow for better play. They will prepare some mapping for the Committee to consider. They also suggested mowing the “rough” between the fairways more often to keep down the tick populations. Some players have contracted Lyme disease from going in to the long rough to retrieve their discs.

The Committee discussed these issues and agree that more mowing of the rough is necessary. For this season, Patton Township will mow the rough every three (3) weeks at Circleville Park and assess how this is affecting play and request any mowing adjustments to be made by CRPR beginning in 2023. Mowing changes at Bernel Road park will occur after the CCDGA has provided input on modified mowing patterns.

8. GREEN HOLLOW PARK PHASE 2 ADA PATH CONSTRUCTION

Construction began at the beginning of June. It is anticipated that the project will be complete by mid-July.

9. REGIONAL PARKS ISSUES UPDATE

Ms.Solic will provide an update.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

11. ADJOURN

cc: Doug Erickson, Township Manager
Larry Pegher, Finance Director
Alexandra Castrechini, Director of Engineering, Planning & Zoning/Township Engineer
Patton Township Board of Supervisors Members
Nicole Pollock, Senior Planner, CRPA
Pam Salokangas, Director, CRPR
Jim Carpenter, Parks Supervisor, CRPR