

MEETING LOCATION: HYBRID
PATTON TOWNSHIP OFFICE AND ZOOM

SUMMARY MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hickman (virtual) called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Members present were Mr. Rich Koch (virtual), Ms. Cindy Solic (virtual), Mr. Greg Turner (virtual), and Mr. Jeff Zapletal. Staff members present were Ms. Susan Wheeler, Project Manager and Ms. Alexandra Castrechini, Director of Engineering, Planning & Zoning/Township Engineer. Mr. Karl Shellenberger of Buchart Horn was present.

Members of the public present were Mr. Phil Park and Mr. Matt Marshall (virtual).

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hickman asked for one correction to the March minutes, that his name be changed from Ms. Hickman to Mr. Hickman on Page 1. A motion to accept the March Recreation Advisory Committee minutes was made by Ms. Solic and seconded by Mr. Koch. All members voted in favor of the adoption of the minutes.

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. No new items were added.

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 and the Chair shall determine the placement of the added item within the meeting agenda.

4. CRICKLEWOOD DRIVE (TOFTREES) BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

An alternatives analysis for a bicycle/pedestrian facility along the entire length of Cricklewood Drive began earlier in 2023. Public meetings have been held, surveys distributed, and public comments were collected at RAC meetings. Buchart Horn is the professional engineering design firm contracted to complete the study.

The Committee was provided with the final report prepared by Buchart Horn and presented by Karl Shellenberger P.E. The final report described four (4) alternatives. The 4th alternative is a design that narrows the vehicle travel lanes and provides a separated Shared Use Path (SUP).

Mr. Park commented that he liked Alternative 4. Mr. Marshall commented that he like Alternative 4, but that maybe speed humps could be added to further reduce the speed of vehicles.

Mr. Hickman and Mr. Koch both asked about the costs of Alternative 4 and the rationale of decreasing vehicle travel lane width when the focus of the study was primarily meant to look at bicycle/pedestrian safety. Staff responded that bicycle/pedestrian safety was the focus of the study and in accomplishing that goal, a natural extension was to consider the effect of the traffic in that same corridor. This meant that traffic calming became part of the conversation.

Mr. Hickman motioned that “Alternative 4 – Road Diet with Shared Use Path” be recommended to the Board of Supervisors. This design includes a separated shared use path on one side of Cricklewood Drive and reducing the travel lanes of the roadway from 12 feet to 11 feet. The separated area between the roadway and the shared use path will be a grass strip. Additionally, that the final design considers additional parking options. Ms. Solic seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

5. GHANER DRIVE PARKLET SURVEY

In July and August of 2022, the Committee developed a survey to be distributed to the residents of the neighborhoods surrounding the Ghaner Drive Parklet. The survey was finalized earlier this spring.

Postcard mailers have been mailed to 278 addresses in the Ghaner Drive Parklet surrounding neighborhoods with a link to an online survey. The survey will be open until April 28, 2023. The results will be summarized and discussed at the June RAC meeting.

6. BERNEL ROAD PARK PHASES 2A/2B CONSTRUCTION

Bids were accepted for the Bernel Road Park Phases 2A/2B and opened on March 31, 2023. John C Claar Excavating was the low bid and a recommendation to award was made to the Board of Supervisors on April 12, 2023. The Board approved the award and the project will begin early spring with substantial completion to be finished by mid-September of this year.

7. SCOTIA ROAD SHARED USE PATH (SUP) CONNECTOR RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION

The preliminary engineering design was completed by Wilson Consulting Group (WCG) of Mechanicsburg, PA earlier this year. Alrows LLC has been retained to provide right-of-way (ROW) acquisition services for the five (5) affected property owners. This project should be completed by late summer.

8. MAY PARKS TOUR

The May Parks Tour will be held on May 16, 2023 beginning at 4:00pm.

Ms. Wheeler suggested the following tour of parks in municipalities outside Patton Township (the spring parks tour usually includes parks around the Centre Region):

- Harvest Fields Mountain Bike Skills Track (Harris Township)
- Whitehall Road Regional Park (Ferguson Township)
- High Point Park - home of the future skate park (State College Borough)
- Spring Creek Park (College Township)

The Committee agreed with the proposed tour. Ms. Wheeler said she would be in touch with gathering picnic supper sandwich orders. Mr. Jim Carpenter of Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) will drive the Committee and staff in a CRPR van.

9. AMBLESIDE PARK SPLIT RAIL FENCING

A homeowner abutting the park has indicated their interest in having the split rail fencing replaced or removed because it falls over all the time with the high wind conditions at Ambleside Park. There are six (6) properties with fencing which is 600 lineal feet.

The Committee discussed the fencing issue and felt that fencing should remain in place in Ambleside and in all the other parks that have fencing. Often, when fencing is removed, adjacent property owners being to encroach into the park.

10. REGIONAL PARKS (CRPRA) UPDATE

Ms. Solic provided the following update:

- Whitehall Road Regional Park – Additional change orders to the project include work to improve access into the park site, payment of fees to Ferguson Township for cutting existing pavement in the roadway leading into the park, site electric permits, and re-spreading topsoil over the practice field.
- Actice Gyuide has been published.
- Contract was awarded for the port-a-johns.
- Notice to Proceed has been given for new projects at Millbrook Marsh

11. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Solic made a motion to adjourn at 6:35 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Turner. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, May 16, 2021, beginning at 4:00 pm. This will be the parks tour and will leave from the Patton Township Office parking lot.