

**MEETING LOCATION: HYBRID MEETING
 PATTON TOWNSHIP BOARD ROOM AND ZOOM**

SUMMARY MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Taylor (via zoom) called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Members present were Mr. Ken Hickman, Mr. Barry Bram, Mr. Rich Koch and Mr. Greg Turner. Ms. Cindy Solic, Patton Township representative to the Centre Region Parks&Rec Authority (CRPRA) was present (via zoom).

Staff member present was Ms. Susan Wheeler, Project Manager. Ms. Alexandra Castrechini, Director of Engineering, Zoning & Planning/Township Engineer was absent. Mr. Nate McCulloch of Wilson Consulting Group attended (via zoom). Board members Mr. Sultan Magruder and Ms. Betsy Whitman attended.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to accept the June Recreation Advisory Committee minutes was made by Mr. Bram and seconded by Mr. Koch. All members voted in favor of the adoption of the minutes.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE POSTED AGENDA

The Chair asked the Committee members if they wanted to add any agenda items that are not already on the agenda. No items were added to 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. 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.

Mr. Nate McCulloch attended via zoom and provided the Committee with a summary of the study process to date.

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

The second public meeting was held on Thursday, June 16, 2022, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. Three (3) potential alternatives were presented at that time and public input was accepted. The presentation

and graphics were made available online and could be accessed via a QR code or URL. The information and link were made available on the township website, Facebook and an email blast was sent out. The public comment period was open until the end of the day on Friday, June 24, 2022.

Mr. McCulloch presented and reviewed the three (3) alternatives and summarized the survey data. There were 65 respondents, 97% of which were township residents. In addition, 97% of respondents use bicycle/walking paths and parks in the township. 66% of path users are cyclists and 29% of path users are walker/runners.

63% of respondents preferred Alternative 2, 25% preferred Alternative 1 and 12% preferred Alternative 3.

The Committee discussed the data and the written comments that were received via the survey. Alternative 2 was the most preferred by the respondents and the Committee unanimously agreed that this route would be the least disruptive and the least expensive.

Ms. Wheeler reminded the Committee that the Scotia Road section of the shared use path (SUP) was designed and that funding was available for construction when the Circleville Road Bike Path was built in 2015. The Scotia Road section of SUP was not constructed at that time because some of the neighboring residents were opposed to the construction.

The Committee discussed the need for a connection now because there are two shared use path facilities with a "missing link". Those two facilities are the Circleville Road Bike Path and the Gray's Woods Boulevard SUP. Many people use these two SUP and they are not connected in any safe way. Also, this connection is identified in the "*Patton Township Parks and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Plan 2020-2029*" as a project of high priority.

The Committee also discussed the respondents' interest in a connection between Graysdale Park and Scotia Road across the small section of State Game Lands (SGL).

Mr. McCulloch noted that there are available funds in the project budget to collect survey data of the Alternative 2 corridor so that a preliminary grading plan and engineering design can be prepared for the Board of Supervisors meeting. The Committee agreed that this would be useful in helping the Board understand the scope of the project.

Mr. Bram made a motion that the Committee recommend to the Board of Supervisors that Alternate 2 be accepted as the Scotia Road Shared Use Path connector and that the township proceed with engineering design in 2023 and that staff begin looking for grant funding opportunities. Mr. Turner seconded the motion and the Committee agreed unanimously.

This recommendation will be made to the Board at their August 17, 2022 meeting and Mr. McCulloch will make a presentation to the Board at that time.

SPIN E-BIKE PROGRAM

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.

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. 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.

Ms. Wheeler asked Ferguson township staff to consider the Spin program. The Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors has approved the expansion of Spin into their township and are currently deciding on corridors.

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.

The Committee discussed these two issues and felt that the Recreation Advisory Committee should work with Ms. Wheeler on exploring where expansions of the Spin program can occur, along with Ms. Cecily Zhu at Penn State and the Spin representative. For each expansion, that recommendation will be made to the Board of Supervisors for their review and final approval.

Mr. Turner made the following motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hickman. That Patton Township enter into an agreement with Spin, and the first connector into the township will be the corridor along the Bellefonte Central Rail Trail (BCRT) into the high density apartment area of Toftrees (the Toftrees Apartments and The View). The Committee agreed unanimously.

This recommendation will be made to the Board at their August 17, 2022 meeting.

5. GHANER DRIVE PARKLET SURVEY

At the June 21, 2022 RAC meeting, the Committee discussed an encroachment into the Ghaner Drive Parklet and made a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that the homeowner be required to remove all items that have been installed in the park land.

In addition, the Committee decided that a survey should be undertaken to determine if the residents of Valley Vista Park and Vista Woods desire the addition of recreation facilities to Ghaner Drive Parklet.

The Committee discussed a survey that will be sent to all the residents in the two neighborhoods surrounding Ghaner Drive Parklet. Ms. Wheeler commented that this would include 276. As with past surveys, postcard mailers will be sent out and a URL will be provided to a *SurveyMonkey* survey. Ms. Wheeler will begin working on a draft survey for review and discussion at the August RAC meeting.

6. CENTRE COUNTY DISC GOLF ASSOCIATION (CCDGA) – BERNEL ROAD PARK DISC GOLF COURSE

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

Derek Aggleton (President) and Edgar Boord (Course Director) for the CCDGA led a tour of the Bernel Road disc golf course to discuss potential modifications to the mowing plan and the potential relocation of some of the fairways and baskets.

They have provided the Committee with a proposal. At this point, this proposal is informational. This item will be fully presented and discussed at the August 16, 2022 RAC meeting. The Committee asked if some costs could be determined for the items outlined in the proposal. Also, there is some interest in visiting the site during the Fall Parks Tour.

7. TREEPENNSYLVANIA GRANT PROGRAM

The fall TreePennsylvania grant round will open on August 1, 2022. Staff would like to apply for twelve (12) trees.

The Committee discussed planting the trees between the fairways of the Circleville Road Park disc golf course. Mr. Turner asked if they could be serviceberry trees, or other fruit bearing trees for birds.

8. GREEN HOLLOW PARK PHASE 2 ADA PATH CONSTRUCTION

Construction began at the beginning of June and the project was substantially complete on July 8, 2022.

An inspection will take place the week of July 25, 2022 and a list of any outstanding items will be made and given to the contractor.

Ms. Wheeler commented that she asked CRPR to replace the port-a-potty at Green Hollow Park with an ADA accessible port-a-potty. This has been done.

9. BERNEL ROAD PARK AND GREEN HOLLOW PARK COURT CONVERSIONS

The Bernel Road Park court conversion began on July 19, 2022 and weather permitting, should be complete by August 1. When these courts are open for play (the week of August 1), the Green Hollow Park pickleball courts will be closed and the nets will be taken down.

Conversion of the Green Hollow Park courts are scheduled to begin the week of August 8, weather permitting.

10. REGIONAL PARKS ISSUES UPDATE

Ms.Solic had no update because the meeting was cancelled.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Taylor reported that the swings in Graysdale Park are very noisy and squeaky. Ms. Wheeler will ask Jim Carpenter of Center Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) to look at the maintenance.

12. ADJOURN

Mr. Turner made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hickman. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, August 16, 2022 beginning at 5:30 pm.