

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, Mr. Greg Turner and Mr. Jeff Zapletal. Staff member present was Ms. Susan Wheeler, Project Manager.

Mr. Karl Shellenberger of Buchart Horn was present. Members of the public present were Mr. Phil Park, Mr. Matt Marshall and Ms. Madyson Kondel (virtual).

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to accept the July Recreation Advisory Committee minutes was made by Mr. Koch and seconded by Mr. Turner. 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 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT KICK OFF MEETING

An alternatives analysis for a bicycle/pedestrian facility along the entire length of Cricklewood Drive began earlier in 2023. In April of 2023, the Committee made a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for a preferred alternative, which the Board adopted. That alternative was a "Road Diet with Shared Use Path". 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.

Mr. Karl Shellenberger of Buchart Horn was present and provided a summary of the project. Mr. Shellenberger explained the cross-section of the road diet and said that additional survey would be collected in November as the design process begins. The design process should take approximately six (6) months and be completed in April of

2024. Some design hurdles may include the current locations of utilities and above ground utility boxes.

Mr. Turner asked about the parking along Cricklewood Drive. Mr. Shellenberger explained that the dedicated parking spaces on the road for The American Ale House would stay in place. The on-street parking near the apartments near Fox Hollow Road would be studied and probably eliminated.

Mr. Park commented that he is happy to see this project going forward. Mr. Marshall asked about the design plans for Toftrees Avenue and how that would connect into Cricklewood Drive. Ms. Wheeler said that separated shared use paths are already approved for the Toftrees West development and are being installed as part of the road construction. The Toftrees Resort Plan will be under review soon and the Township will be requesting a shared use path along the front of that property. A road study will be completed to explore ways to connect the Cricklewood project along the road frontage of the Berger rental units to the Toftrees Resort improvements.

Mr. Shellenberger said he would be providing updates on the design process as it moves forward.

#### **5. GHANER DRIVE PARKLET SURVEY**

At the July 19, 2023 board meeting, the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted a recommendation by the RAC to replace existing fencing and add new fencing to Ghaner Drive Parklet. Additionally, they adopted the recommendation to add four (4) benches. The fencing project was completed at the end of August.

At the September 13, 2023 Board meeting, Ms. Chelsea Mali addressed the Board and asked for additional fencing to be installed. Ms. Mali asked that new fencing be installed from the end of the fencing near her property, along the length of the park to the point where the park property ends. Staff measured this distance and it is approximately 550 feet.

The Board referred this request to the RAC and asked for a recommendation on adding additional fencing to Ghaner Drive Parklet.

Ms. Wheeler said that Ms. Mali contacted her on October 17, 2023 to say that she was not asking for fencing to be installed along the entire side of the park (550 feet). Her interest was to have fencing extended from where it ends now along the back of two additional properties and end at the sidewalk in the park that leads down the hill towards Whisper Ridge (approximately 70 feet).

The Committee discussed the request for an additional 70 feet of fencing at length and said that their original recommendation to the Board was based on the survey data collected through a neighborhood survey in April of 2023.

The survey represented the opinions of a large part of the neighborhood and concluded that no new recreational amenities should be added but that maintenance should be addressed which included repair or replacement of the aging fencing. At that time, the Committee recommended that additional new fencing be placed at the rear of four (4) properties located at 229, 233, 237 and 241 Ghaner Drive. The rationale was that the section of parkland in this area has steep slopes located close to the path and had also been the area where encroachments occurred. Additionally, adding new fencing along this 150 foot section would better identify this area as being part of the park.

The Committee discussed and agreed that there was no justification or benefit to extend the fencing behind two more properties in this area. The request was made by one resident and no other residents in that area have asked for any modifications to the fencing that was erected. The Committee also said they felt that given the limited budget that funds the township park projects, funding additional fencing that has no justification would not be appropriate.

The Committee unanimously recommend to the Board of Supervisors that no additional fencing be installed in Ghaner Drive Parklet.

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

Construction began on the Bernel Road Park Phases 2A/2B on June 5, 2023. Construction will be substantially complete on October 13, 2023.

During the September Fall Parks Tour, the Committee visited the project. It was noted that there is a large oval concrete pad which has been installed for future fitness equipment. There were insufficient funds in the current budget to install any equipment.

During the parks tour, some discussion took place about what could be placed on the pad so that it is a usable space in the near term. Some suggestions included adding tables to make it a gathering area, and the potential for installing shade sails similar to those in Circleville Park.

Ms. Wheeler shared that Chuck Strodoski of YSM suggested placement of a permanent shade sail, and three (3) tables. Also, the installation of two (2) items that could be moved to other locations in the future. Bean bag toss and a ping pong table.

The Committee agreed that some tables should be placed so there is an area to gather. The Committee expressed some concern about the cost of these items. Ms. Wheeler said a shade sail installed would cost approximately \$35,000, three tables would cost \$7,500, The bean bag toss would cost \$2,000 and a ping pong table would be \$2,200. Ms. Wheeler said that the discussion could take place at a later date, when the 2024 budget was adopted by the Board.

Ms. Wheeler said that Mr. Ronnie Napolitan was interested in launching a fundraising campaign to pave the new pump track at Bernel Road Park. Paving of the facility was an add/alternate in the construction project when it was put out to bid but the costs were more than the available budget.

The Committee would like to invite Mr. Napolitan to the November 21, 2023 RAC meeting. Additionally, if the Committee would like to pursue this, a recommendation will need to be put forth to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration.

**7. OAKWOOD PARK PLAY EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT**

One piece of the original play equipment in Oakwood Park is aging and has been plagued by some recent vandalism. Funding has been earmarked for the replacement of this piece.

The Committee asked Ms. Wheeler to prepare a draft survey and a list of addresses in the neighborhood so a survey can be mailed regarding the choice of equipment for the park.

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

Alrows LLC has been retained to provide right-of-way (ROW) acquisition services for the four (4) affected property owners. Letters of offer have been given to the 4 property owners.

Ms. Wheeler commented that if all letters of offer are accepted, then ROW acquisition can be finalized. Wilson Consulting Group will be retained in 2024 as the design engineer.

**9. DOUGLAS DRIVE CONNECTOR**

In the fall of 2022, the township retained McCormick Taylor to conduct a sight distance study along the length of Valley Vista Drive to determine whether additional crossings were warranted. The study determined that a crossing at Douglas Drive would be feasible and safe.

McCormick Taylor was retained to prepare preliminary design for consideration by the two (2) affected property owners. Ms. Wheeler met with the Douglas Drive property owners and presented two (2) potential designs as prepared by McCormick Taylor. The property owners suggested a third potential design which is currently being prepared by the design engineer.

**10. REGIONAL PARKS (CRPRA) UPDATE**

Ms. Solic reported the following:

- Whitehall Road Regional Park is almost complete and will not open until 2024.
- Kathy Bisko (the in-house project manager) has resigned from COG.
- The fundraising campaign for the boardwalk at Millbrook Marsh has begun.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Turner made a motion to adjourn at 6:50 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Koch. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 21, 2023 beginning at 5:30 pm.