

The regular monthly meeting of the Bucks County Parks and Recreation Board was held at Peace Valley Nature Center 170 Chapman Road, Doylestown at 10:15 am

ATTENDANCE

Board Members:

- **Present:** Thomas Marino, Theodore Moore, Charles Raudenbush, Chair, Steve Saddlemire, and Chris Wetzel
- **Absent:** Craig Bowen, Vice-Chair, Nelson Clements, Kristin Winters, and William Wert, Secretary,
- **Staff:** Angela Nagle, Executive Director, Kelly Joslin, Director/Naturalist Peace Valley Nature Center, Kirstyn Gudknecht, Assistant Naturalist, Peace Valley Nature Center, and Jodi Reimold
- **Guests:** Maureen Ferris, Bucks County Horse Park

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2022, meeting by Mr. Marino and seconded by Mr. Wetzel. Motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

GRANTS

- Parks has been awarded a grant from DCNR in the amount of \$125,000 to fund the Bucks County Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan.
- The total project cost will be approx. \$250,000.
 - Question Mr. Saddlemire – who will administer the grant?
 - Answer Ms. Nagle – The Department of Parks and Recreation will be the responsible party.
- Intend to submit a second request with DCNR for a supplementary fall round
 - Two potential projects
 - Boat Ramp in Hal Clark Park in Solebury Twp on the Delaware River.
 - Removal of hazardous ash trees throughout the park system and replanting.

Aerial Adventure Park

- No update to share at this time.

Conservation Pool Project

- Project location is Core Creek Park, Lake Luxembourg Conservation Pool
 - Project is continuing – the water levels are lower than expected, but that may be caused by the dry conditions our area has endured.
 - Volunteer clean-up day will be held on September 24, 2022, at 9 am
 - Registration through the Civic Rec Program

Ordinance 95

- Currently under review, hope to include updates to policies surrounding e-bikes, drones etc.
- A draft will be provided to the Board for comment at the next meeting.

Rails to Trails

- Board submitted letter of support

Board Members Positions Expiring

- Three seats are due to renew on November 1, 2022
 - Nelson Clements
 - Chuck Raudenbush
 - Ted Moore

Question Mr. Saddlemire – how do we get an application to others? Who do we refer to?

Answer Ms. Nagle – will provide link – they can return it to me for submission to the County Commissioners.

PEACE VALLEY NATURE CENTER

Kelly Joslin, Director/Naturalist

- Arrived three months ago.
- Staff has done an incredible job.
- Challenged to provide services to visitors.
- New office manager provided by the Friends of Peace Valley
- 10/17/22 major fundraiser Harvest Sampler.
- Expanding our programs.
- Applied for a grant for a Nature Play Zone.
- Applied for a grant from Visit Bucks County for new trail maps and trail signage
 - Would like to distinguish between the nature preserve and the park proper.
 - Could receive up to \$40,000
 - Birding is a very popular activity in this location.
 - Bucks County bird club meets at the center monthly
 - Deadline October 6
- Repairs around the center
 - Acid washing tiles and flagstone in central lobby
 - Replace roof, siding, and windows
- To replace the woodburning stove with a pellet stove

Kirstyn Gudknecht, Assistant Naturalist

- Programming has been very popular. Some events sell out immediately.
- Programming
 - Lolly Hopwood concert – 10/15
 - Falconry program sold out within hours
 - Yoga
 - Nature related art programs

Question – Mr. Saddlemire – regarding the signage. Will the Friends group provide the labor and the county the signs?

Answer – Ms. Joslin – the easy part is the signs. The Map is the more challenging. The Planning Commission has been helping with the maps and there is a contact who could take it to another level.

Comment – Mr. Marino – aware of a source for dedicated funding for trails. He will make the introduction.

Questions and Comments from the board

Steve Saddlemire

- Are there charging stations in the Parks for E-cars?
 - Answer Ms. Nagle – yes there is a station at Peace Valley Park
- Any update on the “old business”
 - Answer Ms. Nagle – we need to define action items
- When is the budget season?
 - Answer Ms. Nagle – submitted the budget and will have meetings in October and November. Commissioners approve the budget in the December meeting.
 - Rails to Trails has been budgeted to the Parks budget
 - Capital Projects in Progress
 - Ringing Rocks Parking Lot Expansion and Comfort Station
 - Ringing Rocks Trailhead Crossing
 - Hal Clark Park Boat Ramp
 - Erwin-Stover House Roof Restoration

Chris Wetzel

- Any update on the dredging at Core Creek Park
 - Answer Angie Nagle – it is on schedule

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held at 10 am on Thursday, October 13, 2022, at Churchville Nature Center 501 Churchville Lane Churchville

ACTION ITEMS

Lake Luxembourg – Core Creek Conservation Pool Project Update
Area Reports
Ordinance 95 Review
Grant Updates

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am

Recording Secretary
Jodi Reimold