

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
Park & Recreation Commission Meeting
March 4, 2021**

The regular meeting of the East Goshen Township Park and Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, March 4, 2021. Because of the restrictions due to COVID-19, the meeting was held via Zoom virtual conferencing. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Daniel Leicht at 7:00 pm.

Commission members present are highlighted:

Daniel Leicht, Chairman
Deborah Snyder, Vice Chairman
Karen Battavio
Jessica Bottaro
Ann Marie Fletcher-Moore
Peter Knupp
Doug Staffelbach
Kishor Thakarar
Eric Tobin
Joseph Zulli

Others present were:

Jason Lang, Director of Recreation
John Hertzog, Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dan asked for a moment of silence to remember our military and veterans, police and first responders.

Dan asked if anyone would be recording the meeting. There was no response

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The minutes of the February 4, 2021 meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. "OktoberFEST" Food Truck Festival - Jason mentioned that in the past, the Food Truck Festival has been held in August. Last month Deb suggested moving it to October for an OktoberFEST. Jason had a meeting with Locust Lane Brewery (LLB). They have done a custom label for other events. Jason suggested having the Blacksmith Shop on the label. This will be good for the Historic Commission too. October 16th is the same day as the Pumpkin Festival so it will be from 10 am. to 1 pm. and the OKtoberFEST will be from 3 pm to 7 pm. This will allow 7 months for possible changes in the Covid restrictions. LLB does beer in 4 packs. They do 250 labels for an event then sell at their brewery whatever is left over. They will give a donation to the Friends of East Goshen. The rainedate will be Sunday October 17th. He will get a German music band. Deb made a motion to recommend moving the food truck festival to October as an OktoberFEST event on October 16, 2021. Kishor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jason will get it on the BOS agenda.

2. Volunteer of the Year Program - Jason reviewed the proposed volunteer program. There will be 3 tiers of recognition:

1. Silver – 3 events or 15 hours
2. Gold – 4 events or 20 hours
3. Platinum – 5 events or 25 hours

These people will receive certificates. The Volunteer of the Year will be one of the Platinum volunteers. The Volunteer of the Year is a service award presented to an individual in the township who has consistently demonstrated the qualities of:

1. Cooperation
2. Reliability
3. Flexibility
4. Dependability
5. Leadership
6. This person has willingly gone above and beyond his/her volunteer duties to create a positive impact in the township.

After discussion it was decided to have the recognition event at the Community Day event in June. It was decided to use July 1st to the following June 30th as the rating period. A plaque will also be put in the Township Building. Jason will send out emails and start marketing the program. He commented that the benefits of this program are:

1. Applaud and recognize those helping EGTPR carry out our Parks and Rec mission
2. Provide young leaders with avenues to demonstrate leadership and improve their resume/college applications.
3. Increase the quantity of volunteers at our events and their frequency of participation.

3. COVID-19 and our Parks – Survey Results - Jason commented that over the last 12 months he has received many emails about how thankful people are for the parks. He was very pleased that he received 247 responses to the survey he sent out about the parks. 68% said that the parks are an essential part of their life. He reviewed the chart he made from the responses. Everything was closed until June except the trails which is the most used. Mark Miller and the Public Works Department were praised for their work maintaining the parks. Jason will turn these into graphics to put on the website, etc.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Egg Hunt – This event will be held on Saturday April 3. Registration will be on the website only. He will have spaces for only 100 children in each of the three age groups. He will also limit 2 guardians/parents per child. There will be time spaced between the groups. The bunny will be in the sky lift so the children can see him and wave. The state mandate is 2,500 people with social distancing. He will email residents and put a note in the newsletter. He will not market this event. He needs 2 volunteers from 8:30 – 10:30 and 10:30 – 12:15.

2. Eagle Scout Project – Jason mentioned that this project was paused due to the pandemic. He and Mark Miller met recently with Ryan. He has approval from the council. They will start construction of the bocce court between 3/29 – 4/3. They will have a ribbon cutting ceremony. Since John Hertzog plays bocce ball Jason volunteered him to throw out the ball.

RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT

1. Upcoming Events -

- a. Sports will be able to start in the park.
- b. Summer Camp reservations are full. He hasn't received approval to use the school yet. If no school, then it will be half day outside camp like last year. They will be able to take day trips this year.
- c. East HS Environmental Club – Jason worked with students from the high school who put together a power point presentation for younger kids. It was very nice to see the interaction between all the kids. He feels it will be an ongoing project.
- d. The Yard Sale will be held on May 8th at the Township Building, not the park. Parking will be at the school or Dunkin Donuts and they can use the trail to get to the Township Building safely.

2. Park Maintenance Report

- a. For February it was snow, snow, snow.
- b. Now in March they will be working more in the park to get the ball fields ready.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Deb moved to adjourn the meeting. Kishor seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday April 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary