

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
Park & Recreation Commission Meeting  
September 5, 2024**

The regular meeting of the East Goshen Township Park and Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, September 5, 2024 at the Township Building.

Commission members present are highlighted:

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

Others present were:

**Jason Lang, Director of Recreation (via phone)**  
Jess Wilhelmy, Recreation Program Coordinator  
**Peter Hicks, Township Supervisor**

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Eric called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Eric led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Eric asked for a moment of silence for our first responders.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the June 6, 2024 meeting were approved.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Community Day - This event went very well. The band was great. About 3,500 people attended. Fortunately, the rain didn't start until the fireworks were done. Jason started them at 8:30 instead of 9:00. He mentioned that the Friends of East Goshen have raised \$26,000.00 for events in the park.

2. Summer Camp – They held it at the East Goshen Elementary School and had 150 children each week. Non-residents were 15% of the total. It was very successful. The staff was strong. This year Jason hired some staff members from “Indeed”.

3. SE PA Teen Film Showcase - This was held on August 12, 2024 at the Movie Tavern in Exton. This was the 6<sup>th</sup> year and very successful. Jason had interviews with some of the teens who have been coming for years to see how it has helped them in school and with potential careers.

4. 2025 Ireland Trip – The trips have taken off. Jason plans them through Collette with about 3 to 7 residents attending. He held a meeting at Hershey Mill for the 2025 Ireland trip and 30 people attended the meeting. So, he will expand the number of trips each year. The end of 2025 Austria and Germany are planned. In 2026, Iceland, Alaska and Greece are planned. East Goshen makes 10% of the fees.

5. EGTPR Sports Fields Fee - Jason mentioned that the last time fees were raised was in 2020 to \$12.00/hour. Since then park maintenance costs have increased. Jason reviewed the chart showing what neighboring townships are charging. He recommended a slight increase to \$15.00/hour. After discussion, Ann Marie made a motion to recommend increasing the current sports facilities rental fees to \$20.00 per hour beginning January 1, 2025. Joe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. 2025 Budget – The Board of Supervisors is discussing the 2025 budget. Jason feels the Park & Rec Operating Budget will be the same as 2024.

7. Infographic – Jason supplied copies of the 2024 NRPA Agency Performance Review. The average P & R Department serving a community of under 20,000 people, recovers about 29.5% of its expenses to include full-time staff wages via revenues. The EGT P & R department in 2023 recovered 64% of expenses to include full-time wages via revenues. In 2025, it anticipates that number will grow to nearly 76%.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT**

1, Yoga and Senior Cards are ongoing.

a. Debbie reported that she met with Jason and Jess to review the upcoming senior events:

- 1) Halloween – Family Feud Day
- 2) Christmas – Lunch
- 3) January – Wacky Winter Olympics – Teams and medals.
- 4) February – They will make Valentine’s Day cards and send them to local nursing homes.
- 5) May – Cinco De Mayo
- 6) July- Christmas in July

2. Art Walk – This will be held on Saturday, September 28 at 10:00 am at the East Goshen Park. There will be about 100 artists participating. If it rains, the backup is East High School gymnasium.

3. Pumpkin Festival – This will be held on Saturday, October 12. The School of Rock will entertain.

4. Food Truck & Music Festival – will be held the same day October 12 from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

5. Teen Wellness Committee - Jason met with some teens from East High School. They will meet once a month to work on events for teens.

**PARK MAINTENANCE REPORT**

1. Jason reported that the disc swing in the playground is out of order now. The playground is 6 years old. In 2030 they will probably replace the surface.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

1. BOS – they are discussing the 2025 budget.

**ANY OTHER MATTER**

1. Pickelball Courts - Jason mentioned that in the last 2 weeks there have been reports of someone drinking on the courts. He put out a notice that there is NO drinking allowed in the park.

2. Pickelball Classes - These age related classes are going very well.

3. FOEG – Jason provided a sample advertisement for an event next year at the American Helicopter Museum. It would be called “Chester County Catalina Wine Mixer”, held at the museum, with wine vendors, bands, food

trucks, etc. It would be for ages 21 and older. They have met with the director of the Museum who likes the idea very much. It would benefit the American Helicopter Museum and Friends of East Goshen.

4. Trees – Kishor thanked Public Works for clearing out the trees at the intersection of Paoli Pike & Line Rd.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Peter moved to adjourn the meeting. Jessica seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday October 3, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary