

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP  
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2023 AT 6:30 P.M.  
MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order** (*E. Baiada*)

Adrienne Smythe	Vice Chair
Nick Matteo	Friends of Hillcrest Pond Representative
Lee Abberley	Member
Robert McGrath	Member
Neil DiFranco	School District School Board Representative
Cara Green	School District Representative
Asher Dahlgren	Student Representative
Susanna Ratsavong	Commissioner Liaison, Ward 2

Guests:	Sharon Vecchione	Springfield Township Rotary Club
	Lisa Vecchione	Springfield Township Rotary Club
	Rich Kriska	Springfield Little League Softball
	Christine Hesser	Resident, Oreland

**2. Approval of Minutes from November** (*All*)

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee unanimously approved the November minutes.

**3. Agenda Item Public Comment** (*All*)

No public comment.

**4. Administrative Report** (*E. Baiada*)

Park and Recreation staff have begun working on Summer Camp 2024 details.

**5. Recreation Report** (*E. Baiada*)

Throughout the month of November, programs included Martial Arts, Yoga, Jump Start Basketball Clinic, Soccer Shots Clinic, After School Pottery Class, Adult Pottery Class, and the Youth Soccer League. During the month of November, 402 individuals participated in recreational programming. Winter Basketball Recreation League begins on Saturday, December 2. The program is for boys and girls grades 1 through 8 and currently has 314 players registered.

**6. Park Report** (*E. Baiada*)

- **Bysher Park:** No Issues.
- **Connor James McKelvie Community Park:** No Issues.
- **Henry R. Chiaramonte Park:** No Issues.
- **James A. Cisco Park:** The Township has reshaped the footprint of the Cisco Playground project in order to stay within the budget parameters.
- **James R. Fulginiti Park:** No Issues.
- **Laurel Beech Park:** No Issues.
- **Marlow Field:** No Issues.
- **Mermaid Park:** Residents requested a goose beacon be purchased to deter resident geese.
- **Sandy Run Park:** No Issues.
- **Veterans Park:** No Issues.
- **Wyndhill Park:** No Issues.
- **Springfield Township Recreation Center A:** No Issues.
- **Springfield Township Recreation Center B:** No Issues.
- **Walnut Avenue Master Site Plan Committee:** Developing Request for Proposal
- **Walnut Trail:** Construction on hold.
- **Recreation Center Advisory Committee:** Pre-Proposal Meeting on Nov. 3. Received 11 proposals on Dec. 1.

**7. Old Business** (*All*)

Athletic Sponsorship Sign Policy Development: Several local sport organizations rely on sponsorships to offset the cost of the program, maintenance and league fees. Sponsorships reduce the cost consumed by

participating families. After review, the Committee felt the residential restriction of 32 square feet was limiting the sponsorship opportunities available to the sports teams. As several teams currently have signs as large as 164 square feet, this would be a financial burden to alter. The Committee asked the Commissioners to weigh in on the situation and consider alternate size limits.

**8. New Business** (*All*)

Rotary Pavilion Presentation: Sharon and Lisa Vecchione presented a donation on behalf of the Rotary Club. In tandem with the current Cisco Park project, the Rotary Club wished to donate a covered pavilion to incorporate into the park rehabilitation project. With assistance from a Rotary grant, a donation of \$32,000 has been secured. The Rotary Club also requested to name the pavilion after William Piszek, late member of the Rotary.

In December 2021, the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee passed the ***PARKS, OPEN SPACE, TRAILS AND FACILITIES NAMING / RENAMING POLICY***. After reviewing the policy, PRAC members noted the contributions William Piszek made to the Springfield community. In accordance with the policy, the committee voted in favor of accepting the pavilion donation from the Rotary Club as well as the naming of the Piszek Pavilion. Placard and dedication verbiage will be determined at a later date.

**9. General Public Comment** (*All*)

No public comment.

**10. School District Report** (*N. DiFranco*)

Neil DiFranco reported on the recent acceptance of an audit of the school district finances. Approval was received for the ADA ramp project connecting the two playgrounds at Erdenheim Elementary School. The School is in the process of sourcing a new scoreboard for Spartan Stadium.

**11. Commissioners' Report** (*S. Ratsavong*)

Commissioner Ratsavong reported on the recent PBA appeal decision made on December 4. The Board approved an open space donation program similar to that of Worcester Township. This month, the Board will review the trails plan and adopt the 2024 budget. In January 2024, newly elected Commissioners Ed Morris and Beth McNamara will join the board.

**12. Call for Adjournment** (*E. Baiada*)

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 at 6:30 pm