

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022 AT 6:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

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

Dave Morris	Chair
Kerry Boccella	Vice Chair
Sara Hughes	Member
Adrienne Smythe	Member
Joe Ferraro	School District Representative

Guests:	Susanna Ratsavong	Commissioner Liaison, Ward 2
	Neil DeFranco	School Board Member

2. Call to Reorganize

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee voted unanimously to uphold Dave Morris as Chair and Kerry Boccella as Vice Chair.

3. Approval of Minutes from December (*All*)

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

4. Administrative Report (*E. Croke*)

Pending Board of Commissioner approval, Susanna Ratsavong (Ward 2) will serve as the Commissioner Liaison, replacing Commissioner Graham. Pending Board of Commissioner approval, Neil DeFranco will serve as the School Board Member, replacing Michael Needleman. The Park and Recreation Advisory Committee is appreciative of the dedication shown by Commissioner Graham and Mr. Needleman. Welcome Mrs. Ratsavong and Mr. DeFranco to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee!

5. Recreation Report (*E. Croke*)

December wrapped up 2021 programming. In 2020, the Township provided 105 programs to 871 participants. In 2021, Springfield Township Parks and Recreation was able to organize 296 programs for a total of 2,802 participants in 2021. The opportunity to utilize the recreation centers has been a critical element to the recovery process.

6. Park Report (*E. Croke*)

- **Bysher Park:** No Issues.
- **Connor James McKelvie Community Park:** No Issues.
- **Henry R. Chiamonte Park:** No Issues.
- **James A. Cisco Park:** Montco 2040 Application – ADA Path Improvement
- **James R. Fulginiti Park:** No Issues.
- **Laurel Beech Park:** No Issues.
- **Marlow Field:** No Issues.
- **Mermaid Park:** Bid Document Approval Request
- **Sandy Run Park:** Montco 2040 Application - Walnut Avenue Path
- **Veterans Park:** No Issues
- **Wyndhill Park:** No Issues.
- **Springfield Township Recreation Center A:** No Issues.
- **Springfield Township Recreation Center B:** No Issues.

7. Old Business *(All)*

Skate Park Recommendation Request: An open house is tentatively scheduled for January 26 at the Township Recreation Center. This will be an opportunity for neighbors of Laurel Beech Park to ask questions in an open format presentation.

Park Naming Policy: Approved during the December Board of Commissioners meeting.

Park Signage Review: Signs will be printed and hung in the Spring.

8. New Business *(All)*

Young Lungs At Play: State Representative Nelson's Office contacted the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation Department regarding the "Young Lungs at Play" program taking place throughout Pennsylvania. This program focuses on creating tobacco-free zones throughout the park systems in our area. Smoke-free is inclusive of cigarettes, cigars, vaping, etc. The objective is to create a smoke free environment in all of our parks, trails and open space. The Park and Recreation Advisory Committee voted in favor of participating in the program to further create a safe environment for youth in the Springfield community.

Program Credit Card Service Fee: Annually, the Township consumes the credit card transaction fee on behalf of program participants. In an effort to utilize funds more effectively, the Parks and Recreation Department is looking into alternative options to offset these fees.

9. Public Comments *(All)*

None.

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

The School District of Springfield Township, will host a farewell to the original Enfield School located at Church and Paper Mill Roads, Oreland, PA 19075 on Saturday, January 8, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The building and campus will be razed to make way for several softball fields, a multipurpose field, and walking paths on the site, scheduled to be completed in Spring 2023. Tours of the new Enfield Elementary School located at 300 Montgomery Avenue, Erdenheim, PA 19038 will also be available on Saturday, January 8, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

Commissioner Ratsavong shared her goals with the committee such as improving park quality, creating life stage utilization of parks, future property acquisitions for green space and more. As a community member that utilizes the parks, she holds a great vision for the future Springfield can have and intends to bring that dream to fruition.

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

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 6:30 pm