MINUTES
PARK COMMISSION
April 13, 2015

PRESENT: Jim Pashek Chairmen; Ferd Sauereisen, Liz Nelson, Jay Troutman, Brian Shema, Maria Harrington, Nancy Fales, Members.

ABSENT: Jenny Scott, Dotty Beckwith, Dotty Nielsen, Members.

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Koehler, Borough Manager; Dempsey Bruce, PWD Superintendent, Debbie Stitt, Assistant Borough Secretary.

GUESTS: Mayor Scott, Dan Eichenlaub and Doug Rossman from Eichenlaub Inc.

Mr. Pashek called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the January 21, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

The following items were discussed:

- Mr. Eichenlaub gave the Parks Commission an update on invasive control in the Borough's parklands. Mr. Eichenlaub stated that the knotweed is under control and that stiltgrass has taken over. Mr. Koehler suggested using the money in the budget for stiltgrass treatment instead of knotweed. Motion was made and unanimously approved. Mr. Eichenlaub suggested a 2 year plan for the fall of 2016 with the seeding of woodland grass. Mrs. Harrington suggested instead of using woodland grass if a seed mix of milkweed and butterfly bush could be used to help the butterflies. Mr. Eichenlaub said that this could be done. After discussion it was decided to have Mr. Eichnlaub proved an approved seed list to Mr. Koehler for Park Commission.
- Mr. Koehler stated that Council adopted the ordinance for the parking areas. Mr. Koehler stated that the signs have been placed adjacent to the parking.
- Mr. Pashek is working on the DCED/DCNR trail grants by selecting a bridge design.
- Mayor Scott stated that the agreements have been signed and approved by the Pittsburgh Field Club and Shady Side Academy for the trail from Scott Park to Riding Meadow Park. Mr. Pashek stated the Pittsburgh Trail Advisory Group (PTAG) is volunteering and will be starting construction of the trail by the end of June. The trail will be re-marked by Mayor Scott and the public works department will remove fallen trees interfering with the trail.
- The Parks Commission reviewed the design submitted by Mrs. Folino to gate the entrance to the dog park. Mr. Bruce will direct the project with Mrs. Folino's contractor. Mr. Shema said that Beechwood Farms would donate plantings along the fence to help reduce lawn maintenance. Motion was made and unanimously approved allow the donation of the gate by Mrs. Folino.

- Improvements were discussed for the McCahill Park playground. Mrs. Harrington will provide a list of items and costs. The Park Commission is looking for donations to pay for these items. It was suggested to place an article in the Borough's newsletter. Mrs. Harrington suggested that the Borough's web page be set up with a pay pal donation link.
- Mr. Bruce was asked if he had any benches made. Mr. Bruce stated that he has material for 5 benches and that there will be a bench for Mr. Cramer in time for his birthday.
- There was discussion about the progress at Salamander Park with the slope and the tapered bank. Mr. Bruce stated that the anchors have arrived. The public works department will be placing the planting mats with the anchors. The gabions have been replaced with a more natural look to control erosion. Mr. Shema will provide plantings and the Audubon Society will be recognized by placing a sign. Mr. Bruce will coordinated this with Mr. Shema.
- Stepping stones for the Trillium crossing are in and will be done when the water level is lower.
- It was discussed to help reduce mowing to add native species and tall grasses in the parklands. Mrs. Harrington volunteered to identify suitable locations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.

Debbie Lee Stitt
Assistant Borough Secretary