



# LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP

*Board of Commissioners:*

Bruce L. Foltz • Earl E. Swavely  
Raymond Lopez • Robert W. Mohollen • Michael McGroarty  
Edward C. Wagner, *Manager*

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2199 Buchert Road, Pottstown, PA 19464 610-323-0436 Fax: 610-323-3824  
[www.lowerpottsgrove.org](http://www.lowerpottsgrove.org)

## Lower Pottsgrove Township Parks & Recreation Board Meeting Monday, January 25, 2021

The regularly scheduled reorganization Parks and Recreation meeting was held Monday, January 25, 2021. The following were in attendance:

Dennis Cimino  
Patricia Mazeski  
Thomas C. Troutman  
Bob Van Bramer  
Joe Zlomek

Susan Kraynik, Township staff

The meeting to order called to order at 7:00 pm by Joe Zlomek. Joe Zlomek asked for nominations for Chairman for 2021. Dennis Cimino nominated Joe Zlomek. Tom Troutman seconded the nomination. After calling for a vote, it was unanimous, and Joe Zlomek accepted the position of Chair for 2021.

Joe Zlomek asked for nominations for Vice-Chair for 2020. Tom Troutman nominated Dennis Cimino for Vice Chair. Pat Mazeski seconded the nomination. Joe Zlomek called for a vote. Vote was unanimous. Dennis Cimino accepted the position of Vice Chair for 2021.

Joe Zlomek asked if there were any revisions to the minutes of the last meeting November 16, 2020. Hearing none, Pat Mazeski made a motion to accept the November 16, 2020 minutes. Dennis Cimino seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

### **PRESENTATION BY POTTS GROVE FUTURE FALCONS**

Eric Clayton and Thomas Rizzitiello came before the board representing the Pottsgrove Future Falcons football and cheerleading teams. The mission statement for Pottsgrove Future Falcons was read aloud. They reported that all participants are from Pottsgrove, and they would like to have fields to use close to where the children reside. They would like to form a partnership with the Township and the Parks and Recreation Board to provide places to play these organized sports in Lower Pottsgrove.

Mr. Clayton & Mr. Rizzitiello presented to the Board a short-term proposal to allow football to be played at Gerald Richards Park this season, as well as a long-range plan to use Pleasantview Park to develop 3-4 football fields, with a future snack bar, lights, and storage facility.

Mr. Clayton & Mr. Rizzitiello reported that they have checked with the Pottsgrove Soccer team and have agreed to work out a schedule for the field usage at Gerald Richards Park. Further, they have an excavator contractor who would provide the equipment and manpower needed for the installation of goal posts at no cost to the group or the Township. These goal posts would be moveable, not permanent. The Future Falcons are asking for permission to move forward with this project. Joe Zlomek requested a copy of the agreement with the soccer club for the Township's file. Mr. Clayton stated that nothing had been signed at this time. It was requested that a letter or agreement be provided in writing.

Tom Troutman stated that in 2011 the Township developed a Master Plan, and questioned whether the Falcons had reviewed it, and if their plan would conform to the recommendations included therein. This plan has not been implemented due to funding constraints. A lengthy discussion ensued. It was mentioned that a baseball team had previously presented a plan to develop Pleasantview Park and was denied by the Board of Commissioners. It was further mentioned that the expansion of Pruss Hill Road by PENNDOT will need to take part of this property.

The Falcons requested a full copy of the Master Plan and said they would come back before the Board next month with a more detailed plan. Joe Zlomek reminded the Board and the Falcons representatives that while the Parks and Recreation Board can recommend approval or denial of the project, the ultimate decision lies with the Board of Commissioners.

Discussion was also held regarding the use of Gerald Richards Park, as it relates to the next phase of scheduled renovations. Mr. Clayton stated that they would be respectful of any work being done.

The Parks and Recreation Board thanked Mr. Clayton and Mr. Rizzitiello for their presentation and asked that they come to the next meeting with more information.

Mr. Clayton and Mr. Rizzitiello left the meeting at this time.

### **CONSERVATION DISTRICT UPDATE**

Sue Kraynik reported that the Conservation District has requested more changes to the Gerald Richards Park project. Ed Wagner is working with them, but the project will be slightly delayed.

Joe Zlomek stated that he will talk to Chad Camburn at Bursich Engineers & Ed Wagner about the Conservation District project.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Tom Troutman asked about the status of the upcoming Parks and Recreation events due to COVID. Sue Kraynik reported that the Easter Egg hunt, scheduled for March, and the Fish Rodeo scheduled for May are in jeopardy due to limited vaccine availability and gathering restrictions. However, the Township is hopeful that the summer concerts will be held as planned.

Discussion was held regarding stocking the pond with fish for the spring. Dennis Cimino and Tom Troutman stated that they have seen multiple people fishing and would like to encourage this activity as it is able to be done while distancing from others. Joe Zlomek stated that he has spoken with the state fish hatcheries. They have a small budget this year, and any stock they have will go to the state ponds. The Board requested that the Township purchase fish to stock the pond for the spring of 2021.

Tom Troutman reported that the Little Library project is still on hold due to the pandemic.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Joe Zlomek reported that PARRC (Pottstown Area Regional Recreation Committee) has developed a 2021-2022 Strategic Plan. One of the items suggested is that all Townships involved enact a levy for open space. Joe Zlomek and Tom Troutman stated their feelings that there are enough taxes right now. Joe Zlomek will ask Michael Lane and Ed Wagner for clarification.

Pat Mazeski reported that the Blessings Box at Gerald Richards Park has been full of products, including diapers and children's books, and feels that this project has been good for the community.

Sue Kraynik reported that all Township meetings, including the Parks and Recreation Board, will be held via Zoom for the foreseeable future due to the pandemic.

There being no further business to discuss, Dennis Cimino moved to adjourn the meeting. Bob Van Bramer seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sue Kraynik*

Sue Kraynik



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