

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

Please note that this Meeting will be held via the Zoom web conferencing program. (Instructions for participating are included below)

ZOOM Meeting ID: 886 6636 7121

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

Dave Morris	Chair
Kerry Boccella	Vice Chair
Noelle Powell	Member
Adrienne Smythe	Member
Emily Croke	Director of Parks and Recreation
Ed T. Graham, Esq.	Commissioner

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

The all present Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee members voted unanimously to approve the April minutes.

3. Administrative Report (*E. Croke*)

With COVID-19 restrictions shifting, the Board of Commissioners will be revisiting in person meetings.

4. Recreation Report (*E. Croke*)

Summer camp registrations have slowed down. The School District has begun offering numerous programs which has resulted in multiple withdraws from Parks and Recreation programs.

5. Park Report (*E. Croke*)

- **Bysher Park:** Memorial Bench Installed. Little League Challenger will run out of Bysher Field this season. The program calls for ADA accessibility. Through a grant application, the Little League and Township will partner on funding a paved path from the parking lot to the minors field.
- **Connor James McKelvie Community Park:** Trash and damages continue.
- **Henry R. Chiamonte Park:** Free Little Library Installed.
- **James A. Cisco Park:** Fish Stocking on 4/30. Friends of Hillcrest Pond hosted fishing derby on 5/1.
- **James R. Fulginiti Park:** Memorial Bench Installed.
- **Laurel Beech Park:** No Issues.
- **Marlow Field:** No Issues.
- **Mermaid Park:** No Issues.
- **Sandy Run Park:** Fish Stocking on 4/30.
- **Veterans Park:** No Issues
- **Wyndhill Park:** No Issues.
- **Springfield Township Recreation Center A:** Window Replacement.
- **Springfield Township Recreation Center B:** Window Replacement.

6. Old Business (*All*)

Park Use Classifications & Event Permit: The Parks and Recreation Department has classified each Township Park within the criteria defined by the National Recreation and Park Association. The purpose of this classification practice is to clarify for potential users of the Township park system the level of services and amenities available within each park property. More specifically, this classification will

simplify which parks are available for athletic rental use, event rental use, and recreational or passive use. All present members voted in favor of the classifications and event permit form.

7. **New Business** (*All*)

Trash and Damages in Parks: Trash and damages to equipment and fencing have continued to be a problem in Springfield Township. Numerous parks such as McKelvie Park experience copious amounts of litter on the ground in addition to intentionally broken fence posts. Contrary to popular belief, fences are not a playground requirement. Fences are recommended when a playground does not have a buffer and borders a major road, similar to that of Chiaramonte Park. However, it is not recommended to fence in all playgrounds because it leads the guardian to pay less attention. When parents and babysitters stop paying attention, accidents and injuries occur. It is also not recommended to have gates on playground areas due to people using the area as a makeshift dog park. The Township has begun to change direction when parks and playgrounds need updating.

The Township frequently receive calls regarding patrons using the playground at Wyndhill Park as a dog park. With the playground being completely enclosed, patrons feel it serves as a perfect dog park. Not only is it unsafe for children and dogs to be penned in together, it is also unsanitary. The gates were intentionally removed to eliminate use as a dog park. The Little League also encounters issues with patrons using the enclosed fields for dog training. One volunteer was nearly bit by a dog that was unleashed on the field.

Next Level Basketball – Summer League 2021: Matt Paul will host a summer recreation basketball league for grade 4 through 7 beginning in July. The Township is interested in starting the summer league back into the community in summer 2022.

Open School Positions: Ms. Smythe noted there are numerous coaching positions open at Springfield.

8. **Public Comments** (*All*)

No public comment.

9. **School District Report** (*M. Needleman*)

Mr. Needleman noted the public tour of Enfield Elementary will be hosted on May 21st at 9:00 am.

10. **Commissioners' Report** (*E. Graham*)

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

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 7:00 pm

To join and participating in the Zoom Meeting:

- VIA WEB BROWSER: Copy and paste this link into your web browser:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88666367121>
- VIA ZOOM APP: if you have the Zoom App on your smartphone, tablet, or computer, open the program, click join a meeting, and enter the Meeting ID: **886 6636 7121**
- VIA CALL-IN (no video): Dial +1 646 558 8656 and enter the Meeting ID: **886 6636 7121**
- PASSCODE: **parks**

PLEASE NOTE: Should any audio or visual disruptions appear during the meeting, the Administrator may end the meeting immediately.