



## Minutes: Parks & Recreation Committee – March 6, 2023

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The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Parks and Recreation Committee was held on March 6, 2023 and began at 6:35pm at the Middle Smithfield Township Building with Laura Massaro presiding.

**In attendance were:** Committee Members: Debbie Kulick, On Zoom: Kristen Willis, Laura Massaro Board of Supervisors: Mike Dwyer, MST Liaison: Chris Rain

Debbie Kulick made a motion to accept the agenda. Kristen Willis seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Kristen Willis made a motion to accept the minutes from the February meeting. Laura Massaro seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**Correspondence:** An email was received from Vicki Staples, beekeeper at the Community Gardens and was discussed in the Community Gardens section.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Parks Sponsorships:** Chris Rain reported that he is waiting to receive details from Annette Atkinson about changing the sponsorship brochure to include other township events including Memory Makers and Person of the Year. Kristen Willis asked to receive the sponsorship information as soon as it's ready. She's spoken to some local businesses who are interested in being sponsors.

**Events:** The Eggstravaganza is Saturday April 1. Chris Rain and Kristen Willis met in February and developed a plan for the event. The event will include three egg hunts in different age groups at different times: 0-2 years at 12:30; 3-5 years at 12:45; and 6-10 years at 1pm. Kristen is in charge of games and golden egg prizes. Chris Rain has ordered supplies. Laura Massaro stated her daughter was not available to be the bunny that day. Chris Rain said he had a backup to play the bunny. Debbie Kulick and Kristen Willis stated they plan to attend the event. Laura Massaro stated she was unsure.

**Parks Survey:** Mike Dwyer reported that the cost to mail postcards to all residents was in excess of \$4,000 and he was not in favor of the expense. Debbie Kulick stated she could bring the material to other meetings she attends with township residents. Laura Massaro asked to receive the survey so she could send it to the Winona Lakes HOA property manger to distribute to the community. She also suggested sending it to the other township HOAs to distribute to residents.

**Community Gardens:** Chris Rain reported that the township was awarded the \$5,000 grant from One for Nature to resurface the parking lot and paths at the gardens as well as purchase material to rebuild 75 plots. Beekeeper Vicki Staples reported by email that she expects to move the new bees into the apiary in late April. Kristen Willis asked whether Vicki would do demonstrations. Chris Rain will follow up with her about public demonstrations. Chris Rain also reported he has heard back from most of the gardeners at this point about returning for 2023.

**Dog Park:** Debbie Kulick stated that the benches by the flag pole were in bad shape. Chris Rain suggested that the boards could be replaced. Mike Dwyer also reported that the township was looking into purchasing and installing playground equipment at the dog park.

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**Echo Lake:** Debbie Kulick stated she was researching information for installing a splash pad and would have material for the committee at the April meeting. Chris Rain reported that the Bigbelly solar trash compactors paid for by the 2021 Healing the Planet grant had finally arrived and would be installed in the coming weeks.

**Judy Putek:** No report.

**Resica:** Chris Rain reported that one of the Bear Saver trash cans from Echo Lake Park would be moved to Resica by the ball field. The trash can at Echo Lake will be replaced by one of the Bigbelly compactors.

**Litter and Beautification:** Chris Rain reported that there have already been volunteers out cleaning up litter on township roads in February due to the mild weather. Mike Dwyer reported that the road crew has also been out cleaning up litter on several roads including Winona Falls Road, Upper Lakeview Drive, and Lower Lakeview Drive.

**EMC Regional Parks:** Debbie Kulick reported that the sign at the Bike Park looked dirty. She said it could probably just be wiped off. Mike Dwyer reported that Middle Smithfield and Smithfield Townships are in the process of scheduling a meeting with both sets of supervisors to discuss a proposal from the Smithfield Township engineer to fix issues that Monroe County Conservation District has with the pump track. He will update the parks committee after they meet.

**Announcements:** None.

The next Parks and Recreation meeting will be held on Monday April 3, 2023 at 6:30pm at the Middle Smithfield Township Building. Debbie Kulick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:58pm. Laura Massaro seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Chris Rain  
Middle Smithfield Township