

**MINUTES OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY
PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
September 14, 2016**

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The meeting of the Parks Commission was held in the Gourgaud Gallery in Town Hall, 23A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey, on September 14, 2016, at 9:15 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Thomas Weidner, Chair of Parks Commission, called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m. and Wendy Borg acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, adequate notice in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6) was provided on December 1, 2015, of this meeting's date, time and place, and the agenda was mailed to the news media, posted on the Township bulletin board, mailed to those requesting personal notice, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Christine Parker, Norma Swale, Sally O'Grady (left 10:00, re-entered 10:17), Julie Hardaker, Thomas Weidner, Joan Smith and Michele Kemper were present. Lisa Rue entered the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Ellie Sitrin reported her absence by email.

MINUTES

The minutes from the July 13, 2016 meeting were amended and approved on a motion by Michele Kemper; seconded by Sally O'Grady. Joan Smith, Julie Hardaker and Tom Weidner abstained. All others were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Memorial Bench in Memorial Park – The Taylor family would like to erect a bench near the brook in memory of their grandmothers who have passed. Suggestion to ask the Taylors to look into a bench made of composite material instead of wood. Commissioners expressed a desire for the bench to be identical to ones already in Memorial Park, as well as the plaque, similar in size and style to the Chambers bench and plaque. Motion to approve the Taylor's generous donation of a bench to be placed by the Brook made by Tom Weidner; seconded by Julie Hardaker. Michele Kemper abstained. All others were in favor.

The Parks Commission would like to review the plaque before it is installed. Mr. Weidner will look into paver placements for the benches.

Mrs. Parker suggested the creation of an inventory of current benches in parks, and also some rules created about memorial bench placement in parks. Several commissioners voiced concern of the number of benches, materials, and which parks should have memorials. Agreement to continue discussion in future meetings about parks and memorial benches.

Eagle Scout Project – Mrs. Hardaker and Mrs. Smith made suggestions to Mikey to complete the map:

- Bike path – closed off a couple opening in the hedges
- C-1 - removed bleachers on third base side
- Make a notation for bleachers symbol - rectangle
- C-2 - put baseball on the dirt
- C-3 - same
- Dock and rain garden should have been lined up but they haven't been, supposedly from a computer program issue.

Mikey applied these changes and sent a revised map via email.

Mr. Weidner requested the symbol for the picnic table east of the playground be removed. Also no concrete should be used to secure the posts of the sign.

Motion by Christine Parker to approve and recommend to the Township Committee Mikey Frost's Eagle Scout project of a sign for Village Park, subject to review by Mrs. Hardaker to check that the picnic table east of the playground is removed; seconded by Julie Hardaker. All others were in favor.

Playground Expansion Heritage Park – The Recreation Board would like to enlarge the tot lot and is discussing funding. The Foglia family would like to donate a special needs swing in memory of their daughter who passed. Recreation Director Ken Jacobs is checking into costs of the swing and the clearance points for swings. Ms. Rue suggested the special needs swing be placed in Millstone Park, where there is room already available.

NEW BUSINESS

Recreation Commission News – No report.

Shade Tree Commission News – The Commission is continuing the Emerald Ash Borer management plan. A tree inventory will be completed. Public outreach sessions will be held at the township public library this evening and again in October.

Environmental Commission News – No report.

Heritage Park Vegetation Removal – The Shade Tree Commission has referred the online exhibits for suggestions for tree replacement.

Vehicular parking on Township parks' lawns - A no-parking sign has been erected at Heritage Park near the vehicular entrance. This followed after a pre-prom party in the spring at the house next to Heritage Park, when many cars were parked on the grass in the Park. Mr. Weidner will follow up with Mayor Mulligan on the decision to put the sign up.

Heritage Park – A maple tree is dead, and the oak trees around the fountain are dying.

Annual Parks Inventory – Commissioners are directed to begin canvassing their assigned parks and updating the chart. All revisions for all parks should be complete in 30 days except for Village, Cranbury Brook Preserve, and Cranbury Brook Trail/New Projects, which should be complete in 60 days.

Meeting date – Suggested meeting date for November 2 in evening.

Mrs. Swale suggested a splash park for Cranbury. Mr. Weidner asked Mrs. Swale to check into costs.

Mrs. Smith asked for the rouge tree in the Paw Paw park to be taken down by DPW.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m. Motion by Christine Parker; seconded by Joan Smith; all were in favor. Motion carried.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the acting recording Secretary of the Township of Cranbury Parks Commission and that this document, consisting of three (3) pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on September 14, 2016.

Secretary
Wendy W. Borg