

**MINUTES OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY  
PARKS COMMISSION MEETING  
March 8, 2017**

**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 March 8, 2017, at 9:15 a.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Thomas Weidner, Chair of the Parks Commission, called the meeting to order at 9:15 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 5, 2016, 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, Julie Hardaker, Eloise Sitrin, Sally O'Grady, Thomas Weidner, Lisa Rue, Michele Kemper and Joan Smith were present.

**NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Dan Mulligan, Township Committee liaison to Parks Commission

**MINUTES**

The minutes from the February 8, 2017 meeting were amended and approved on a motion by Christine Parker; seconded by Joan Smith. Ellie Sitrin abstained. All others were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Annual Parks Inventory – Final Edits – Heritage Park amenities were updated.

Year End Report 2016/Goals 2017 - Mr. Weidner commended the Township Committee's decision to appropriate funds to the beautification of the township's parks, and thanked Mr. Mulligan for attending the meeting and assisting in the work of the Commission as well as the communication with the township. Mr. Mulligan noted that the full township budget will be approved soon and funds will be available in May/June.

Mr. Weidner will attend the upcoming Township Committee meeting to present these reports.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Subcommittees –**

**Beautification –**

*Village* – Mrs. Parker reported that the parking lots are in disrepair and of high priority. Mr. Mulligan agreed and will direct the Township Engineer and Jerry Thorne to review the lots and report back to the Commission. The parking bumpers are in disrepair. Some need to be removed, replaced, or chains installed instead of bumpers between the concrete posts. Mr. Mulligan will check on the history of the installation of

the bumpers. He confirmed that this is a reasonable project and suggested there may be a stockpile of new bumpers for replacements. Mrs. Parker also noted that the port-a-johns should be relocated and better screened with shrubs. Mr. Mulligan asked for the Commission to create a list of species and locations for plantings.

*Heritage* – Mrs. O’Grady reported that a section of the sidewalk between the fountain and Old Trenton Road always puddles after rain. Mr. Mulligan will ask the Township Engineer to review this area also. The pavers by the fountain are sinking and need attention.

*Memorial* – Discussion on the holly trees that were heavily pruned, and the pruning on trees on Pump House Road behind the Firehouse.

Mrs. Smith also reported that many trees are dead and need to be removed, in Barn, Heritage and Village parks. Mr. Mulligan will talk with Township Administrator Denise Marabello on the manpower for this work.

Mr. Mulligan also reported that the developers of the Hagerty/Cheney property have agreed to install a gravel path on the west side of Old Cranbury Road between the Pin Oaks Loop trailhead along the Hagerty property up to the CHA housing. The Commission will consider this item on the April agenda.

**Signs** – Signs are needed at Heritage and Memorial, and the Village Park sign needs repair or replacement. Mrs. Hardaker and Mrs. Sitrin researched details with a sign company. A 4x5 wood sign would be about \$500; cut outs are additional. Size of signs needs to be determined, then design. Mrs. Hardaker noted that a pattern for future signs needs to be created, and repairs down the road would need to fit in. Mr. Mulligan noted that space is tight in Memorial for a large sign.

**Fences** – Mrs. O’Grady reported that the fence in Village Park is rusty and either needs to be replaced or repaired; about 1250 feet of fence. Mr. Mulligan asked the Commission to seek estimates and prioritize costs. He will look into if this would be a township capital expense and if there would be any liability issues with removal of the fence.

**Board of Health ordinance update** – The Board of Health will have a work session on the proposed ordinance in April, with a first reading planned for May and adoption in June. The Township Committee asked the Board to reconsider some language on enforcement and the signs.

**Heritage Park tot lot equipment update** – Ms. Rue reported that the new tot lot has been ordered by the Recreation Commission, and that installation is preferred to be concurrent with the special needs swing. The Foglias have not ordered the special needs swing yet.

**Old Cranbury Road area near the Pin Oaks Loop trail** - Discussion on the disrepair of this wetland area and what purview the township has on rehabilitation.

**List of Scout projects** – Mr. Weidner will contact the local Boys Scouts for a list.

**List of Donations** – Commissioners will review their assigned parks for benches and trees that are identified as memorials.

**Memorials/Donations standards** –Tabled until April meeting.

Recreation Commission News –(Lisa Rue) - The Board of Commissioners is looking for another area in the township for a small-sided soccer field.

Shade Tree Commission News – Dead ash trees in Four Seasons are being removed.

Environmental Commission News – The EC is looking to map local conservation easements with a grant. Mr. Weidner will advise. The Commission is also working on the annual Meiss Award to a student. Also the EC is working with the school's Wellness and Sustainability Council on Sustainable Jersey School certification.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m. Motion by Lisa Rue; seconded by Thomas Weidner; 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 March 8, 2017.

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Secretary  
Wendy W. Borg