

**MINUTES OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY
PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
September 13, 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 September 13, 2017, at 9:15 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Tom Weidner, Chair of the Parks Commission, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and Debra Rubin 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

Tom Weidner, Christine Parker, Sally O'Grady, Julie Hardaker, Lisa Rue, Joan Smith, Adam Knierim were present. Eloise Sitrin was excused and Michele Kemper was absent.

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Gianna Foglia

MINUTES

The minutes from the July 12, 2017 meeting were amended and approved on a motion by Sally O'Grady; seconded by Julie Hardaker. All were in favor with two abstentions. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Subcommittee Reports:

Beautification—Chris Parker, Joan Smith, Michele Kemper

Memorial Park – The holly trees have been inadvertently trimmed again.

Village Park – Port-a-John was placed back. Mr. Knierim requested more information on what type of enclosure the commission wanted. It was advised that Jerry Thorne would install fencing around the port-a-john. This item will be placed on the short list for Jerry Thorne.

Millstone Park – No discussion.

Fences – Sally O'Grady, Joan Smith, Lisa Rue

Millstone Park – The planting of bushes were previously decided upon in place of fencing. Place plantings on short list for Jerry Thorne.

Village Park – Replacement fencing – Ms. Smith to receive a sample of the galvanized fencing from Area Closures for review. This project can begin approximately two weeks after the Township Committee decides whether to replace certain areas of fencing or replace the entire fence. Stump removal would need to be added to quote that is sent to the Township Committee.

Signs – Lisa Rue, Julie Hardaker and Ellie Sitrin

Heritage Park - The commission agreed to use 8 foot posts which had also been recommended by Cranbury Custom.

Village Park and Barn Park signs are to be requested next for purchase by Township Committee. The Village Park sign will need to be larger.

Cranbury Brook Preserve sign not to be purchased by Parks Commission.

It was discussed that the Parks Commission needs to have a member present at the Township Committee meetings. It appears the fencing topic had been tabled by the Committee to an unspecified date.

Guidelines for Memorial/Donations –The packet of photos and information was given to the Chairperson for safe keeping.

Board of Health ordinance update – None.

Heritage Park Tot Lot Update – See public comment.

List of Scout projects– None

List of Donations– No discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Village Park Bank Restoration – Mayor Cook had an approved DEP plan for bank restoration plantings. The Township Committee moved on this without any recent input from the Parks Commission. Plants were planted along the bank in order to help stabilize the area by the DEP. The plants are to help with stabilization, as well as, allowing for the growth and maturity of the grasses that were also planted. Once the shrubs mature, they may reach 3-6 feet and/or 6-12 feet, which would have the potential to block the view of the lake. Discussion ensued regarding who is responsible for the future maintenance of the plants. A major area of concern is regarding the height of the plants, as well as, the future view of the lake as the plants mature. Joan Smith suggested researching perennial plants in place of the current shrubs. It was decided that the chairperson would send an email to Township Committee requesting they work with Parks Commission prior to beginning next phase of bank restoration.

Monthly Short List for Department of Public Works – This list will cover September's request.

1. Millstone Park – Purchase from Recreation Commission budget the bushes being used as fencing and planting of same for safety of children . The hedges are to shield the tot playground from Old Trenton Road. In hoping to match the existing hedge along the parking lot, where 4 plants are planted per 10 linear feet, 32 boxwood plants would need to be planted. To make the hedges similar at both ends of the park, the hedges should be 25' into the park from the sidewalk along Old Trenton Road.

2. Cut down dead trees and branches over walking path Heritage Park. In Village Park cut dead trees on right to the gazebo and trees along lake area.
3. Fencing around Port-a-John in Village Park and Millstone.

This list will be emailed to Jerry Thorne by Secretary.

Commissioners Reports – No discussion.

Recreation Commission News – No discussion.

Shade Tree Commission News – None

Environmental Commission News – Mrs. O'Grady advised the members of various items discussed at the meeting. The Commission had extended an invitation to the Parks Commission to combine efforts at Cranbury Day. Next year the Parks Commission will better coordinate to assist at Cranbury Day. The next meeting Environmental Commission is September 18th.

Who Does What By When

Tom Weidner – Email to Township Committee regarding Village Park bank restoration project.

Julie Hardaker, Sally O'Grady and Adam Knierim - Meet with Gianna Foglia regarding finalizing handicap swing, bench and plaque.

Lisa Rue – Contact Cranbury Custom regarding posts and post caps. Also seek approval for fencing from Township Committee.

Joan Smith – Meet with George from Area Enclosures.

Chris Parker – Length of hedges and amount to be purchased for Jerry Thorne short list.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Gianna Foglia was present to discuss the donation of playground equipment in Heritage Park. She discussed finalizing the handicap swing, length and style of bench (8ft composite), and plaque style and placement. Discussion that Heritage Park Sub-Committee meet with Mrs. Foglia to finalize all of the above within 30 days and bring information back for October meeting. Mr. Weidner suggested Mrs. Foglia include a write up in the Memorial Book.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m. Motion by Lisa Rue; 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 October 11, 2017.

Secretary
Debra A. Rubin