

**February Parks Committee Meeting
Held via ZOOM– February 27, 2023**

Attendance: Steve Lee, Scott Hain, Charity Hain, Charis Pankratz, Ron Steif, Elijah Yearick, Jordan Garner, David Brubaker, Linda Carson, David Carson, Tom Eppinger, Violet Weitzel.

Time: 4:00 PM

Skate Park: Yearick reported that the second phase of the skate park was completed Thursday February 23rd. Yearick shared photos of the completed work to the Committee. There is hope for a third phase to be completed in 2024. The Committee was glad to hear that the users of the park are happy about the completed work and excited about potential future work. Hain and Yearick discussed adding a sign to the skate park to recognize all of the parties that contributed to the park. Linda Carson asked what the cost of the park was and where that information can be found. Yearick responded that the second phase of the park was a \$20,000.00 donation that was provided to CASA. In 2022 the Borough also spent \$20,000.00 towards upgrading the park. Yearick added that the original estimate from the Skate Park Association was \$500,000.000. Hain discussed that to complete all three phases of the park the total cost will be close to \$60,000.00. Ron Steif asked Yearick what the plan is for the third phase of the park. Yearick responded that the third phase will focus on the back portion of the park. It has not been clear if a fourth phase is required. A fourth phase will be dependent on how much concrete is donated by Rhorer's Quarry. Pankratz asked if it was possible to add a path from the gate that goes behind the ramp to access the backside of the park. Pankratz discussed that a path could elevate some traffic for the skaters. Committee thought the idea was a good idea and can be discussed further.

Sixth Street Park: Yearick reported that the focus group for the park identified 5 different playset types and 2 sets of benches. Yearick also presented the poster board for residents to choose their favorite piece of equipment and bench type. The Lititz Public Library is interested in hosting the poster boards for public voting. Lititz AMBUCS is also interested in donating an accessible play feature to the park. Yearick also presented the Lititz AMBUCS poster. Yearick added that a point of discussion about the accessible play feature was the surface to the park. Mulch has been used as the surface for other Lititz Borough Parks, but mulch typically does not work well with wheelchairs. Lititz AMBUCS would like to see a poured rubber surface. Lititz Borough does not have the budget in 2023 to install the poured rubber surface. Lititz AMBUCS has the budget to donate a play feature and provide partial funding for the rubber surface. Lititz Ambucs wanted to know if the Borough would be willing to have the install in 2024. Scott Hain added that the Committee should look into how long the poured rubber surface will last. S. Hain discussed that the Tree House at the Lititz Church of the Brethren needs to be replaced every 6 to 8 years. A rubber surface would need to be budgeted for as a reoccurring cost. S. Hain also discussed the accessible play equipment at Dean Saylor Park. Yearick added that he did not believe the surface at the Tree House is poured rubber. Yearick discussed that Dean Saylor is a rubber mulch. Warwick Township is not happy with the surface and would like to get a replacement. S. Hain mentioned there were issues with the Lititz Elementary Playground. Committee thinks that the rubber surface can be incorporated into the overall design to the park and can be added at a later date. Charity Hain asked what the timeline for the poster going to the Library. Yearick responded that he would have liked to

have had the posters at the Library in January, but there was back and forth with Lititz AMBUCS delaying the process.

Public Comments/Questions: Yearick opened up the meeting for Public comments/questions. Linda Carson asked if the rubber surface is impervious to water because the area is a swale, CARA, stormwater drain. L. Carson discussed that she does not want to see the quantity of water being affected because the area is drinking water for the Borough. L. Carson asked if the rubber material is impervious or pervious in relation to grass. Committee had no comment to the questions. L. Carson also asked which civil engineering firm has analyzed the impact of increased traffic to walkers. Yearick responded that the Borough has consulted with Grove Miller Engineering and was informed that there is no point on completing a traffic study before the thoroughway is complete. L. Carson asked if Lititz AMBUCS is aware of the removal of the sidewalk along the street. Yearick responded by saying that Ambucs has seen the concept plan, and the removal of the sidewalk was in part to previous comments on wanting to get people away from the street. The concept plan for the park is still in the works. L. Carson responded to Yearick saying that it is untrue that she wants the sidewalks removed because they are unsafe. L. Carson discussed the sidewalk was repaired 5 years ago. Sidewalks are all over the Borough and are required by Ordinance. The sidewalks allow accessibility for her child to get to the other side of the street safely. L. Carson's last question was if the Lititz AMBUCS is aware of the West Nile Virus. Yearick responded yes. L. Carsons three minutes for question concluded. David Carson commented that he and L. Carson were never asked about the sidewalk. D. Carson also commented that he reached out about participating in the focus group and was told no. D. Carson asked how residents will be delineated because the library is in Warwick Township. Yearick responded that residency is something that will be considered. For the voting process, people will be asked to provide their address. The responses will be weighted based on proximity to the park and residency. If no address is provided, the vote will be counted at the lowest point total. D. Carson commented that he again is asking to be put on the focus group. D. Carson expects a response either form Yearick or Borough Council. D. Carson mentioned the phases of the park and asked what the total cost will be. Yearick responded an estimate cannot be put together without identifying features for the park. At the end of questions D. Carson asked again to be put on the focus group and would like to hear back from Shane Weaver or Yearick. Yearick added that he did not select the focus group but based on previous interactions there were concerns it would be too confrontational and would not be good for discussion. Yearick concluded by saying that D. Carson can ask Borough Council to be added to the focus group. D. Carson 3 minutes for questions and comments concluded. There were no other public comments or questions.