

**Lower Salford Township  
Park Board Minutes  
February 25, 2025**

The February 25, 2025, Park Board was called to order at 7 p.m. by Chairman Kent Krauss. Also in attendance were Vice Chairman Pete Harubin, Jan Johnson, Ryan Beltz, Andy Lazzaro, Mark Kelley, Secretary Holly Hosterman, Township Special Projects Coordinator, Grace Kelley and Township Public Works Director Doug Jones. Due to technical difficulties with the Township equipment, the meeting was not available via Zoom.

Chairman Krauss asked for approval of the January 28, 2025, Meeting Minutes. Andy Lazzaro made a motion to approve the minutes. Mark Kelley seconded. Minutes unanimously approved as written.

Grace Kelley, Township Special Projects Coordinator and Doug Jones, Township Public Works Director, were in attendance to discuss several upcoming projects and grant submittals for those projects.

The first project to be discussed was the creation of an “all-inclusive” playground added to the existing playground at Alderfer Park. Ms. Kelley shared a power point along with various designs for potential equipment. She noted that she was in the process of preparing a grant submission to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for a portion of the cost. She noted that this project was ambitious and that additional grants may be needed to fund the entire project.

Doug Jones also discussed with the Board the recent acquisition of practically new playground equipment that was being removed at a spot in Delaware County. This playground equipment was being removed by David Scheuren Construction to make way for a new project. Mr. Scheuren, also a Township Supervisor, procured the playground equipment for use at the Township Parks. Mr. Jones said there are 6 pieces of equipment identified (possibly more) that will be re-purposed into several of the Township Parks: Bucher Park, Roth Park, and Heckler Park. Mr. Jones also said that Heckler Farmstead Park will see 3 new pickleball courts this coming season and that current playground equipment will be relocated to allow for a better flow of play. They will also be removing tree roots and replacing the mulch to improve drainage at the play area of the park.

Chairman Krauss recognized Joan DiMaria of the Heckler Plains/Historical Society presented the monthly report of happenings within the Society. She noted that heater at the Reiff home was not working, as far as she could tell and would require the annual service. The 1985 Agreement for the use of Heckler Plains was briefly discussed and it was noted that many things have changed in the last 40 years. Chairman Krauss said it was the hope of the Township that the agreement could be revised and to that end, include the other older homes owned by the Township as well (i.e. Jacob Reiff & Bergey Mill). Joan also made the Board aware of the upcoming “School of the Soldier” at Heckler. This will be the second year the Re-enactors of the Civil War will be staging this event at Heckler. Currently, April 5<sup>th</sup> is the day, but paperwork has yet to be received.

The 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration of America was discussed. The Township has suggested the Heckler Plains Society maintain their original yearly Hecklerfest but possibly expand the offerings and advertise extensively to get more of a turnout on that day. The 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday of America would be the theme. Lastly, Ms. DiMaria noted that the idea of a Dog Park at the Heckler Plains Park was not received well by the Society, and they are formally against creating a dog park there.

Chairman Krauss asked Ms. Hosterman to provide the Planning Commission Agenda. Ms. Hosterman noted that the agenda did not contain anything that would require Park Board input.

**The following reports were given for the various Township parks:**

**Alderfer Park** – Jan Johnson reported that there was a new story on the Story Walk called “Dinosaur Bones.”

**Bergey Park** – Andy Lazzaro reported that the park looked rough due to the construction of the bridge replacement being done by H&K. He noted that the sign indicating “Authorized Vehicles Only” on the path area near the retention pond has disappeared.

**Briarwyck Park** – Amy Burch was not in attendance, but had reported via email that the park looked great with the recent repairs/replacement of the fishing pier. The pier was replaced using funds from the PECO Green Region Grant.

**Bucher Park** – Mark Kelly reported that the park looked good. He did report that the kick plate on the hockey rink was damaged and may require stronger attachments. It was noted that the final coating to the hockey rink would be this upcoming spring season.

**Dannerth Park** – All good in the neighborhood!

**Groff’s Mill Park** – Andy reported that the park looked good.

**Heckler Plains Farmstead** – Pete Harubin reported that all looked good, but reiterated that the trim and roof needed repaired on the pavilion.

**Kulp Road Pond Park** – Chairman Krauss reported that upon further research, the Kulp Road pond is part of the “Samuel Harley” park that was created decades ago. He would like to see new signs for the pond as well as the other end of the park and path, which ends on Yoder Road near Kulp.

**Park Avenue Field** – It was reported that the fields still have the “grow blankets” on them to protect them from the winter weather. It was noted that these fields will be rested again this spring and Girls Lacrosse will utilize the fields at the Harleysville Community Center.

**Reed Park** – Pete Harubin reported that everything looked good. He also wanted to make sure that the Township is aware the pavilion trim is repaired this summer.

**Reiff Park** – Ryan Beltz reported that everything looks good and is going well with the greenhouse and the butterfly pavilion. He said that grant funds have been secured and that Phase 2 of the streambank restoration within the park will be beginning this spring.

**Roth Park** – Jan Johnson reported that everything was fine.

**Trail Report** – Public Works Director Doug Jones, reported that ADA ramps were on the agenda to be installed where Fairview Drive crosses over Moyer Road.

**Wawa Park** – Ryan Beltz reported that the park looked good. People continue to drive on the grassy areas. Ms. Hosterman noted she will continue to report these findings to the Township Police.

**Kiosk Report** – New bulletin board cork is needed at all the kiosks

**New Business & Correspondence:**

Ms. Hosterman told the members that she had sent out the intent to farm letters to both Darryl Knechel and Barry Swartz. She also noted that the Township had received a request again this year for Senator Pennycuick's Fishing Derby. Due to the replacement of the bridge at Bergey's Mill, the Township has asked the Senator to relocate the event to Camp Wawa Park. The event is currently scheduled for April 12, 2025. Trout stocking will be happening again this year in the 3 ponds across the Township: Briarwyck Pond, Dan Roth Pond, and Alderfer Road Pond. The last few years Public Works Director Doug Jones has coordinated school children to participate in the stocking at Roth Park. This will be happening again this year on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:**

Ms. Hosterman updated the members on the applications and agreements for this year's field usage. All organizations are in the process of getting everything to the Township with their intent to use the fields. The All Sports Meeting was on February 11<sup>th</sup> and was well-attended. All those in attendance discussed this year's programs and the growth of their teams. Along the same vein, Chairman Krauss noted to the All Sports group that the 3 new fields at Alderfer Park, which are being created by the developer of the new adjacent subdivision, will not be ready for play until 2027, at best.

There was no update from the Trails Committee this month. The next meeting date has not been set as of this evening.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Chairman Krauss entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. Pete Harubin motioned for approval and Andy Lazzaro seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Hosterman, Secretary