

**MINUTES FOR THE
EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP
PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 28, 2025**

The Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee held a regular meeting on January 28, 2025. Present for the meeting were Frank Coppo, Chair; Flora Kapp, Secretary; Liz Willow; Karen Nocella; Cathy Carney-Horner; Bruce Stephens and Eric Hughes.

Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Coppo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the pledge was recited.

1. Reorganization.

A. Consideration of Nominations and Election of Chair.

Mr. Stephens made a motion to appoint Mr. Coppo as Chair of the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee. Ms. Carney-Horner seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 6-0-1, with Mr. Coppo abstaining.

B. Consideration of Nominations and Election of Vice Chair.

Mr. Hughes made a motion to appoint Mr. Stephens as Vice Chair. Ms. Carney-Horner seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 6-0-1, with Mr. Stephens abstaining.

C. Consideration of Nominations and Election of Recording Secretary.

Mr. Stephens made a motion to appoint Ms. Kapp as Recording Secretary. Ms. Carney-Horner seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 6-0-1, with Ms. Kapp abstaining.

2. Minutes.

A. Consideration of Approval of the November 26, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Hughes presented amendments to the November 26, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes. Ms. Willow made a motion to approve the Minutes as amended. Mr. Stephens seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 7-0-0.

3. New Business

A. Discuss Adjusting the Name of the “John Doyle Rock the Schoolhouse 5k/10k Run” to “John Doyle 5k/10k Run”.

Ms. Kapp presented this item, and explained that this name change will allow Run proceeds to be used for a broader range of trail/park projects, not just projects related to the Schoolhouse. Mr. Coppo made a motion to approve adjusting the name of the “John Doyle Rock the Schoolhouse 5k/10k Run” to “John Doyle 5k/10k Run”. Ms. Willow seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 7-0-0.

B. Discuss Preferred Contact Information to Share with Township Staff.

Mr. Hughes presented this item and collected contact information from the Committee members and will forward it to Township Staff.

C. Discuss Preservation of Ellis Woods Park Parcels.

Mr. Hughes presented this item, and advised the Committee that the Township Solicitor has drafted a Conservation Easement for Ellis Woods Park, which will be revised by the Open Space Committee.

D. Discuss Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee's Understanding of Official Boundaries of Ellis Woods Park and East Coventry Nature Preserve.

Mr. Hughes presented this item, and informed the Committee that the Township Manager had requested that the Committee review the names of parcels associated with Township parks for purposes of consistency when referring to the properties to ensure they align with current naming conventions to ensure clarity in communication. The Committee reviewed the parcels and agree that the Maack and Wineberry properties shall collectively be referred to as the East Coventry Nature Preserve, and that the Creekview parcel shall be referred to as Ellis Woods Park.

4. Old Business.

A. Discuss Approved Eagle Scout Project – Bridge Over Pigeon Creek on the Schoolhouse Trail; Logan Small, Senior Patrol Leader, Troop 127.

Ms. Nocella presented this item, and informed the Committee that she had not received any update and would contact Ms. Small for an update. Ms. Willow suggested possible restoration of the bridge over a tributary to Pigeon Creek (“Hershey Run”) at Ellis Woods Park if the Scout needs another option.

B. Discuss Purple Martin House Acquisition and Installation Details.

Mr. Hughes presented this item, and informed the Committee that the Township Public Works Department had installed the birdhouse.

C. Discuss Potential Raptor Nest Box Acquisition and Addition of Kestral/Owl Nest Boxes to East Coventry Township Parks System.

Ms. Willow presented this item, and informed the Committee that she had not received a response from Hawk Mountain regarding nest boxes. Mr. Hughes identified a location in the agricultural field at Ellis Woods Park as a preferred location for a kestrel box. Mr. Hughes will consult with the Pennsylvania Game Commission for insight regarding appropriate box siting. Mr. Coppo will review the plans for the hinged/telescoping box pole to determine what resources will be needed to build it.

D. Discuss Creekview/Ellis Woods Park Land Use.

As discussed, in in 3. C. above, Mr. Hughes informed the Committee that the Township

Solicitor has drafted a Conservation Easement for Ellis Woods Park which will be reviewed by the Open Space Committee.

5. Committee Events.

A. Consideration of Making a Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on the Ellis Woods Bird Walk on Saturday, February 22 at 7:30 a.m.

Mr. Coppo made a motion to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to hold a Bird Walk on Saturday, February 22 at 7:30 a.m. Ms. Kapp seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 7-0-0.

B. Discuss John Doyle 5k/10k Run.

Ms. Kapp informed the Committee of the items what have been completed and the items that are still outstanding.

C. Discuss Proposed Spring 2025 Tree Planting Event.

The Committee discussed making a retroactive recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to approve submission of a Spring Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership Application for free trees to be planted at the Nature Preserve on April 12, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

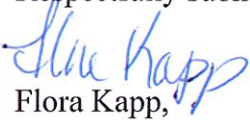
6. Public Comment.

None.

7. Adjournment.

Ms. Willow made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Ms. Kapp seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 7-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Flora Kapp,
Secretary