

**MINUTES FOR THE
EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP
PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JUNE 24, 2025**

The Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee held a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 24, 2025. Present for the meeting were Frank Coppo, Chair; Flora Kapp, Secretary, Liz Willow, Cathy Carney, Bruce Stephens and Karen Nocella. Eric Hughes was absent.

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

1. Minutes.

A. Consideration of Approval of the May 27, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Nocella made a motion to approve the May 27, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. Mr. Coppo seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 6-0-0.

2. New business.

A. Consideration of Nomination of Committee Members to Serve in Joint Sub-Committee With Open Space Committee Regarding Updates to Township Kiosk Trail Maps, Changes and Related Park Issues.

Ms. Nocella nominated Mr. Hughes *in absentia* to serve as a representative from the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee in the Joint Sub-Committee. Mr. Coppo seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 6-0-0.

Ms. Willow requested to be the second member from Committee to serve in the Joint Sub-Committee. Ms. Nocella made a motion to nominate Ms. Willow. Ms. Kapp seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 6-0-0.

3. Old Business.

A. Discuss Preparation of Five-Year Budget for Committee.

Ms. Kapp presented the current budget to Committee for their review and discussion. There was discussion regarding yearly budget increases, educational projects (becoming a Bird Town USA), and Boy Scout projects. Mr. Coppo informed the Committee that he would update the budget per discussion and present it to the Committee members at the July meeting.

- B. Discuss/Receive Update Regarding Approved Eagle Scout Project – Bridge Over Pigeon Creek on the Schoolhouse Trail; Logan Small, Senior Patrol Leader, Troop 127.**

Ms. Nocella informed the Committee that there was no update at this time.

- C. Discuss/Receive Update Regarding Potential Raptor Nest Box Acquisition and Addition of Kestrel/Owl Nest Boxes to East Coventry Township Parks System.**

No updates at this time.

- D. Discuss/Receive Update Regarding Parks Issues: i.e. Prospective Future Creekview/Ellis Woods Park Land Use; Official Boundaries of Ellis Woods Park and Nature Preserve; Preservation of Willis Woods Park Parcels, etc.**

Ms. Nocella informed the Committee that the Open Space Committee is recommending an easement be placed on the Creekview/Ellis Woods Park and that the area currently being farmed be a managed meadow. This would be a better environment for habitat and surrounding residents. She also informed the Committee that a land trust must hold an easement by law and cannot be held by the Township.

- E. Discuss East Coventry Nature Preserve Trail Conditions and Maintenance Issues.**

Ms. Kapp informed the Committee that the bee boxes at Ellis Woods Park were in disrepair and should be taken down. Mr. Coppo volunteered to visit the area and remove the boxes.

4. Committee Events.

- A. Discuss 2026 John Doyle Run Preliminary Details and Logistics.**

The Committee discussed setting the date of 2026/10th anniversary of the John Doyle Run to be Saturday, April 11th and held at Ellis Woods.

- B. Discuss Future Tennis Court Small-Scale Planting Activities.**

The Committee Discussed possible planting in the fall.

- C. Discuss Potential Flag Retirement Ceremony.**

Ms. Willow had no updates at this time.

5. Public Comment.

Peter Kovacic, 1210 School House Road, asked the Committee why the bridge over Pigeon Creek had not been completed and what was the projected completion date. It was explained that it is an Eagle Scout project and we have not received any updates on project progress since inception.

Ms. Willow informed the Committee that the trail in Ellis Woods Park traverses over her property. She, along with her husband and son, walked the area with Mr. Briggs and Mr. Rishel and discussed moving trail off her property and providing a buffer and signage to keep people from traversing, thus protecting creek environment and liability.

Ms. Nocella informed the Committee that Tricia McCloskey suggested using Open Space funds be used to fix the bridge over Pigeon Creek since it is a concern/liability and should be fixed as soon as possible.

Ms. Nocella informed the Committee that she would like to see the schoolhouse be repaired/improved and that Open Space Funds can be used for this purpose. She requested discussion on this topic be on the agenda for July.

Ms. Kapp informed the Committee that Mr. Hill contacted her and he was thrilled as there is a lot of activity at the Purple Martin houses; the old house is 100% full and the new house is 90% full.

6. Adjournment.

Mr. Coppo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Ms. Kapp seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 6-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Flora Kapp,
Secretary