

**MINUTES FOR THE
EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP
PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 25, 2025**

The Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee held a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 25, 2025. Present for the meeting were Frank Coppo, Chair; Bruce Stephens, Vice Chair; Flora Kapp, Secretary, Liz Willow; and Karen Nocella. Also present were Eugene Briggs, Township Manager, and Amy Holland, Administrative Assistant to the Township Manager. Eric Hughes and Cathy Carney-Horner were absent.

Call to Order.

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 October 28, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Stephens made a motion to approve the October 28, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. Ms. Nocella seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 5-0-0.

2. New Business.

A. Discuss Potential Ellis Woods Park Trail Spur/Extension to Accommodate the John Doyle Run.

Ms. Kapp and Ms. Carney-Horner are working on a route through Ellis Woods Park for a 5K loop for the 2026 John Doyle Run. Possible loop through field at trail entrance on Ebelhare Road and through newly acquired Black farm property. Ms. Nocella mentioned this area would also be a good prospect for trails, and suggested the Township have a professional trail designer review.

B. Receive Updates for Park Projects Provided by Attending Township Staff.

Ms. Holland shared with the Committee updates regarding Towpath Park; the contractor is working on a punch list of items that still need to be completed. The contractor is being charged liquidated damages daily, and the Park will be closed until all items are complete.

Ms. Nocella inquired about ADA trail for Ellis Woods Park on the Coventry Glen side of the Park. Ms. Holland explained that this project has been put on the back burner until such time as grants/monies can be acquired and the new boat ramp slated for Towpath Park is completed.

3. Unfinished Business.

A. Discuss Jahaco Bench Program.

Mr. Briggs informed the Committee that the benches ordered for Towpath Park were part of the original contract and cannot be canceled. Ms. Holland suggested researching other like vendors for pricing evaluation. Ms. Nocella mentioned that current signage was designed for conformity throughout Township parks and would like the Committee to keep this in mind when reviewing vendors. The Committee determined that more research was needed.

B. Consideration of Making a Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors Regarding the Design/Wording for Towpath Park Signage.

Mr. Briggs informed the Committee that a sign of this nature would cost more than existing funds and more money would need to be raised. He also mentioned that there would be a cost to enlist the sign designer at this point and suggested using the barge graphic currently on the Township logo. No action was taken by the Committee.

C. Consideration of Making a Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to Adopt the Recommendations of the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee/Open Space Committee Trails Subcommittee.

Mr. Hughes and Ms. Willow presented to the Committee revised wording for the kiosks and Mr. Briggs provided new maps showing trail revisions. The Committee determined that the wording as presented would be acceptable to move the project forward, provided later revisions can be made. Mr. Coppo will place this matter on the Agenda for approval at January meeting. No action was taken by the Committee.

D. Receive Update Regarding for Approved Eagle Scout Project – Bridge Over the Creek on the Schoolhouse Trail; Logan Small, Senior Patrol Leader, Troop 127.

No update at this time.

E. Receive Updates Re: Raptor Nest Box Acquisition Possibilities and Addition of Kestrel/Owl Nest Boxes to East Coventry Township Parks System.

No updates at this time.

F. Discuss Potential Repairs to Rock Wall.

Ms. Nocella shared an email from Jerimiah Wright, masonry contractor, with the Committee regarding how/why he finished the end, and the cost (estimated \$800) to provide a more semi-permanent finish. Since it would be several years before wall-specific funding could be raised, the Committee is uncertain whether or not to proceed with this project. The Committee decided it would be beneficial to spend money to complete this

end of the wall. Mr. Briggs said Open Space money could be used for this. Mr. Coppo will place this matter on the agenda for approval at the January meeting.

- G. Discuss General Ellis Woods Park Issues - i.e. Prospective Future Creekview Land Use, Official Boundaries of Ellis Woods Park and East Coventry Nature Preserve; Preservation of Ellis Woods Park Parcels, etc.**

Ms. Nocella asked Mr. Briggs if Dave Rishel, the Open Space Committee, and the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee be kept in the loop on these conservation projects. Mr. Briggs said he would keep the Committees and Mr. Rishel informed going forward. Ms. Nocella informed the Committee that currently Mr. Mowrer is contracted by the Township as the Conservation Manager and is paid to farm the property. The Open Space Committee would like to see this property turned back into meadows thus saving this space and providing a better environmental habitat.

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

No issues at this time.

4. Committee Events.

- A. Discuss 2026 John Doyle Run.**

Ms. Kapp informed the Committee that the photographer, T-shirt vendor and The Bread Box food truck were in line for the event. Since the cost of T-shirts rose, the team would like to raise the cost of the Run from \$30 to \$35 early registration and \$35 to \$40 for late/day of registration. She shared the sponsor letter and explained plans to mail it out in January.

- B. Discuss Potential for East Coventry Township Flag Retirement Ceremony.**

No updates at this time.

- C. Discuss Historic Schoolhouse Update Goals, Details and Maintenance Issues.**

No updates at this time.

- D. Discuss Fall Riparian Buffer Maintenance Day.**

Mr. Coppo shared with the Committee that all went well with the Riparian buffer clean-up Saturday, November 15th. Ms. Willow informed the Committee that she picked up 30 trees (seedlings) and will keep them through the winter for spring planting where needed.

E. Consideration of Making a Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to Retroactively Approve the Schoolhouse Holiday Decoration Activity on Saturday, December 6, 2025.

The Committee agreed to meet on December 06 at 12:00 noon to decorate the Schoolhouse, with the cost for decorations not to exceed \$150. Ms. Nocella agreed to get the tree and Ms. Kapp will contact Mr. Rishel for electricity and access to the Schoolhouse.

Ms. Nocella made a motion to retroactively recommend to the Board of Supervisors the Holiday decorating of the Schoolhouse by Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee on Saturday, December 06. Mr. Coppo seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 5-0-0.

F. Reminder of Cancellation of December Meeting.

Mr. Coppo reminded all that there will be no December meeting.

5. Public Comment.

None.

6. Adjournment.

Mr. Stephens made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Coppo seconded the motion. Mr. Coppo called for a vote and the motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Flora Kapp,
Secretary