

**WEST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP  
PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
September 1, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Public Services Commission regular monthly meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. The meeting was open to the public, and a link to join the meeting via Zoom was listed on the agenda posted on the Township's website.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Brian Dakin  
Joe Roscioli  
Janice Gottesfeld  
Kevin Moore  
John Ceschan  
Lee Ann Embrey  
James Duffy  
Tim Hubbard  
Rob Hall  
Liz Alakszay

**TOWNSHIP STAFF**

Pam Gural-Bear, Assistant Township Manager  
Ed Culp, Assistant Director of Public Works  
  
Rajesh Kumbhardare, Board of Supervisors Liaison

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

**MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Mr. Hall, seconded by Ms. Alakszay, to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2021, meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Ms. Gottesfeld, to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2021, meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Ms. Gural-Bear announced two new hires in the Public Works Department. They will begin work on September 7.

Mr. Kumbhardare said minor league cricket play at Exton Park has been live-streamed around the world. The last day of play is September 19 at 2:00 p.m.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

### **1. Parks Plan Update**

Mr. Culp reviewed the spreadsheet for the Parks Upgrades Plan and asked members for their ideas to modernize the three major parks (Miller, Boot & Exton) to help draw more people to the parks in future years.

Suggestions/discussion included:

- Update bathrooms at Miller Park
- Install pickle ball courts at Meadowbrook Manor
- Aeration of pond at Mill Valley
- Ask Sunoco to pay for resurfacing tennis courts at Meadowbrook Manor and use the \$45K budgeted for this project for other things. It was pointed out that while the tennis courts were not directly affected by Sunoco's work in the same way as the baseball fields, the courts and the park in general were not available to residents for approximately two years while Sunoco worked in the area.
- Install fencing between the playground and parking lot at Miller Park
- Food trucks
- Lighting – possibly solar
- Snack bar at Boot Road Park – Pam suggested looking at Manderach Park in Limerick for price comparisons
- What are the plans for the Pennypacker House? Mr. Kumbhardare said the Township is considering its options noting that the house needs a lot of expensive renovations. Pam said Church Farm School has the first option to take back the property. Ms. Gottesfeld suggested at least painting exterior areas that need attention.

Members should notify Mr. Culp or Ms. Gural-Bear of any other ideas they may think of following the meeting.

### **2. Development 101 – Evaluation of Educational Tools**

Members provided feedback on the Development 101 video and Newsletter. There was a general consensus that the video was very good and presented a lot of information, but some were doubtful that it would change opinions. There were some mistakes in the closed-captioning and some of the photos appear to be taken from strange angles.

Everyone liked the Newsletter articles on "What the Township can and cannot do" and the "Future of the Exton Mall". Mr. Hall suggested more emphasis on what residents can do to affect the development process. Ms. Gural-Bear said this was intentional. The video was designed to be timeless with the follow-up Newsletter and Survey providing opportunities for resident comments. Also, a few Open Houses will be scheduled for even more resident discussion and details on the changing demographics of the Township.

Mr. Dakin said he was glad that the Commissions' previous suggestions and feedback on the video were heard and considered, making the video more on-point and not so sterile. He

believes the Township is doing as much as it can reasonably do to educate residents on the development process and address their concerns.

**3. Community Day (September 25<sup>th</sup>) – Volunteers needed**

Festivities will begin at 3:00 p.m. with music, food vendors, and fireworks beginning at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Gural-Bear said the Boy Scouts have donated the use of a dunk tank, and Mr. Kumbhardare and Ms. Santalucia have volunteered to be dunked.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the inflatables as well as set-up and clean-up. At this time, there are no County COVID guidelines for outdoor events, but the Township will encourage unvaccinated people to wear masks.

**OBSERVATIONS:**

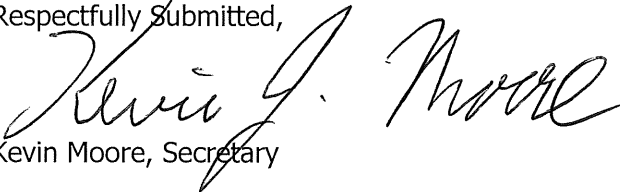
Mr. Duffy expressed disappointment that the dog park at Ashbridge is only for residents of the apartment complex. Mr. Kumbhardare explained that the dog park was designed by the developer as an amenity for tenants and added that a public dog park at Exton Park will be open by next spring or fall.

Ms. Alakszay thanked Mr. Culp for following up with the mowers to trim the area around the boardwalks. Mr. Roscioli said the new "Welcome to West Whiteland Township" signs look great!

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Roscioli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hall, to adjourn the meeting; the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Kevin Moore, Secretary