

Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority (B.V.R.A.)

Executive Director John Rowe

Board of Directors Chair Peter Bergonia, Lewisburg Borough Vice Chair Tim Hutchings, East Buffalo Township

Treasurer Char Gray, East Buffalo Township Secretary Mike Glazer, East Buffalo Township

Lewisburg Borough: Patrick Shandera, • Dana Bernardo, • Phil Stamm • Pat Musselman, East Buffalo Township

May 22, 2024

Call to Order – 6:30 PM

Attendance – Present: Pete B., John R., Tim H., Char G., Mike G., Patrick S., Dana B., Phil S. **Absent:** Patricia M.

Approval of Minutes – April minutes vote postponed until June meeting.

Operations Report – John Rowe

- Gym staff have received a \$1 per hour raise to compete with local chain/franchise businesses salaries. Lost two instructors since January. Currently three new instructors are training.
- Gators Swim Club has cancelled its anticipated use of the BVRA community swimming pool a few mornings each week in July. Gators will continue to use the Bucknell swimming pool to train. Maintenance of the Bucknell pool in July was postponed.
- The opening of the community pool is scheduled for Saturday, May 25th (weather permitting).
- Parents of BVRA program attendees will donate funds to purchase two soccer goals.
- Chad Williw (BVRA contact at PlayWorld Systems) has inspected the playground equipment at the community park. He said much of it needs replacement. He will discuss how it might be scheduled over time.
- The current spongy (Gypsie) moth infestation is threatening several community park trees. Remediation is urgently needed according to a local arborist. Estimated cost for moth control is between \$2,000 and \$3,000. John will speak with the arborist to make sure the cost includes all endangered trees.

MOTION: To allow John to spend up to \$3,000 for moth remediation.

Made: Mike G. Second: Char G. Passed unanimously.

- Discussion on purchasing a BVRA-owned pickup truck continued. At present two vehicles, owned by BVRA employees, are being used when needed. Both employees will be retiring. A used truck, currently owned by BVRA park maintenance manager Chad Bloom, is for sale and being considered. The truck will cost \$3,000; plus, body repairs needed to pass state inspection, tax, tags, and insurance brings the cost in the range of \$8,000. If the truck was painted “to look pretty” the cost would be about \$14K.

Continued

- The board asked John to shop for a comparable used vehicle capping a cost at \$10,000 and report back before a decision is made.

MOTION: Allow John to shop for a pickup truck capped at a cost of no more than \$10,000.

Made: Char G. Second, Tim H. Passed unanimously.

- BVRA received two quotes to lay cinders along the trail loop, along the creek, in the west field. Hepner Landscaping quoted \$8,800. Hillyards Landscaping quoted \$9,700. The higher quote is from BVRA's current landscaping company. The board would like all landscaping to be done by one company. John will discuss the higher price with the company before a decision is made.

MOTION: Allowed John to negotiate a lower price Hillyards. Accept a \$500 reduction to proceed with the work.

Made: Patrick. Second, Tim H. Passed unanimously.

- The cost for repairs to the skateboard arena is more than first thought. BVRA park maintenance crew believes that most repairs can be done in-house. Some new boards will have to be ordered, others can be refitted and used.

MOTION: Spend no more than \$15,000 for repair, replacement, and maintenance of skateboard arena.

Made: Char G. Second, Mike G. Passed unanimously.

- Summer camp director Grace Reimer has suggested that the program needs more "fun stuff" for the campers. To this end ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds up to \$7,000 will be used to purchase toys, active games (i.e., Gaga Ball, etc.) along with needed accessories and hardware.

MOTION: To spend no more than \$7,000 on toys, games and activities for the summer camp.

Made: Dana B. Second, Pete B. Passed Unanimously.

New Business –

- The board approved a request from East Buffalo Township for a "Letter of Support" from BVRA for the forthcoming West Market Street beautification project. Char will write the letter.

Financial Report – (See attached),

- John will speak with our ARPA fund government contact to discuss reshuffling/readjusting of certain line items to BVRA grant request considering current needs, i.e., skate park and pickup truck.

Continued

MOTION: To approve April 2024, financial report.

Made: Tim. H. Second: Char G. Passed unanimously.

Executive Session – 7:39 PM

- Discussed and approved a 3.5% salary increase for John Rowe, retroactive to January 1, 2024.

Executive session ended 7:41 PM

Adjournment – 7:42 PM