

# Lehigh Township Recreation Commission

March 16, 2026

7:00 PM

## Call to Order

David Hess called to order the regular meeting of the Lehigh Township Recreation Commission.

## Roll Call

Tammy Hess, David Hess, Patrick VanderPloeg, Jerry Pritchard, and Keith Hantz were present at the meeting.

## Approval of February 16, 2026, Minutes

Keith Hantz made a motion to approve the minutes. Jerry Pritchard seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

## Old Business

### Events

Noon Year's Eve. Carly Farley and Karissa Schmidt were present to discuss having the Noon Year's Eve again. The 2025 event went well, but with the weather, there was some concern regarding the snow and ice conditions at the park and safety. The port-o-let should be relocated closer to the snack stand for the event. Jerry Pritchard made a motion to approve the event for 2026 with Alice Rehrig has the main contact. Keith Hantz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Tree Lighting. There was a suggestion last year that the event be started earlier so that it is not has cold when waiting until 5:00 p.m. The Rec Board agreed that 3:00 p.m. would be a better start so the activities could be concluded prior to it getting as cold. The tree lighting will remain on the first Saturday in December, beginning at 3:00 p.m. and concluding at 6:00 p.m., with the tree lighting occurring around 5:30 p.m.

Small Christmas Trees. Keith Hantz will be working with Mike Jones to get more information on how Palmerton handles their event. They would be looking at the lower area of the track towards Rt. 248 so that it doesn't interfere with the Noon Year's Eve event.

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Egg Hunt (2027). Every agreed they would like to hold an Easter Egg hunt. Since Easter will fall on March 28, a date will need to be set by the time the fall newsletter. It was also suggested that would be a good time to ask for people to volunteer to help with the egg hunt.

**Field Rentals**

Chris Fielder—Baseball Tournament. Mr. Fielder was not present to discuss this matter.

NAYL Lacrosse. Ryan Greenburg of Northampton Area Youth Lacrosse was present to discuss the possibility of the organization utilizing Township fields. They have about 150 to 200 youth in their program, 45 to 50 families from Lehigh Township. The program is for kids who are in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. They would be looking for a fields that is 110 yards x 60 yards in size. They are looking for game and practice fields.

Jerry Pritchard made a motion to allow the Northampton Area Youth Lacrosse to utilize our fields for practice as long as it doesn't conflict with LTAA and they provide the proper paperwork to Alice Rehrig prior to using a field. Keith Hantz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Cyclones. Tom Tyler, 3708 Bayberry Drive, is the manager for the Cyclones and is requesting to be a home team. The roster that was turned in meets the residency requirement.

Vinnie Eiden commented that he and his teams worked to get the field ready this past weekend. The garage has been cleaned out as well. LTAA will be having a tryout next weekend and the batting cage should be set up.

Patrick VanderPloeg made a motion to approve the Cyclones as a home team. Jerry Pritchard seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**Pennsville Park Playground**. Now that the weather is getting warmer, the area will need to be looked at to determine what size equipment will fit in the area. Frank Zamadics should also be included in determining the size.

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The large tree by the pavilions and the two pine trees by the garage were removed.

**Recreation Resolution. Patrick send Resoltuion 2026-13 to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Keith Hantz seconded the mtion. All voted aye. Moti ncarried.**

**The field use requests forms approved by the Township  
New Business**

Wayne Kleintop looks at Berlinsville and there is a planter that was put the outfield in memory of William Beck that has become overgrown. He has access to mature trees that would help dress up the park. In addition, he has some ideas that would help improve the overall appearance of the park. He also thinks that some trees at Delps would be beneficial in the area of the Dog Park.

Monica Brown commented she spends a lot of time at the Dog Park. She thinks there should be something for people to sit on under the shades so that people will use the pavilion. There should also be concrete under the first bench that would continue through to the gate to eliminate the mud. David Hess raised the concern about the mud moving to where the end of the concrete was going to

Jerry Pritchard made a motion to change the location of the canopy to one large canopy over the benches in the center. Tammy Hess seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Jerry Pritchard made a motion to purchase the large canopy as a price to not exceed the cost of the two smaller ones. Tammy seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Patrick VanderPloeg made a motion to move forward on purchasing up to eight trees for the parks. Jerry Pritchard seconded the motion. It would be a total of \$450 for the purchase and installation of each tree. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**Public Comment**

Sandy Hopkins questioned if there was still continued discussion regarding the tennis court in Danielsville. Jerry Pritchard commented there was a concern regarding having

enough funding for both the tennis courts and the playgrounds. Sandy Hopkins commented if the tennis courts are not continued to be discussed, .she would have a concern that they would go to the wayside.

Sandy Hopkins also questioned if the pavilions will be getting enclosed under the roof to prevent the birds from going

Marc Kracji questioned of the youth organizations are Safe Sports Certified regarding issues that could be involved with youth such as bullying and abuse. What liability would there be on the Township if something like that were to happen on the Township property.

Marc Kracji noted the signs at all the parks are not consistent with each other.

**Adjourn. Patrick Keith**

- Next Meetings
  - April 20, 2026
  - May 18, 2026
  - June 15, 2026