

ELLIS-SHORT SANDS PARK TRUST  
PUBLIC FORUM HELD AT YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM  
THURSDAY, 5:00 PM, OCTOBER 19, 2017

Trustees in attendance were:

John Garfield, President; Andrew Furlong, Jr., Sec./Treas.; John Matthews;  
William Burnham; Richard Boston  
Moderator: Robert Palmer

Following opening comments by Mr. Palmer and Andrew Furlong, members of the public were cordially invited to come forward to the podium to ask questions, make comments or provide feedback directly to the trustees.

The meeting, which was convened at exactly 5:00 pm lasted for approximately one hour. The following is a synopsis of questions asked, comments made and general feedback received over the course of the afternoon forum.

A request was made that the Trustees provide a separate website for Park information and provide a more widespread promulgation of meeting forums.

Michael Sullivan, Director of Parks & Recreation, informed the audience that there is a special icon on the Parks & Recreation website labeled Ellis-Short Sands Park. Information such as summer band concert schedules, Park Ordinances etc. are contained therein.

Mr. Sullivan added that York Parks and Recreation Dept. is the spokesperson for Ellis-Short Sands Park. Inquiries concerning the Park directed to York Parks and Rec. Dept. will be forwarded promptly to Corey Hathorne, Park Superintendent.

A suggestion was made that the new Agreement between the Town of York and the Trustees of Short Sands Park signed on 7/24/17 be posted on the website. York Town Manager, Steve Burns, stated that a copy of the Agreement is currently on the Town's website.

The Trustees promised to also add a copy of the Agreement to the Ellis Park site on the York Parks & Rec. website.

There was a question on water quality at the now inoperable bubbler and foot wash station on the south end of the boardwalk. The individual addressing the water quality issue expressed concerns about the potability of the water, being that it was irrigation water.

Corey Hathorne explained that the water was indeed Town water and does not go through the irrigation lines; however it does travel via pvc piping.

The Trustees agreed to have the water tested and the pvc issue remedied as soon as possible.

A favorable comment was made regarding the number and quality of the band concerts. The statement "the more the merrier" was made with audience approval.

Much discussion was made concerning the DEP report on sand removal and or addition, rock and seaweed removal, extension of ramps and beach erosion.

Mr. Sullivan explained that to the best of his knowledge, no DEP report is forth coming despite his efforts to receive a copy of their findings.

Mr. Sullivan added that he has researched the problem of extending the ramps leading to the beach at the south end of the boardwalk and has a plan that the Trustees should check out.

The Trustees informed Mr. Sullivan of their interest in doing so.

A concern regarding the hand rails on the ramps was voiced. The individual suggested that the railings be extended to better assist the elderly.

The Trustees agreed to explore ways to accomplish that.

A gentleman stated how much his three year old graddaughter enjoyed the playground. However he expressed concern about the amount of drop from slide bottom to sand that now exists.

The trustees agreed to investigat ways to remedy the problem.

A suggestion was made that the history of the Park be posted on the Ellis Park website as well as historical photographs added onto the blank walls within the bath house.

There being no further members of the public to come forward, Robert Palmer called the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Andrew T. Furlong, Jr. Secretary

10/25/2017