

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Township of Melancthon Parks and Recreation Board held a meeting on April 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Chair Bill Neilson, Vice-Chair David Thwaites, Members Jessica Plowright, Lynn Hodgson, Doug Read and Darren White, also present was Becky Cunningham, Parks and Recreation Board Secretary. Absent was member Ruth Plowright. The meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement

Chair Neilson shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Additions/Deletions/Approval of Amended Agenda

Additions

None

Deletions

None

Approval of Agenda

Moved by J. Plowright, Seconded by Thwaites that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Hodgson, Seconded by Read that the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board Meeting held on March 23, 2026, be approved as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

No declaration declared at this time.

General Business

1) New

1. Picnic Tables

Member White reviewed the picnic table frame options that had previously been circulated to Board members by email and suggested purchasing six frames, along with the required lumber for the tabletops, to be constructed and installed at the Corbetton and Horning's Mills Parks.

Township Staff advised that, should the Board wish to proceed with the project this year, funding would need to come from the Parks and Recreation Board bank account, as the item was not included in the approved 2026 budget.

Following discussion, Vice-Chair Thwaites introduced the following motion:

Motion:

Moved by Vice-Chair Thwaites, seconded by Member J. Plowright, that the Parks and Recreation Board approve the purchase of materials required to construct six picnic tables, with funding to be provided from the Parks and Recreation Board bank account.

Carried.

1) Unfinished Business

1. Horning's Mills Park

i. Blue Jay Grant

This item was not discussed, as consideration of the future use of the park is required before proceeding.

ii. Future Use of the Park

iii. A lengthy discussion took place regarding various options for the future use of the park. It was determined that an onsite visit would be beneficial in helping establish a vision for the park moving forward. The Board agreed that the next Parks & Recreation meeting would be held at Horning's Mills Park.

iv. Rentals

No new rentals have been confirmed.

v. Sign

Deferred until the next meeting.

2. Corbetton Park

i. Slide

Township Staff advised that the quote received for the installation of the slide did not include the preparation of the site. Arrangements are being made to have the company representative meet onsite with Public Works Superintendent and a member of the Board to discuss the placement of the slide and site requirements to determine if the Township can do the work or if it needs to be contracted out. Member White

volunteered to do the onsite meeting. Township Staff will coordinate the meeting and provide him with the details.

ii. Shade Covers/Sails

Members White, Read, and J. Plowright agreed to meet at the park to review and discuss potential locations for the installation of shade covers.

3. Melancthon Day

i. Ball Tournament

Member R. Plowright was absent, so no update was given.

ii. We The Bounce

Township Staff advised that the deposit had been paid and the booking was confirmed.

iii. Mulmur Melancthon Fire Department

Chair Neilson shared that the Mulmur Melancthon Fire Department has confirmed that they will be running the BBQ again this year, beginning at 5:00p.m.

4. Touch a Truck Event

Member Read reported that the owner of the "Tow Mater" look-alike truck is available to attend on August 8, 2026. He will also follow up regarding any fees associated with having the vehicle attend. Chair Neilson will contact Blitzful Treats to inquire about attending the event to provide ice cream and treats. He will also reach out to the Shelburne Fire Department to invite them to participate.

5. Rail Trail Collaboration with the County

Township Staff reported that discussions had taken place with the County and advised that Tourism and Economic Development projects are currently on hold. However, the County indicated they would be willing to assist in promoting and advertising any events shared with them.

6. Winter Use of Parks

The Board discussed the report prepared by Township Staff and agreed to make a recommendation to Council for a pilot project to maintain winter maintenance of the Corbetton Park parking lot during the 2026–2027 winter season.

7. Survey Questions

Deferred. A suggestion box is being introduced to gather feedback and information.

2) Brainstorming

None

Recommendation to Council

As a result of this discussion, the Board recommends that Council approve a pilot project for the 2026/2027 winter season to provide winter maintenance of the parking lot at the Corbetton Park.

Public Question Period

None.

Confirmation Motion

Moved by Thwaites, Seconded by Hodgson that all actions of the Members and Officers of the Parks and Recreation Board with respect to every matter addressed and/or adopted by the Board on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed; and each motion, resolution and other actions taken by the Board Members at the meeting held on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed. Carried.

Adjournment

8:31 p.m. - Moved by Read, Seconded by J. Plowright that we adjourn this Parks and Recreation Board meeting to meet again on Monday May 25, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. or at the call of the Chair. Carried.

CHAIR

SECRETARY