

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Township of Melancthon Parks and Recreation Board held a meeting on March 23, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Chair Bill Neilson, Vice-Chair David Thwaites, Members Jessica Plowright, Ruth Plowright, Lynn Hodgson, Doug Read and Darren White, also present was Becky Cunningham, Parks and Recreation Board Secretary. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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 R. Plowright, Seconded by Read that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Thwaites, Seconded by J. Plowright that the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board Meeting held on February 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. Cobstock

Member R. Plowright reported that North of 89 Alliance had reached out to her about holding Cobstock at the Horning's Mills Community Park in August. She shared that this was discussed at the Council

meeting held this past Thursday and that Council is agreeable to allowing this if some stipulations are met in regards to alcohol being served. Council directed Township staff to reach out to North of 89 Alliance to discuss these stipulations.

A few of the Parks and Recreation Board Members questioned if the nearby property owners would have concerns over noise, it was decided that any concerns brought forward would be addressed at that time.

1) Unfinished Business

1. Horning's Mills Park

i. Blue Jay Grant

Vice-Chair Thwaites reported that he has reached out to both the men's and women's leagues in Shelburne but has not yet received a response. He also contacted Mansfield Minor Baseball, who have provided a list of requested improvements for the ball diamond. In addition, Vice-Chair Thwaites has connected with a contractor based in London and will be meeting with him on-site to discuss potential improvement options.

The Board discussed that if user groups are not willing to commit to a set number of games or rental nights over a defined period, the grant application would not proceed. There was also discussion about considering alternative uses for the park, as well as exploring different development ideas, should there be limited interest in use of the ball diamond.

ii. Rentals

No new rentals have been confirmed.

iii. Sign

Township Staff advised that they have reached out to two sign suppliers that the Township uses to request quotes for the Park sign as well as emergency location signs. Once the quotes have been received, they will be shared with the Board.

2. Corbetton Park

i. Slide

Township Staff reported that they will be reaching out to the company that provided the quote and discuss moving forward with the purchase and installation of the slide.

ii. Shade Covers/Sails

An onsite visit will be scheduled once the snow is gone to discuss location and installation of the sails.

3. Melancthon Day

i. Start Time

The events run by the Parks & Recreation Board will begin at 5:00 p.m.

ii. Ball Tournament

Member R. Plowright is waiting to hear back from Jeff McLean about the status of the ball tournament. If they go ahead it will be requested that they wrap up around 4:00 p.m.

iii. Discussion on Licensing of Park

Member R. Plowright suggested the park be licensed again for the event, stating they did make some money last year. No objections were noted.

iv. Fireworks

Member Hodgson reported that she has reached out to Troy Gallimore and he is able to provide a similar show again this year for the same budget. The Board Members were all in agreement to book him again.

v. Bouncy Castle

Member Hodgson reported that she had reached out to last year's provider as well as a few more in the area and had obtained quotes which she presented. The Board Members were all in agreement to go with We The Bounce again this year as the price and package was the best and it was noted that refunds and coordination in past year's has always worked well. Member Hodgson will confirm with We the Bounce and will forward the contact information to Township Staff to coordinate payment.

vi. Raffle Baskets

Member Hodgson agreed to purchase and arrange the items for the kids raffle baskets. Chair Neilson will look after creating the tickets again.

vii. Blitzful Treats

Chair Neilson reached out to Blitzful Treats and they are able to offer a lunch menu if the ball tournament goes ahead and then will

switch to treats for the evening event if the Fire Department runs the BBQ.

viii. Mulmur Melancthon Fire Department

Chair Neilson will reach out to the Mulmur Melancthon Fire Department and offer them to run a BBQ again this year. They will be given a deadline to commit by, as it was discussed that the Parks & Recreation Board would run a BBQ and would need time to organize if the fire department can not commit.

ix. Friday BBQ & Sunday Breakfast

Member R. Plowright will look after getting the food for both events, Friday will offer Hamburgers & Hot Dogs and Sunday will be back bacon on a bun. Set up for the Friday BBQ will be at 4:00p.m. with the event starting at 5:00 p.m. Set up for Sunday will be at 8:00 a.m. with the event starting at 9:00 a.m.

4. 2026 Projects & Events

Touch a Truck Event

Member Read reported that he has reached out to the owner of the "Tow Mater" look-alike truck to inquire about its availability to attend the event. The event date will be determined once the truck's availability has been confirmed. Once a date has been set, members will reach out to other organizations and services to arrange for additional equipment and vehicles to participate.

Run/Fitness Day

Member R. Plowright suggested organizing a run and fitness event to be held at the Corbetton Park and utilize the rail trail. Member R. Plowright suggested reaching out to Trainer Games Fitness in Shelburne to assist with running the event and Vice-Chair Thwaites suggested reaching out to David from Shelburne Physio as well. A possible date of early September was suggested as well as having the participants find sponsors to participate with money going towards playground equipment.

5. Rail Trail Collaboration with the County

Township Staff reported that they have reached out to the County and are working on scheduling a meeting to discuss ideas and possible collaborations.

6. Winter Use of Parks

Township Staff shared that they are working with the Public Works Superintendent on gathering information on prices for equipment and

staffing required to provide this service. They will prepare a report ahead of the next board meeting for review.

7. Survey Questions

Chair Neilson reminded the Board Members to come up with some possible survey questions to be discussed at the next meeting.

Member R. Plowright suggested conducting a combined or general survey, noting that the Horning's Mills Hall Board has also expressed interest in undertaking a survey; therefore, it may be beneficial to collaborate or include broader questions.

Members are asked to submit their proposed questions to the Board Secretary by April 19, 2026, so they can be compiled and included in the agenda package for the April 27, 2026 meeting.

2) Brainstorming

None

Recommendation to Council

None

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

8:15 p.m. - Moved by Thwaites, Seconded by J. Plowright that we adjourn this Parks and Recreation Board meeting to meet again on Monday April 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. or at the call of the Chair. Carried.

CHAIR

SECRETARY