

**Parks & Recreation Committee
August Meeting
08/28/2026 @ 5:30pm at Glenbrook Park**

Attendance:

Samantha Awand-Gortel- Committee Chair
Autumn Brookmire- Committee Vice Chair
Tania Barricklo- Parish Field Manager
Gina Krause- Rock Cut Preserve Manager

Not Present:

Kevin Van Blarcum- Town Board Liaison
Conor Malarkey- Big Indian Park Manager
Kayla Sharon- Glenbrook Park Manager
Doug Pelzman- Skatepark Manager
Christina Varga- Marketing and PR/Social Media Manager

Guests:

Catherine del Tufo

Meeting called to order at 5:34pm

Pledge of Allegiance Yes

April Meeting Minutes Approval

Motion by Autumn

Second by Gina

All in favor Yes

Note:

- The Phoenicia Diner chose P&R as one of their partners for a round-up campaign that they match. We are honored that they chose us as one of the local organizations to support. In October we will know what the donation amount is.
- Fiscal sponsorship agreement needs to be signed between P&R and Phoenicia Arts Center for the Glenbrook Bench Campaign.

Social Media:

- July and August Posts-
 - Big Indian and Glenbrook Park volunteer day thank you!
 - Shandaken Summer Concert Series
 - The new informational signs at Glenbrook Park
 - Dog park re-opened
 - Call for volunteers at Glenbrook and Parish Field
- Send information and photos/flyers for social media posts, including details of any volunteer opportunities to Varga- phoeniciafestivalofthearts@gmail.com with a

subject line “P&R Social Media Post.” This includes public events that take place at any of the parks.

Smith Park:

- Skate Park
 - Pine Hill Resident, Jeff Rogers, mentioned to Joyce that one of the ramps is caving in at the top. Doug, could you take a look and see how we can repair it?
- Inquire on the cost and labor needed to replace the basketball posts?

Big Indian Park:

- Summer Concert Series still has 3 Sundays left at the park.
 - 9/13-The 209s
 - 9/27- Wyld Blu
 - 10/4- Thunder Ridge- rain date from 8/23
- America’s 250th Anniversary Celebration presented by the Shandaken Historical Museum on 09/26/26 11am-2pm

Glenbrook Park:

- Fencing-
 - Brandon from Hudson Valley Fence Company has not been easy to work with.
 - He will not be fixing the Dog Park fence, and Autumn will get a quote from another contract for this soon. Sam can reach out to SAVE and see if they have any funding they could assist us with but would like a quote first.
 - There is leftover split-rail fencing that we need to have highway store in a covered space to prevent bird droppings. It wont fit in our Glenbrook closet or the shed at Big Indian. Keeping it at the Town Hall sheds is not ideal either because of animal feces.
- Dog Park Sign-
 - The old sign is not relevant anymore since it says “agility park” on it. Kurt Boyer will be making a new wood carved sign and helping with install. We can keep the old sign for any future need. We are hoping he can get this done and installed before the winter.
- Pavilion-
 - Thank you to Ted for pressure washing everything prior to the Republican Committee Community Picnic.
 - Ted also hung the owl decoys. Unfortunately, they didn’t work and the pigeon(s) were back at the pavilion leaving a mess the next day. Wire mesh in the rafters may be the only cost-effective option to prevent them from nesting. There was mesh that was left over from the fence, but research is being done to make sure the holes are the appropriate size to prevent any

birds getting stuck and killing them. Getting the mesh up before Balkan Fest on September 19th would be ideal, otherwise a second round of pressure washing should be done the night before the festival. Ask Jack the Roofer to measure the pavilion so we know how much we need.

- Gisi Vella is on board to help us organize and clean the closet. Gisi is available on Saturday afternoons or Sundays. October date to schedule this? We need volunteers and a dump truck to haul away trash or materials we don't need in the closet or around the park from the numerous projects.
- Entrance pillars-
 - Autumn got a quote from Marcelino Guzman for \$3500 to fix the white pillars at the entrance of the park. He would install wire mesh and then do stucco around it and paint it. He could also remove the metal gates. We do need to vote as a committee if the gates should stay or be removed.
 - Vote- All committee members present were in favor of selling the gates, but unsure who would want them. Maybe approach the museum?
 - If we are happy with Marcelino's work on the pillars, he could repair the walls in the same way and demolish half of it until the electric box to make it functional and aesthetically appealing. No quote for this work yet.
- Playground-
 - Autumn is working on finalizing one or two planting days to finish up this project. Coordination with KaN and Catskill Native Nursery is being done, as well as volunteer outreach. Tentative volunteer dates are September 26th and 27th and trees, shrubs and perennials would be planted for over wintering.
 - The bottom entrance to the playground still needs to be finished- a berm needs to be completed, and the ground needs to be graded and laid with crushed stone. There will also be an ADA parking spot installed outside the gate. Autumn is working with Falcon Krause to complete this work. Timeline TBD.
 - Hoppy Quick is working on a bear and some other artistic elements for the playground, namely a mud kitchen, and a mushroom table and chairs. Hoping install happens this fall.
- Bathrooms-
 - The old bathrooms on the hill have been caution taped off so people don't use them.
 - Sam reached out to Joyce to see how we can give all park visitors the lock code to the new bathrooms. She agreed to post it on the door, but we must keep the other sign to say close the door all the way. Use house numbers or another laminated sign with the code on the door. She likes the idea of the trail cam on a tree facing the bathrooms in case of vandalism.
 - Still need door closures installed on the outside, or new, heavier closures need to be ordered.

Parish Field:

- Volunteer day on Saturday 08/15 was very lightly attended for weeding the playground area, laying cardboard boxes instead of filter fabric, and spreading mulch. Thankfully, people pulled through at the end of the week to help Tania who worked tirelessly in the heat looking for boxes and trying to spread the mulch by herself. Thank you to Ted for dumping so many loads of mulch to cover the necessary areas.
- Shandaken Eagle Day was lovely. Hot, but at least it didn't rain!

Rock Cut Preserve:

- Sam presented the plans to the town board at the August meeting. Kevin was sent a virtual copy and said he would be contacting DOT to schedule a date to meet online and present the plan to them for approval. As of today, there hasn't been a response from DOT. Kevin will continue to try.
- Gina would like permission to mow- Sam will reach out to Kevin and see if this is feasible before we get the approval from DOT. *Determined any permissions would unlikely be granted before approved use*

Old/New Business:

- Autumn needs help moving picnic tables into the playground at Glenbrook before a grand opening/ribbon cutting. We are waiting for Michelle Hinchey's office to tell us a date when she can be present for a ribbon cutting.

Motion to adjourn by Autumn

Second by Tania

Meeting was adjourned at 6:47pm

We will not schedule a September meeting. We will meet on Tuesday October 6th @ 5:30pm- location TBD based on weather, either at Town Hall or Smith Park.

We will also have a volunteer day to clean out the Glenbrook closet on Sunday October 18th.