

Tredyffrin Township Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 12, 2008

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Tredyffrin Township Building

Park Board Attendees: Tami Schofield, Jack Edson, Jack Trimmer, Bruce Jones, Careen Wright, Jim Pettia, Sean Moir, Bryan Baynard, Joe Barks

Township Attendees: Charles Puelo, Hilliary Mallory, John DiBuonaventuro,

Guests: David Noad and Brian Chidester (Valley Forge Patriots softball), John McCarthy (Devon-Strafford baseball league), Cheryl Bittner (enclosed dog exercise area).

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Schofield.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of February 13, 2008 were reviewed and approved after minor revisions by unanimous vote.

I. Financial Report: No report was given.

II. Old Business

Park Reports: The appointments of individual members to each park and selected open spaces made at the last meeting were confirmed. Guests present, Mr. Noad and Mr. Chidester requested the Board convert one baseball field to be available for use for softball as well, which would reverse the serious decline in permits granted for the two girls' softball teams. Data was presented to show the decline. Mr. McCarthy, representing the baseball interests, pointed out that no fields were surplus and any conversion to softball would be unappealing to the baseball league's use. Mr. Jones asked if data could be shown projecting the adequacy of fields in 2009 – 2010 so the Board could consider longer-term solutions as well. Mrs. Mallory was asked by Mrs. Schofield to evaluate the request further and report back to the Board.

Park & Recreation Operational (mission and planning) Document: Mrs. Schofield invited comments on the document. Mr. Jones commented as follows: (i) an annual plan is referred to, however, the Board's calendar does not have one planned for the current year; (ii) drafts on the proposed non-profit foundation should be removed until it is approved; and (iii) safety surveys of the major parks should be a near-term priority.

Park Non-Profit Foundation: The status of discussions among the Supervisors was discussed by Mr. DiBuonaventuro. Mr. Barks reference a favorable article in the local newspaper. Discussion ensued on the next steps. Mr. Jones reported that he, Mr. Barks and Mrs. Wright were meeting the next day to work on the list of candidates for the

foundation board and the draft bylaws. Mr. Pettia raised question whether the proposed foundation might be required to donate to other foundations based on information he received about 501(c)(3)-type organizations; and Mr. Jones said he would investigate.

Dog Enclosed Exercise Area Public Meeting: The members discussed the advertising and communication plan for this April 3 meeting. Mrs. Bittner volunteered to help get the word out about the meeting.

Police Report: Mr. Tartaglio reported on January and February 2008.

Public Works Department Report: Mr. Puleo reported on recent activities: (i) opening of facilities (restrooms) at all parks; (ii) field grooming; (iii) replacing trash receptacles as needed; and (iv) Wilson Farm Park grant monies available this fiscal year.

Wilson Farm Park: The priorities for use of grant funds were reviewed. In light of the Supervisors not approving the roller-hockey rink, the members agreed that the next and now top priority was staging, electrical and sound for the Shire Pavilion. Mrs. Schofield introduced as a topic the February 2008 letter from the Open Land Conservancy (OLC) to the Supervisors about the disk golf installation in an area which the OLC considered open space. Mrs. Schofield stated that the area of the installation was not open space, in fact had been reserved for future building or activities, and she thought the OLC should have been aware this fact from prior communications. Mr. Jones asked that the locations of open space in the park could be reviewed with the Board in relation to their maintenance.

Recreation Report: Mrs. Mallory reported on recent activities: (i) one protest about sports field allocation was resolved; (ii) the Winter Rec program had one of its highest utilizations; (iii) the Computer classes were booked to capacity; (iv) the Tredyffrin basketball league director position would becoming open and candidates were being sought; and (v) permitting for sport fields would open in the next days for the 2008 season. A full copy of Mrs. Mallory's report is attached.

Garrison Flag Memorial: Mr. DiBuonaventuro presented an alternative site for the proposed memorial for approval. Mrs. Schofield spoke in favor of the memorial and the alternative location. A motion was made and approved unanimously to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the proposed garrison flag memorial honoring Township veterans be approved as planned and sited in the alternative location by the eastern side of the basketball court in Wilson Farm Park.

III. New Business

New Pocket Park on Chestnut Avenue: As Mrs. Wright was not present, a report on progress was not given.

Committee Discussions: There were no formal committee reports with the exception of topics above regarding scheduling, fundraising, facilities and programming.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2008 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Jones