

## **Tredyffrin Township Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** April 9, 2008

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Tredyffrin Township Building

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

**Township Attendees:** Charles Puelo, Hillary Mallory, John DiBuonaventuro

**Guests:** Bill Miller (WFP suggestion), John McCarthy (Devon-Strafford little league)

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

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of March 12, 2008 were reviewed and approved by unanimous vote.

**I. Financial Report:** No report was given.

### **II. Old Business**

**Park Reports:** The Board of Supervisors (BoS) at their 4-7-08 meeting authorized the Department of Public Works (DPW) to look into the actual expense for staging, lighting, and sound, Mr. DiBuonaventuro stated. He asked whether the Park Board therefore should modify its request regarding the grant funds to be expended within the applicable time limit. Discussion ensued. It was agreed that for the next meeting of BoS, the DPW would finalized and report on budget numbers for proposed upgrades on the Wilson Farm Park (WFP) Shire Pavilion as approved by the Park Board. Mr. DiBuonaventuro also commented on the current lighting at the WFP basketball courts being changed in order to make those courts multi-use. Discussion ensued on: the surface requirements for multi-use, possible impacts of league play, and other topics. Mr. Trimmer asked about installing wall boards to facilitate roller hockey as one use. Upon motion made and unanimously approved, the Park Board approved multi-use of the existing WFP basketball courts, with appropriate lighting, netting separating the courts, and wall boarding for one court at WFP and to explore adding wall boarding for Teegarden Park courts as well.

Mr. Puelo clarified that the expenditure limit date for the grant funds as discussed above was now extended to April 2009.

Mrs. Schofield asked each Park Board member to submit proposed 2009 budget items for their assigned parks prior to the next meeting.

**New Pocket Park on Chestnut Avenue:** Mrs. Wright reported on her investigations of a name for the new pocket park. She and those she consulted considered many factors, such as: the park had been a bocce club site; former estates in area lent historical

significance; the geography and surrounding features; and the geology including four preserved sycamore trees. Suggested names were discussed. The Board emphasized in their consideration of names, a name that would appeal as broadly, would carry past history forward and be durable years forward. Upon motion made and approved unanimously, the name of "Grove Park" would be recommended to the Supervisors.

**Park & Recreation Operational (mission and planning) Document:** Mrs. Schofield invited further comments on the document. There were no more comments at this meeting.

**Non-Profit Park Foundation:** On behalf of the small working group (Mrs. Wright, Mr. Barks, and Mr. Jones), Mr. Jones reported on the draft materials which were circulated with the agenda of this meeting, as well as the general status of the proposed Foundation. The Park Board reviewed the revised mission statement, bylaws, and memorandum regarding the proposed Foundation; the Board discussed a preliminary list of candidates for trustees. Mr. DiBuonaventuro suggested that the appropriate next steps would be to send these documents to Mr. Tom Hogan and Ms. Mimi Gleason for review and comment, and assuming their reviews were positive, thereafter send the documents to the BoS. Mrs. Schofield stated that the Foundation continues to be a priority and fully supported by the Park Board; she asked Mr. DiBuonaventuro to assist in the next steps as described.

**Dog Enclosed Exercise Area Public Meeting:** Mr. Jones reported on the results of the April 3, 2008 public meeting regarding a proposed enclosed exercise area for dogs at Teegarden park. Discussion ensued. Upon motion made and approved unanimously, the Park Board agreed to table the proposal for an enclosed dog exercise area at the northern end of Teegarden Park and to further study the demand, utilization and alternative locations related to such a facility.

**Additional Softball Fields:** Mrs. Mallory reported on her investigation of creating one additional softball field, based on discussions in the last meeting. She reported that about 92% requests for baseball fields were granted in 2007-2008 however the corresponding number for softball field requests was slightly over 70%, indicating a shortage. Mr. Trimmer also commented on the study of alternative fields. Mr. McCarthy stated that he was sympathetic to the request and had looked for alternative fields and made a suggestion for Teegarden Park. Discussion ensued, including the impact on 2008 commitments for fields, budget and manpower constraints, and the best near-term solution. Upon motion and unanimous approval, re-installing a softball infield at the former field #3 at Teegarden Park was approved on the earliest practical timetable.

**Field Allocation Policy:** As requested, Mrs. Mallory presented an updated and written policy of handling field allocation. The form of that policy is attached and made part of the minutes. Upon motion and unanimous approval, the proposed Tredyffrin Township Field Allocation Policy is approved as submitted and is to be carried out by the Township's Recreation Coordinator.

### **III. New Business**

**WFP Suggestions:** Mr. Miller made suggestions for Wilson Farm Park to the Board: (1) install two sets of all weather exercise equipment along a path; (2) install 4-6 outdoor racket ball courts near the current tennis courts. Discussion ensued. Mr. Pettia asked about demand for such equipment. Mrs. Schofield noted that exercise equipment was already on a potential list of additions; and that potential racket ball courts would need to be assessed for utilization and environmental impact. The suggestions will be considered in park planning and budgeting for 2009-2010.

**Land Stewardship Opportunities:** Mrs. Wright explained the concept and suggestion as specialized volunteers, such as “weed warriors” or “weed patrols.” Mr. Puelo remarked that such routine control requirements were over whelming his department. Mrs. Wright had consulted a person at Open Land Conservancy (OLC) concerning requirements. She also noted that some ad hoc volunteer efforts were already occurring. However, the stewardship concept is intended to be more organized, routine and dependable.

**Budget Planning and Prioritization:** Mrs. Schofield stated that this topic would occupy a lot of time at the next meeting. She asked the Board members to consider future projects for your assigned parks, beyond the known projects for “turf and trees, hard scaping” and so forth, and to be mindful that these projects would be for budgets after 2009.

#### **IV. Reports**

**Police Report:** Mr. Tartaglio reported on March 2008.

**Public Works Department Report:** Mr. Norcini reported on recent activities: (a) grooming and seeding; (b) replacing broken signs; (c) repairing a sinking in the asphalt walk in the area of Shire Pavilion; (d) replace rotting fence at Mazie B; and (e) putting “rubber mulch” down in two parks play lots.

**Recreation Report:** Mrs. Mallory reported on recent activities: (a) obtaining information on a light trail; (b) booking the computer classes 100% and receiving very good ratings; (c) completing summer camp registration; (d) obtaining banners for advertising the summer concert serious; and (e) hiring all of the recreational directors.

**Committee Discussions:** There were no formal committee reports with the exception of topics above.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2008 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Jones

## **Tredyffrin Township Field Allocation Policies**

*Listed below is the order in which permit requests are filled by Tredyffrin Township Recreation Coordinator and the procedure to follow in the event of a permit protest.*

1. All field request for Conestoga High School are filled
2. Field request for sport in season are filled (TEYSA in the fall etc.)  
Requests from Tredyffrin youth organization's (DSLL, BPALL, TEYSA, CYLAX, Quixstix) are filled prior to requests from independent Tredyffrin based teams.
  - a. If two or more organizations request the same field they will be given an opportunity to negotiate with each other at the Field Rental meeting in January.
  - b. If the organizations can not come to an agreement a protest may be filed by one or both of the organization and the decision will be made by the Recreation Coordinator.
  - c. If a protest is filed all organizations involved will be asked to submit a current roster and the fields will be allocated according to the number of TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP PLAYERS per the organization
  - d. Any field not under the supervision of Tredyffrin Township, that may be owned or rented by the protesting organization does not factor in to the field allocations of any Tredyffrin Township Field.
  - e. The Recreation Coordinator's field allocation is at this point final.
3. Field request from sports not in season (TEYSA in the summer etc.)  
Requests from Tredyffrin Youth Organizations are filled prior to request from Tredyffrin based independent teams.
4. Field request from a non-township based team/club in season
5. Field request from a non-township based team/club not in season

\* The Tredyffrin Township Recreation Coordinator is responsible for the field allocations for all Tredyffrin Township Fields.

\* Field Allocation protests may only be filed by Tredyffrin based organizations.