



**Montgomery Township  
Park and Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes for April 11, 2012**

The monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Park and Recreation Board was held on April 11, 2012 in the Montgomery Township Municipal Building. The members of the Park and Recreation Board in attendance included: Tony Ruggieri, Dan Spinelli, Mark McMahon, Kim Greene, Michael Okino, Linda Brooks and Mark Angelone. Also in attendance were Michael Fox (BOS Liaison), Larry Gegan (Township Manager), Kevin Costello (Director of Public Works), Ann Shade (Director of Administration and Human Resources) and Sharon Tucker (Recreation Coordinator).

**CALL TO ORDER**

Tony Ruggieri called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Michael Okino made a motion to approve the March 14, 2012 minutes, Kim Greene seconded and the minutes passed 7-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**PARK COMP PLAN**

Beth Pilling from the County was in attendance to discuss the feedback that she received from the Park Board members about the various parks. Tony Ruggieri commented that the Park Board did a great job of assessing the parks as requested by Beth Pilling. Beth Pilling stated that the feedback was what she was looking for. Beth Pilling distributed a spreadsheet that compiled the comments received from the Park Board members. Beth Pilling asked that the Board members consider the following questions now that they have started evaluating the parks: Are there other ways for some of the parks to be used without spoiling their serenity and peace? Are there missed opportunities in the system that need to be evaluated? Tony Ruggieri suggested that the Park Comp Plan could be promoted as part of the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

Beth Pilling will send her park visit data to Tony Ruggieri electronically.

Beth Pilling thanked the Park Board for their time and efforts and stated that the recommendation portion of the plan is wrapping up and she will request to be on the Park Board agenda in a few months as the process moves forward.

**PARK ACTIVITY UPDATE**

Dan Spinelli stated that the basketball courts at Fellowship Park need work, but he never sees them being used.

Kim Greene stated that there was an area of Rose Twig footbridge that needed to be fixed. It was filled in but looked like the asphalt settled again. Kevin Costello stated he would have someone take care of it.

Michael Okino indicated that at Spring Valley Park, baseball field #1 third baseline fence, there are sharp edges sticking out at the bottom middle of the fence. At Gazebo Park there are tree stumps sticking up around the water pump which could be a safety issue.

Kevin Costello reviewed the issues that were brought up at the last meeting. Fences are one of the biggest concerns at this time. Public Works is evaluating them and looking to repair the ones they can and replace some if needed.

The Spring Valley Park field #1 first baseline fence was replaced this week. The third baseline fence has a hole in it.

Public Works replaced the basketball rims at Spring Valley Park. Three of the rims have the spring and one is a double rim solid backboard.

Kevin Costello stated that there are cracks on the hockey courts at Whispering Pines and Whistlestop. When the summer help starts they will fill in the cracks and seal the courts.

Kevin Costello thanked MTBSA for the work that they did on the baseball fields. The fields look great!

### **RECREATION UPDATE**

Sharon Tucker stated that she has some permit request issues that need to be addressed and would like input from the Park Board. Sharon Tucker indicated that there are a few times throughout both the baseball and soccer seasons that either group requests use of the fields that are already permitted to the other group. These requests are for special events, such as tournaments, picture day, home run derby. Sharon Tucker noted that Montgomery Township staff often gets caught in the middle of deciding which group has access.

After much discussion the Park Board decided that the decision makers from MTBSA and Montgomery Soccer can work out the details of such requests amongst themselves and should be able to come to a mutual agreement.

### **CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Kevin Costello stated that the Board of Supervisors approved the complete list of capital improvement projects proposed by the Park Board at the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, bringing the total cost of the 2012 projects to \$52,500. Kevin Costello noted that the two dugout covers purchased last year have been installed at Rose Twig.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Tony Ruggieri stated that Joe Walsh mentioned the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee at the Volunteer Brunch. Tony Ruggieri would like a member of the Park Board to be involved in that committee so let him know if interested or he will step up to attend those meetings.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Tony Ruggieri stated that this month the Park Board planned to make a decision regarding how to proceed with the proposal from Montgomery Soccer to install two turf fields at William F. Maule Park

at Windlestrae. Tony Ruggieri indicated that there have been discussions since the last meeting about the proposal between the Park Board members and they are prepared to make a motion on whether to send the proposal on to the Board of Supervisors. Mark McMahon commented that the township spends a fair amount of money to support baseball and potentially basketball at the proposed Community Center and would like to see soccer supported.

Tony Ruggieri made a motion to vote on the submission of the turf proposal to the Board of Supervisors. Mike Okino seconded the motion and it passed 7-0. The members voted as follows:

Mark Angelone – no; Mike Okino – no; Linda Brooks – yes; Kim Greene – no; Tony Ruggieri – no; Mark McMahon – yes; Dan Spinelli – no.

The Park Board has decided by a vote of 5 to 2 not to send the Montgomery Soccer turf proposal on to the Board of Supervisors.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mike Okino made a motion to adjourn and Kim Greene seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.