



**Montgomery Township  
Park and Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes for September 12, 2012**

The monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Park and Recreation Board was held on September 12, 2012 in the Montgomery Township Municipal Building. The members of the Park and Recreation Board in attendance included Kim Greene, Dan Spinelli, Mark Angelone, Mike Okino, Tony Ruggieri and Linda Brooks. Mark McMahon was absent. Also in attendance were Lawrence Gregan (Township Manager), Shirley Snyder, (Administrative Secretary), Kevin Costello (Director of Public Works) and Michael Fox (Board Liaison).

**CALL TO ORDER**

Tony Ruggieri called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mike Okino made a motion to approve the August 8, 2012 minutes, Dan Spinelli seconded the motion and the minutes passed as submitted, 6-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**PARK COMP PLAN**

Kevin Costello reported that staff will reconvene in October to prepare a final draft of the Park Comprehensive Plan.

**PARK ACTIVITY UPDATE**

Tony Ruggieri reported that the hockey rink in the Whispering Pines Park has deep cracks in the macadam. Kevin Costello advised that the Public Works Department will fill these cracks. Tony Ruggieri commented that the fields look great. Mr. Ruggieri also reported that Montgomery Baseball is still working on the snack stand and are planning to have it up and operational for the Fall 2012 season. Kevin Costello reported that no drawings/plans have been provided to date. The Association is to submit a sketch plan (ADA compliant) to the Township advising of any electrical needs for the snack stand. Kevin reported that the Public Works Department will pour the foundation and will run electric to the stand. There will be no cooking done in the stand.

Kim Greene noted that the playground equipment at Whispering Pines Park is looking run-down and faded. Kevin Costello agreed, but noted that the equipment cannot be painted. There was some discussion on whether the area of the park could be used as a field. Michael Fox stated

### **PARK ACTIVITY UPDATE (continued)**

that the location was a basin area, not suitable for a field. Mr. Fox also noted that Whispering Pines Park is a neighborhood park, and not heavily used.

Linda Brooks requested that the Board consider installing kiosks at the Nature Area by Knapp Road. The kiosk should contain a map of the area and denote the various trails. Kevin Costello reported that this recommendation may be part of the Park Comprehensive Plan that the County is working on. It was noted that Ray Barndt had built the kiosks that are presently in the various parks. Discussion followed about providing maps and the possibility of color coding the trails. Kevin Costello will check with Ray Barndt to see if these maps were updated recently as an Eagle Scout Project.

### **RECREATION UPDATE**

Shirley Snyder reported that Sharon Tucker will be sending out an email to the Park Board members requesting volunteers for Autumn Festival which will be held on Saturday, October 13, 2012 at the William F. Maule Park at Windlestrae. Autumn Festival is a great community event, but requires significant manpower. Volunteers for a few hours between 7:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. will be greatly appreciated.

Due to interest from Township residents, the Recreation Office will be conducting a Halloween House Decorating Contest this year. The program will be simple this year, to gauge the level of interest, with the potential to grow the contest in the future. A handout with more details about the contest was distributed.

There was discussion about the Montgomery United Soccer's Roger Erb Tournament scheduled for November. There were discussions last year that the Tournament would not be permitted in November per our Facilities and Field Use Policy. Shirley Snyder reported that the township has not received a permit application for the Tournament yet. Discussion continued among the Park Board members about how to proceed. Lawrence Gregan reported that the letter that was to be sent to MonU was not sent for various reasons. MonU will be required to obtain Board of Supervisor approval if they are planning to host this tournament in November. The general consensus was that a letter re-stating the Facilities and Field Use Policy and recommending the tournament be scheduled possibly in October 2013 will be discussed at a future meeting. The recommendation was made that any letter concerning this tournament should be drafted and sent at the conclusion of the 2012 tournament.

Tony Ruggieri commented on the 5K run on Sunday, September 9, 2012. Mr. Ruggieri stated that the Township did a great job with this event and inquired as to whether it would become an annual event. Lawrence Gregan stated that it might be difficult to do another year as it would require special approval from PennDOT to close the road. Mr. Gregan will check with PennDOT to see if it would be feasible. Mr. Gregan also stated that planning for this type of event needs to start early and requires a larger number of volunteers.

The Parkway is nearly completed, but there are still some trees to be planted after October 15, 2012. Hopefully, when that is complete, the Parkway will be opened. Montgomery Township has requested that the official ribbon cutting ceremony take place in our Township, possibly on the bridge that crosses over Route 309. The ribbon cutting ceremony will take place on a weekday. Plans are being worked on for the opening, including the possibility of having the North Penn High School Band and/or the Junior ROTC color guard present.

Tony Ruggieri would like the members of the Park Board to visit the Haverford Community Center, as it may emulate some of the amenities that we might like to incorporate into our facility. It was also suggested that a visit to the Souderton Boys and Girls Club might be worthwhile as well. Kim Greene inquired as to whether the facility would be community oriented, or more of a sports complex. Lawrence Gregan stated that it would include sub-dividable community meeting rooms. A trip will be arranged by Tony Ruggieri for the members of the Park Board to visit the Haverford Center on a Saturday morning. The trip will be coordinated with Jonathan Trump of Kimmel-Bogrette, so any questions that are raised, can be answered during the visit.

#### **CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Kim Greene inquired about the status of Friendship Park. Lawrence Gregan reported that the license agreement has been signed and work is about ready to begin. Mr. Gregan reported that the base grading and possibly the paths may be completed this season. The Cutler Group will be responsible for the improvements to this Park as a contribution in lieu of fees for the Zoning Amendment. After grading is complete, it will be easier to see what type(s) of equipment will fit into this Park. The possibility of having a bathroom facility in this Park was also discussed.

Tony Ruggieri suggested upgrading the basketball courts at Fellowship with new poles and backboards for 2013.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ray Barndt will be retiring from the Public Works Department of Montgomery Township as of mid November 2012. The Park and Recreation Board would like to show their appreciation to Ray in some way. Ideas will be discussed at the October meeting.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Kim Greene made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mike Okino seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 10, 2012 at 7:30 pm.