



**Montgomery Township
Park and Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes for October 10, 2012**

The monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Park and Recreation Board was held on October 10, 2012 in the Montgomery Township Municipal Building. The members of the Park and Recreation Board in attendance included Kim Greene, Mike Okino, Linda Brooks, Mark McMahon and Tony Ruggieri. Mark Angelone and Dan Spinelli were absent. Also in attendance were Lawrence Gregan (Township Manager), Sharon Tucker, (Recreation Coordinator), Kevin Costello (Director of Public Works) and Michael Fox (Board Liaison).

CALL TO ORDER

Tony Ruggieri called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kim Greene made a motion to approve the September 12, 2012 minutes, Mike Okino seconded the motion and the minutes passed as submitted, 4-0 (Linda Brooks was not yet present).

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PARK COMP PLAN UPDATE

Kevin Costello reported that staff met with Matt Shelley and Beth Pilling from MCPC this morning. The plan from the County is to have a final draft of the Park Comp Plan at the November meeting. The tentative plan is to get a draft to the Board of Supervisors in December and the final plan presented in January 2013. Mike Fox suggested that they get the draft to the Park Board one week in advance of the meeting to allow them time to review it.

PARK ACTIVITY UPDATE

Tony Ruggieri reported that he spoke with Rick Calhoun and Montgomery Baseball is moving forward slowly with the plans for the snack stand at William F. Maule Park at Windlestrae. They are waiting for a bid to get some electrical work completed.

Tony Ruggieri stated that Windlestrae Park looks great. Mike Okino reported that Gazebo Park looks good. Mike Okino also stated that basketball court 2 at Spring Valley Park has white paint across the court. Mike Okino also stated that the gate at the hockey rink is dislodged on the top. Kevin Costello stated that it was fixed but Public Works will look at it again.

Kevin Costello reported that Whistlestop Park is looking really good and it is still scheduled for fall 2013 opening.

RECREATION UPDATE

Sharon Tucker reported that at the October 9th meeting the Board of Supervisors approved the recommendation from the Park Board to allow Montgomery Soccer to hold the Roger Erb Tournament as long as they comply with the stipulations set forth.

Sharon Tucker stated that Autumn Festival is scheduled for this Saturday, October 13th. We can always use additional help if anyone is available, otherwise try to come out and enjoy the day.

Sharon Tucker reported that the information regarding the Halloween Decorating Contest has been rolled out. Sharon Tucker thanked Linda Brooks and Kim Greene for offering to judge the contest and if anyone else is interested in participating the judging will take place on Tuesday, October 23rd.

FIELD USAGE POLICY DISCUSSION

Tony Ruggieri brought up the issue of the repeated request from Montgomery United Soccer to hold the Roger Erb Tournament outside the recommended allowable tournament dates. The policy was put in place to preserve the fields but the burden is now falling on the Board of Supervisors to make an exception each year. Kevin Costello commented that Public Works does a great job of keeping the fields in the best shape they can and stated that the use of the fields will dictate the condition of the field. Following discussion about how to proceed with this situation, Tony Ruggieri stated that the goal is to get everyone off the fields as early as possible but there could be an adjustment to the allowable tournament dates. Tony Ruggieri stated that he will draft a recommendation to amend the Tournament Play section of the policy, reflecting a change in Section B from November 1 to November 15 to accommodate an early November tournament.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Kevin Costello reviewed the suggested items for the proposed 2013 budget. There was discussion regarding the proposed replacement and widening of the Maule trail with a potential cost of up to \$120,000. Kevin Costello reported that with that proposed amount the current 4-5 foot wide trail would be replaced with a 9 foot trail. Not all of the Park Board members were in agreement with replacing and widening of the trail and Tony Ruggieri recommended leaving the line item in the proposed budget and encouraged the Park Board members to go and evaluate the current trail so everyone can make an informed decision if it is approved by the Board.

Larry Gregan reported on the status of Friendship Park. A license agreement was signed with Wolverine and they are doing the engineering layout. There is a potential for rock there and they are evaluating the area and will give a price for rock removal. The site has some areas with limited ability

for any construction work. There will have to be additional discussion about whether a bathroom could feasibly go at Friendship Park.

Larry Gregan stated that Pileggi is willing to donate trees to be placed at Friendship Park if the township can get someone to relocate them. The Shade Tree Commission and Boucher and James would be involved in the decision of which trees are viable to move and Shade Tree is budgeting for the moving of the trees.

Kim Green requested that park signage be a priority in the planning and budgeting for 2013. Kevin Costello stated that signage will most likely be an area addressed by MCPC in the updated Park Comp Plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Tony Ruggieri commented about how pleased he was with the look of the new Community Guide that was sent out to residents. Larry Gregan stated that we are planning to send out an updated guide twice a year and the township was grateful for all the area businesses that advertised in the guide.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike Okino, Tony Ruggieri, Linda Brooks and Mark Angelone went to the Haverford Community Center in September. Mike Okino felt it was a wonderful layout, it flowed well, the geothermal system was great, lighting was great and the stamped concrete was impressive. Mike Okino also stated that he is glad that the plan for our Center is not near any sports fields. The area was very hectic when there was a lot going on. Tony Ruggieri commented that he found the fitness room and equipment impressive.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 14, 2012 at 7:30 pm.