



**Montgomery Township
Park and Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes for November 14, 2012**

The monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Park and Recreation Board was held on November 14, 2012 in the Montgomery Township Municipal Building. The members of the Park and Recreation Board in attendance included Tony Ruggieri, Kim Greene, Mike Okino and Linda Brooks. Mark Angelone was absent. Also in attendance were Sharon Tucker (Recreation Coordinator) and Kevin Costello (Director of Public Works).

CALL TO ORDER

Tony Ruggieri called the meeting to order at 7:44 pm and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kim Greene made a motion to approve the October 10, 2012 minutes, Mike Okino seconded the motion and the minutes passed as submitted 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PARK COMP PLAN UPDATE

Kevin Costello reported that staff met with Beth Pilling and Matt Schelly from the Montgomery County Planning Commission this morning. Kevin Costello stated that Beth Pilling will be getting a complete draft of the final Park Comprehensive Plan to staff soon. Staff will get copies of that draft to the Park Board at least one week in advance of the December 12th Park Board meeting for their review. Kevin Costello stated that he will schedule Beth Pilling for 45 minutes on the December agenda to review the final plan before it is submitted to the Board of Supervisors.

PARK ACTIVITY UPDATE

Tony Ruggieri stated that the Roger Erb Tournament was held last weekend. A preliminary field assessment was performed on Thursday and the fields were deemed fit for play. On Monday following the tournament the fields were reassessed and they had some wear but no significant damage. Township staff will return the \$5,000 escrow check to Montgomery United Soccer this week. Township staff asked Montgomery United Soccer to purchase a pallet of grass seed and they

agreed. Kevin Costello reported that Montgomery Township will provide an invoice in the amount of \$2,200 to Montgomery United Soccer for the seed. Kevin Costello stated that Public Works already got some grass seed spread on the fields and it has been rained on, so this will help with the field conditions.

Tony Ruggieri reported that Montgomery Township Baseball Softball Association has their snack stand placed at William F. Maule Park at Windlestrae and the plan is to have it ready to be utilized for the spring season. The permit has been submitted and it does include electric in the plan. Kevin Costello stated that he will have a paved path to the stand that will be handicapped accessible.

RECREATION UPDATE

Sharon Tucker reviewed the information from the Halloween House Decorating Contest. The hurricane caused a problem with promoting the viewing of the winning houses. Most of the winners indicated that they would be taking down their decorations before Halloween to avoid them being destroyed, so the winners were listed on the website but it was kept rather low key. Sharon Tucker stated that the hope is to gain more interest and run it again in 2013.

Sharon Tucker reported that the Recreation Office is currently planning for spring and summer 2013 and if any Park Board members have ideas for programs or activities that they would like to see they should let us know soon. Mike Okino stated that he would like to advertise the summer basketball league in the Recreation News and have the program run through the township. Sharon Tucker stated that she will revisit the information that was discussed last year. The process can be discussed further at the December Park Board meeting.

Sharon Tucker reviewed the Holiday Lights contest information. The Park Board typically helps with the judging and that would be appreciated again this year. More information will be coming as the deadline and judging dates get closer. Sharon Tucker invited all members to attend the Holiday Lights Celebration on Sunday 12/16 from 4pm – 8pm at the Township Building.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Kevin Costello reported that the fencing around the Spring Valley Park tot lot needs to be completed. Kevin Costello also stated that the roof on the pavilion at Spring Valley Park will be replaced with a metal roof. Ray Barndt already purchased the material at a discounted rate in Lancaster and the money came out of the Park Building Maintenance Budget.

Kevin Costello reported that the retirement lunch for Ray Barndt will be held at the Township Building tomorrow. Kevin Costello also stated that the Pine Grove at Zehr is officially being named the Raymond C. Barndt Pine Grove.

Kevin Costello stated that Friendship Park is moving along with excavation. The storm sewer is in. As soon as Larry Gegan gives the approval the Park Board can move forward with the discussion of amenities at the location. Kevin Costello also noted that rock was not as big of an issue as expected at the site.

NEW BUSINESS

Tony Ruggieri stated that supporters of Montgomery United Soccer attended the Board of Supervisors meeting on October 22nd to voice their displeasure regarding the decision to deny the turf proposal. The Board of Supervisors committed to listening to the proposal again. Tony Ruggieri informed everyone that Jeff McDonnell stated that the Park Board would still be involved in the evaluating and decision making process. Montgomery Soccer did state at the meeting that they had funding for the project.

Tony Ruggieri reported that he will submit an amendment to change the allowable dates for tournaments through the second weekend in November instead of November 1st. Tony Ruggieri will discuss the Policy change with Dwight Wilkinson to still encourage Montgomery United Soccer to move their Roger Erb Tournament into October if possible. Mike Okino stated that his hope is extending the policy allows for a buffer due to weather cancellations or scheduling issues, but the intention remains to have soccer attempt to schedule the tournament earlier and not plan it for the last possible weekend.

Linda Brooks stated that she attended the 300th Anniversary Committee event at Joseph Ambler Inn. Linda Brooks reported that there were a lot of business owners there and the 300th Committee is planning some great events, such as a historic house tour, a golf outing and a community day. The kickoff really got people excited about the upcoming events. Sharon Tucker told Tony Ruggieri that she would let him know the schedule for the 300th Anniversary meetings. Linda Brooks is interested in helping out with the 300th Committee.

Linda Brooks commented on the Community Guide. There is nothing in the guide discussing the Natural Area at Windlestrae Park. Linda Brooks stated that this is one of the nicest forested areas around and it should be featured. Linda Brooks believes that this is one of the only inner forest and outer forest areas in all of Montgomery County and is far too valuable not to be mentioned. Kevin Costello stated that this should be addressed in the Park Comp Plan. Sharon Tucker will review the information that is in the Community Guide and work on getting it revised in the next Guide.

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Kim Greene made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mike Okino seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday December 12, 2012 at 7:30 pm.