

Montgomery Township Park and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes for September 11, 2013

The monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Park and Recreation Board was held on September 11, 2013 in the Montgomery Township Municipal Building. The members of the Park and Recreation Board in attendance included Mike Okino, Angelo Grasso, Linda Brooks, Tony Ruggieri, Kim Greene, Mark Angelone and Al Quasti. Also in attendance were Michael Fox (Township Supervisor), Kevin Costello (Public Works Director) and Sharon Tucker (Recreation Coordinator).

CALL TO ORDER

Mike Okino called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mike Okino took a moment to acknowledge the anniversary of the September 11, 2001 tragedy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Linda Brooks made a motion to approve the August 14, 2013 minutes and Mark Angelone seconded the motion. The minutes were approved 5-0 (Al Quasti and Kim Greene were not yet present).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PARK COMP PLAN STATUS

Kevin Costello reported that he received an update on the plan from Matt Schelly of the MCPC and the final draft of the plan is going to their editor and then to their printer. The plan will be ready for our final review in 6-8 weeks.

PARK ACTIVITY UPDATE

Tony Ruggieri stated that the path at the William F. Maule Park at Windlestrae is looking great. Kevin Costello reported that the paving should be completed by Thursday morning and then Public Works will be doing the seeding and edging work immediately following.

Linda Brooks inquired about the status of the pond at Maule and the ability to clean up some of the growth that it is overrun with. Kevin Costello reported that Public Works did treat the Purple Loosestrife as they are licensed to treat anything on the dry ground. Kevin Costello informed the Park Board that Public Works is not licensed to treat the water and that there are certain DEP requirements and permits that would require a study and could cost approximately \$180,000 to determine what could be done. Kevin also stated that Larry Gregan has been in touch with our Engineer, Gilmore Associates, to see if there is any grant money is available. The suggestion was made that a fountain could be installed to keep the water moving and avoid the stagnant growth.

Kevin Costello reported that MTBSA got the okay to go forward with the work on the Maule Connie Mack field. They will use that field a little longer than originally planned and then transfer to the Whistlestop Park field just for practice this season.

Kevin Costello reported that underground water testing was being done by a geological firm in the back corner of Whistlestop Park to check for any potential contamination from the former AEL Property.

RECREATION UPDATE

Sharon Tucker gave an update on the upcoming Autumn Festival and informed everyone that we are always looking for additional adult volunteers. If any Park Board members are interested, or know of anyone else that is interested, they should contact the Recreation Office. Mike Okino reported that he will reach out to Montgomery Basketball for volunteers and Tony Ruggieri will reach out to MTBSA.

Sharon Tucker handed out some discussion items that need to be reviewed about the summer basketball league to prepare for 2014. Mike Okino stated that there will be a meeting at 7:00pm on November 13th, prior to the regular Park Board meeting to review that information.

Sharon Tucker gave an update on the discussion from earlier this year in regards to revising the Tournament Policy section of the Facilities and Field Use Policy. There was discussion that if we are going to annually approve the Roger Erb Tournament for the second week in November we should change the policy to reflect that tournaments do not need Board of Supervisor approval until after that date. All Park Board members were in agreement to the revision in the policy and Sharon Tucker will take that change to the Board of Supervisors to request approval.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Kevin Costello reported that there will be a mosquito spray at all sections of Windlestrae Park on September 17th, the park will close at 7:30pm. There will be a press release issued by the county that will be circulated.

Kevin Costello reported that there is working being done on some drainage issues at Friendship Park. Following those improvements, the piping will go in and then staff will be coming to the Park Board to review final amenities.

Mike Okino stated that now is the time for any Park Board members to recommend budget items for 2014, keeping in mind that the Community Center is the priority. Kevin Costello reported that Public Works will be recommending a pavilion at Whistlestop Park in the 2014 budget.

Kevin Costello stated that Public Works will be able to start working on park signage as the fall slows down. Linda Brooks requested that after the initial park signs are completed, she would like to see signage about the wetlands.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Okino stated that he would like to hold a youth baseball clinic and he will contact Rick Calhoun from MTBSA and Sharon Tucker to coordinate.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike Okino revisited the Bark Park issue that was addressed at the August Park Board meeting so that all Park Board members are aware of the situation which involved a dog being attacked by another dog at the Bark Park. The Park Board members were in agreement that proper signage to inform people that they are entering at their own risk and that dogs should be properly registered would be sufficient. Linda Brooks suggested that there could be a sign up at the park to inform people how to register their dogs.

ADJOURNMENT

Kim Greene made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 pm. The motion was seconded by Angelo Grasso and the motion passed 7-0.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2013 at 7:30 pm at the Township Building.