



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

The monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Park and Recreation Board was held on December 11, 2013 in the Montgomery Township Municipal Building. The members of the Park and Recreation Board in attendance included Mike Okino, Kim Greene, Tony Ruggieri, Linda Brooks, Angelo Grasso and Al Quasti. Mark Angelone was not in attendance. Also in attendance were Kevin Costello (Public Works Director) and Sharon Tucker (Recreation Coordinator).

CALL TO ORDER

Mike Okino called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tony made a motion to approve the November 13, 2013 minutes and Al Quasti seconded the motion. The minutes were approved 5-0 (Kim Greene was not yet present).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PARK COMP PLAN STATUS

The members of the Park Board were impressed with the level of detail in the plan, especially noting the interest in the demographic statistics.

Al Quasti expressed his concern that the plan specifically focused only on bringing new activities to the park, which he feels will be a negligible increase in the use of the parks. Al states that the biggest current use of the parks are the organized youth sports groups, but there was little mention of a plan with this use in mind. Al feels that the plan should address the ongoing maintenance or enhancement of the existing facilities. Al also specifically cited as an example that often facilities such as tennis courts are all in use but there is no consideration to add additional courts. Al will draft some recommended text to be considered as an addition to the plan and will forward to Sharon Tucker on Thursday, December 12th.

Tony Ruggieri commented that if the demographics are properly reflected and our population is getting older we should consider the fact that we only have two baseball fields that adequately support adult play.

Linda Brooks requested changes, or at least serious review, of two areas in the plan. Linda would like to remove the sentence on page 187 that indicates disc golf seems to be compatible with forest-protection priorities in the area. Kevin Costello stated that the disc golf course was evaluated before, during, and after construction, the original scope was reduced and there is minimal damage to the park woodlands.

Linda would also like the Horvath Walking Path to be shown with the potential of making it a full loop through the meadow and connecting back to the parking lot.

Mike Okino had minor changes that he will forward to the staff post-meeting to be incorporated into the plan.

Mike Okino made a motion to accept the final draft of the plan once their recommended changes are incorporated. Linda Brooks seconded the motion and it was approved 6-0.

PARK ACTIVITY UPDATE

Kevin Costello reported that Public Works completed some verti-drain work, seeding and fertilizing, and they will do repair work to the fields as needed in the spring.

RECREATION UPDATE

Sharon Tucker reported that the Winter 2014 Recreation News is completed and on its way to residents in the mail now.

Sharon Tucker distributed copies of the PowerLine Trail Feasibility Study for review. Stacy Crandell will be presenting it to the Board of Supervisors on Monday, December 16th. If Park Board members have any recommended corrections or changes please get feedback to Sharon Tucker no later than December 18th.

Sharon Tucker thanked the Park Board members for their participation in the judging of the Holiday Lights Contest. Prizes will be awarded at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Monday, December 16th.

Sharon Tucker reported on Breakfast with Santa which is scheduled for this Saturday, December 14th at 9:00 am at the Township Building. Santa will be arriving on the Fire Truck, breakfast will be catered by Our Towne, games and crafts will be available. Sharon invited all members of the Park Board to come out and attend or volunteer if they are available.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Kevin Costello reported that there is no update since the November meeting. The 2013 projects are complete and Public Works is planning for the 2014 projects.

NEW BUSINESS

Tony Ruggieri was pleased to report that the Township was approved for the grant that will be used towards the Community Center playground. Sharon Tucker will bring the projector to the January meeting so everyone can see pictures of the layout and get an update on the status of the Community Center.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike Okino reminded the group that a new Committee Chair and Committee Vice Chair will be appointed in January so everyone should consider whether they are interested in taking on a new role.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Kim Greene made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm. The motion was seconded by Angelo Grasso and the motion passed 6-0.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2014 at 7:30 pm at the Township Building.