

Montgomery Township Park and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes for June 11, 2014

The monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Park and Recreation Board was held on June 11, 2014 in the Montgomery Township Municipal Building. The members of the Park and Recreation Board in attendance included: Al Quasti, Angelo Grasso, Jim Earley, Linda Brooks, Tony Ruggieri and Mike Okino. Kim Greene was absent. Also in attendance were Mike Fox (Board Liaison), Larry Gregan (Township Manager), Kevin Costello (Public Works Director) and Sharon Tucker (Recreation Coordinator).

CALL TO ORDER

Al Quasti called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tony Ruggieri made a motion to approve the minutes and Mike Okino seconded the motion. The minutes were approved 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Angelo Grass welcomed his grandson, Bill Piotrowicz, to the meeting. Bill must attend a public meeting as part of his scout requirements so he will be observing the meeting.

PARK ACTIVITY UPDATE

Al Quasti commented that the standing water along the 202 Parkway path that he reported on last month is all cleared up.

Jim Earley stated that he knows the Whistlestop Gazebo will be coming down soon but one of the rails is broken. Jim also noted that there is a backstop at Whistlestop between the two fields that is pushed into the woods. Kevin Costello stated that Public Works will remove it.

RECREATION UPDATE

Sharon Tucker reported that the check was received from the Macy's Heart Your Park campaign. Montgomery Township received a check in the amount of \$250 that will be deposited into the capital projects fund for use at Windlestrae Park. Sharon requested that the Park Board members keep that in mind if there is anything that would like to request for the use of those dollars.

Sharon Tucker gave an update on the Summer Basketball League, which is set to begin on June 23rd and has 9 teams.

Sharon Tucker gave an update on Kids University, which starts on June 23rd and has over 160 campers enrolled.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Kevin Costello gave an update regarding the MTBSA baseball request list. The netting on the Windlestrae Connie Mack field will cost approximately \$1,250, which baseball is willing to at least partially fund. Public Works can install it, the mesh would stay up year round, and it should last 4-5 years. MTBSA is able to install a shed at Rose Twig which could be located to the left of the batting cages or behind home plate near the front fields. Mike Okino cautioned that placing it behind the back stop could be a problem due to the color of the shed. Tony Ruggieri stated that it would be a shed similar to the one used as the snack stand. That will hold up well and has a large enough opening to drive a gator in and out easily. Kevin reported that MTBSA will not put a shed at Spring Valley at this time. Kevin Costello reported that the portable toilet at Windlestrae 4 was replaced with a handicapped unit. Tony Ruggieri stated that Windlestrae 4 was reviewed for the potential of dugout installation and it would be impossible along the 3rd baseline. Tony will talk to MTBSA about their options.

Kevin circulated information about Friendship Park and amenity options were discussed. Tony Ruggieri expressed an interest in looking into a zip line feature. Larry Gregan inquired if the Park Board is committed to having a bocce court there and the members all agreed that they all wanted it. Larry also inquired as to whether a baseball field is definitely something we want and the general opinion is yes that they would like something similar to the Windlestrae 4 field. Al Quasti would like to see an 8 v 8 soccer field at that park. Linda Brooks would like to see a water feature installed. Kevin Costello stated that there will be rain gardens in the park; one near the playground, one near the trail and one to the left of the parking lot. Larry Gregan stated that the basin off on Knapp Road or the one at Spring Valley Park hold a few feet of water and he will discuss with the engineers the option of having a water feature at one of the other basins in the Township. Kevin Costello stated that the next step in the Friendship Park planning is to bring in a representative from Gilmore & Associates and one from Boucher & James to discuss the options and the cost involved.

Mike Fox requested that Kevin have someone remove the bin that is in the Windlestrae Pond.

Kevin Costello stated that when Paul Henning passed away in April he requested that donations in his name be sent to the Township for use at the parks.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Larry Gregan reported that the Community Center Groundbreaking is scheduled for Thursday, June 26th at 8:00 am. The plan is to have everyone park at the Township Building and transportation will be

provided to the site. Invitations will be going out in the next few days. Larry Gregan stated that there are still some requirements that need to be met before our permit is approved. DEP requested some additional details and the permit was resubmitted. DEP now has 30 days to review it. Larry stated that the goal is to be under roof by the middle of December.

Tony Ruggieri distributed a picture of a Green Flush portable restroom facility that he recommends we consider for use, potentially near the Windlestrae 4 baseball field. Larry Gregan stated that we will look into it as a possible option.

ADJOURNMENT

Tony made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 pm. The motion was seconded by Mike Okino. The motion passed 6-0.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2014, 7:30 pm at the Township Building.