



**Montgomery Township  
Park & Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes for September 9, 2009**

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Leesa Meade, Heather Berkey, Dan Spinelli, Bill Maule, Keith Johnson, Kevin Costello (Public Works Director), and Sudha Suryadevara (Recreation Coordinator) were in attendance.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Leesa Meade called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the August 12, 2009 meeting were approved as submitted.

**RECREATION UPDATE**

- Bill Maule asked about programs offered “under the lights”. Sudha Suryadevara explained that Boot Camp Fitness is the only program offered during the early morning hours.
- Keith Johnson asked about the Fall Program Open House. Sudha Suryadevara explained that it was an opportunity for parents to ask vendors and instructors questions as well as sign up for programs.

**BUDGET UPDATE**

- Costello distributed the budget and explained that it’s updated through the end of August.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Nick Albanese of Boy Scout Troop 547 approached the Park Board about completing an Eagle Project in Fellowship Park for spring 2010. Nick Albanese would like to work on the volleyball court, tables & benches.
- David Saturn, a Montgomery Township resident, asked why “Keep Off Field” signs were placed on the Zehr Tract. Kevin Costello explained that the signs were placed by Montgomery United Soccer while installing lights on the field.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

- Kevin Costello explained to the Board that the Spring Valley Park basketball courts are underway. He stated that the project is a 5 phase effort to not exceed \$23,500.
- Bill Maule asked about the millage rate. Kevin Costello said he would inquire about it for the next meeting.
- Leesa Meade asked about the status of the fields at Whistlestop Park. Kevin Costello stated that the Township is working on acquiring dirt as well as the permit process.
- Leesa Meade asked about the shade structure for the playground equipment at Whistlestop Park. Kevin Costello explained that it would be about 14 feet high and cost \$9,000-\$10,000.
- Bill Maule made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors not to exceed \$12,000 for the purchase and installation of a landscape structure from the company, Shade Structure, at Whistlestop Park. The motion was seconded by Keith Johnson and approved unanimously by the Park Board.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Leesa Meade explained that the Park board members did a walkthrough of Fellowship Park. They noticed that the backboards were worn, tennis courts had cracks, the bushes were overgrown and the benches and see saw were broken.
- Kevin Costello explained that the Public Works crew had a very busy summer and is trying to maintain all parks as best they can and will address specific issues as soon as possible.
- Leesa Meade suggested doing a “focus on a park” segment to promote Township parks in the Recreation News or Communicator.
- Dan Spinelli stated that kids should be involved with helping to clean up the park.
- Heather Berkey presented information on cell phones for soldiers and military mail. She asked that cell phone bags and brochures be placed at the Township Building.
- Leesa Meade explained that she attended the EAC meeting and that they would institute a pilot recycling program at Spring Valley Park. Recycling would be picked up by the parks crew.
- Keith Johnson asked about conducting a Halloween Decorating Contest.
- Bill Maule stated that the Recreation Department should have a Holiday house tour next year.
- Kevin Costello presented the concept plan for Friendship Park; he explained that funding for this park was contingent upon the progress made in the Enclave Development.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Bill Maule stated that the tennis courts in all the parks need a wall.
- Bill Maule also spoke about providing skateboarders with steps and rails at Spring Valley Park.
- Leesa Meade asked the committee to bring ideas for skateboarders to the next meeting.
- Bill Maule spoke about purchasing the Cobham baseball field next to Whistlestop Park. Jeff McDonnell stated that Township has allocated money for acquiring other open space.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Leesa Meade adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Building.