



**Montgomery Township
Park & Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes for January 13, 2010**

Leesa Meade, Heather Berkey, Dan Spinelli, Tony Ruggeri, Bill Maule, Mark Angelone, Michael Fox, Kevin Costello (Public Works Director) and Sudha Suryadevara (Recreation Coordinator) were in attendance.

REORGANIZATION MEETING

- Leesa Meade was nominated as Chairperson by Tony Ruggeri. Bill Maule seconded the nomination and the Park Board unanimously voted to confirm Leesa Meade as Chairperson.
- Bill Maule nominated Tony Ruggeri as Vice-Chairperson. Dan Spinelli seconded the nomination and the Park Board unanimously voted to confirm Tony Ruggeri as Vice-Chairperson.

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Leesa Meade called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the November 11, 2009 meeting were approved as submitted.

RECREATION UPDATE

- Sudha Suryadevara gave an update on the winter Recreation News, North Penn Winter Blast and Holiday Lights Contest results.
- Leesa Meade suggested allowing the sports organizations to post their registration deadlines on the e-news.

BUDGET UPDATE

- Kevin Costello stated that at the end of 2009, 95-96% of the budget was completed and the remainder would go back into the park budget for 2010.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Chuck Vesay presented the Park Board with a plaque and check in the amount of \$4,894.00 to assist in field repairs.
- Chuck Vesay informed the committee that Dwight Wilkinson is handling the scheduling of the fields for the 2010 season. Chuck Vesay also stated that the Montgomery United Soccer Club does not follow the North Penn School District field closure policy.
- Leesa Meade asked how the fall situation with the soccer fields could be avoided. Chuck Vesay commented that improved communication with Kevin Costello, Ray Barndt and Dwight Wilkinson would help prevent problems in 2010.
- Bill Maule commented that part of the problem with the Zehr and Spring Valley fields are the Saturday/Sunday pickup games that take place.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

- Kevin Costello informed the board that the Whistlestop project is currently being negotiated with contractors. The permits are in the hands of the DEP and will be reviewed.
- Kevin Costello then gave an overview of the project – stating that the rain garden would help alleviate water issues and the fields would get re-graded and re-seeded.
- Leesa Meade explained that a full soccer field would be lost as a result of the rain garden and the re-grading. A baseball and softball field would still be maintained.
- Kevin Costello stated that there would be a new multipurpose field and a softball field at Friendship Park.
- Kevin Costello spoke about approved projects for 2010 such as the Park Comprehensive Plan and the shade structure at Whistlestop Park.
- Kevin Costello also explained that the Rosetwig baseball field would open in the spring and the soccer field will open in the fall.
- Tony Ruggeri asked if the property between Horsham, North Wales and Upper State Roads was owned by the Township.
- Mike Fox explained that the property is privately owned, the owner wants a Town Center; however that would not be feasible as the roads do not have sufficient capacity.
- Ruggeri suggested thinking about a soccer and baseball field on the property as a long-term project.

NEW BUSINESS

- Leesa Meade asked whether the Township had a field usage policy.
- Tony Ruggeri said that he had the North Penn field procedures; he will compile and send to the Park Board for review.
- Kevin Costello stated that MUSC should follow the North Penn School District procedures.
- Mike Fox explained that the problem with the tournaments taking place is the size of the kids. He stated that the tournaments late in the year do not allow the fields to recover.
- Leesa Meade asked if the township had leash laws for dogs, leash laws are not posted on the signs in the park.
- Bill Maule stated that it is a state law to keep dogs on a leash.
- Tony Ruggeri also spoke about investigating a way to bring water to Windlestrae baseball fields 1, 2 & 3. He said a spigot near the backstop to water the fields would help with maintenance.
- Kevin Costello stated that it would have to be secure, with a lock box in the ground. The Public Works Department will also get cost estimates for the project.

OLD BUSINESS

- Kevin Costello stated that the last Park Comprehensive Plan was completed in 1999 and should be redone every ten (10) years to analyze the changing community.
- Kevin Costello also stated this would start in spring/summer pending Board approval. The time frame for this project is six (6) to twelve (12) months.
- Kevin Costello also explained that two recycle bins are in use at Spring Valley Park and have not seen much usage due to the cold weather. He said that four (4) more bins are ready to be placed in the park.
- Mike Fox stated that soccer and baseball should promote recycling within their organizations.

ADJOURNMENT

Leesa Meade adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Building.