

**Montgomery Township  
Park & Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes for February 13, 2008**

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At 8:05p.m. Chairman Bill Maule called the meeting to order. David Keightly, Keith Johnson, Leesa Meade, Barry Weinstein, Kevin Costello (Public Works Director), Pam Gural-Bear (Assistant Township Manager) and Jeffrey McDonnell (Board of Supervisors Liaison) were present.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

The January Minutes were approved as submitted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

***Chuck Vesay, Montgomery United Soccer Club***

Chuck Vesay, Executive Director of Montgomery United Soccer Club, thanked the Park and Recreation Board and Mr. Costello for the parks department's efforts in maintaining the soccer fields and their continued support of the soccer association. Mr. Vesay presented the Park Board with a \$1000 donation to be used for maintenance of the fields.

***Anthony Ruggieri, MTBSA***

The Montgomery Township baseball and Softball Association has requested that two batting cages be placed in both Rose Twig and Windlestrae Parks. Kevin Costello stated that the ground would need to be solid prior to the placement of the cages. Coordination of the placement would be spearheaded by Ray Barndt, MT Park Foreman. In addition, a certificate of insurance would be necessary. Mr. Costello further stated that the request would be reviewed by the Township Solicitor and the site and location of the cages would be revisited by staff and the MTBSA.

Barry Weinstein, Vice-Chairman of the Park Board, announced that Chairman Bill Maule was the recipient of the highly prestigious Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society Lay Honor Award, its highest honor for community Park and Recreation volunteers. He will be recognized at the statewide PRPS Conference scheduled for March 12<sup>th</sup> in Champion, PA.

Nick Ward of Boy Scout Troop 229 is requesting to complete his Eagle Scout Project with Montgomery Township. He would like to work on the hardscaping and possible bridge installation in Windlestrae Park. Kevin Costello and Ray Barndt will coordinate the project with Mr. Ward. His goal completion date ranges from the summer to fall 2008.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### ***Capital Projects***

#### **Pond Restoration**

The five year capital plan was reviewed by the Park Board. The Pond restoration was discussed and the following steps were agreed upon:

- Cost estimate to be provided by John Chambers
- Public Works team to clear the invasive plant species
- Permitting requirements for pond dredging to be investigated along with the fees

Further discussion ensued regarding stocking the pond with fish for all to enjoy. In addition, grant opportunities would be pursued to fund the project.

#### **Recreation Survey**

The Park Board discussed adding the following capital project to the Recreation Survey:

- Pond restoration
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#### ***Spring Valley Park Restrooms***

Officer Johnson said that there were five vandalism reports since the last meeting in November and three were for the bathrooms and two for the electrical box. He said he and Dave Heiser went out to the bathrooms to look at the locks in order to get a price quote. Officer Johnson said the locks could be programmed to lock at a certain time at night and open up in the morning. He said that no one could inadvertently become locked inside.

Mr. Johnson asked if an alarm could be added to prevent the door from being intentionally left open. Officer Johnson said that could possibly be done. He said the police department has been checking other Townships to see how they have been handling it and they have been sending emails out to neighboring residents asking them to keep an eye out for vandals. Officer Johnson said he is also looking

to get an estimate for installing a video camera that would be viewed by the police department.

Chairman Maule asked if he had a recommendation to have Mr. Costello research the matter and come back with a cost at February's meeting. He thinks the locking doors should be installed at Spring Valley Park first and if successful, install them at the Windlestrae Park bathrooms as well.

The Park and Recreation Board members recommend that Mr. Costello research the cost and discuss said costs at February's meeting.

Ms. Meade asked if the Township should consider writing a letter to the surrounding residents regarding the vandalism. Chairman Maule asked Ms. Meade to draft a letter and bring it to the February meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Maule adjourned the meeting at 11:25p.m.

*The next Park and Recreation Board meeting will be on Wednesday, February 13 at 8 p.m. at the Township Building.*