

**Montgomery Township  
Park and Recreation Board  
Minutes of Meeting for February 7, 2007**

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At 7:40p.m., Chairman Bill Maule called the Executive Session to order. David Keightly, Barry Weinstein, Larry Fiel, Heather Berkey, Leesa Meade, Kevin Costello (Public Works Director), Pam Gural-Bear (Assistant Township Manager), Bob Witmer (Board of Supervisor Liaison) and Evelyn DiFeo (Recreation Coordinator) were present. The Park and Recreation Board interviewed candidates for the vacancy on the Board. Chairman Maule adjourned the Executive Session at 8:55p.m.

At 8:56p.m., Chairman Maule called the regular meeting to order. David Keightly, Barry Weinstein, Larry Fiel, Heather Berkey, Leesa Meade, Jerry Glackin, Kevin Costello, Pam Gural-Bear, Bob Witmer, and Evelyn DiFeo were present.

**Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Meade asked that page three, sentence three under "*New Business: Tot Lot Equipment at Spring Valley*" be amended to read that she would like to see play equipment for preschoolers considered at *all existing and future parks* rather than just at Spring Valley. The minutes were approved as amended by Ms. Meade.

**Public Comment: Batting Cages**

Bill Hagmeier, President of the Montgomery Township Baseball Softball Association (MTBSA), asked about the status of the batting cages that the Township will install batting cages at the expense of MTBSA. Mr. Hagmeier said he had reviewed some notes from the previous MTBSA president and it was noted that Mr. Ray Barndt had accompanied some MTBSA members when they did a site check of where the batting cages were to be constructed. Mr. Hagmeier asked if this project was ongoing, and Mr. Costello replied that he would check with Mr. Barndt as to the current status.

**Public Comment: Back Stop Fences**

Mr. Costello asked Mr. Hagmeier if he and Mr. Ruggieri had decided how they want the base line fences laid out at the new field at the back section of Rose Twig at Windlestrae Park. Mr. Hagmeier told Mr. Costello to place them like the back fences at the Whistlestop Park fields.

**Public Comment: Shoot for the Cure Tournament**

Teresa Johnson, Chris Koehler and Mark Savini, who are preparing the Shoot for the Cure Tournament, asked the Park and Recreation Board if it would be possible to use the soccer fields throughout Windlestrae Park (Zehr Section and Main Section) for the Shoot for the Cure Tournament, which will be held from May 18<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Johnson explained that last year's tournament generated \$26,000, which was donated to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Fund.

Chairman Maule asked if all the monies were donated or did some of the monies go back to Montgomery United Soccer Club (MUSC). Ms. Johnson and Mr. Savini explained that monies were used to cover the expenses (\$750 is paid to each girls' travel soccer team of MUSC) and the balance is then donated to the Susan G. Komen Fund. Chairman Maule asked what the \$750 for each team is used for. Mr. Savini explained the monies are used for training clinics, etc. Ms. Johnson explained that the tournament draws teams from New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland.

Chairman Maule asked if the girls should be playing that much soccer in a weekend. Ms. Johnson and Mr. Savini explained that the games are played throughout the weekend, rather than all at once. Mr. Costello said that he had spoken to Chuck Vesay regarding the tournament. Mr. Costello explained that he told Mr. Vesay that before a decision can be made, the fields need to be seeded and fertilized over the winter. If they are able to accomplish this task then the Township can grant usage. Mr. Costello further explained that the field at Kenas 1 has some divots that need to be filled over the winter. Mr. Costello said that he would like MUSC to follow the Penn State Turf Guidelines, which state that “no more than eight games should be played on a field a day” and that “fields should get two-weeks rest between usages.” Mr. Savini explained that he was the venue manager for MUSC. If the Parks Department is not able to repair the field it may not be available for the tournament. He also said that he would not allow the tournament to be played if there was severe inclement weather immediately prior to the event in order to avoid field damage.

Mr. Savini and Ms. Johnson asked if the Ukrainian Nationals could also be allowed to use the fields at Windlestrae Park for their tournament. Mr. Costello reiterated the stipulations regarding field usage: they cannot play if there is severe inclement weather, no more than eight games can be played on a field on any given day, and that the fields must have at least eight days of rest between tournaments. Ms. DiFeo said that the Ukrainian Nationals would like to use the fields on May 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Costello said that the fields could not be used until May 28<sup>th</sup> because they need at least eight days of rest between tournaments. Ms. DiFeo said that the Ukrainian Nationals would be charged for their field usage and would be charged \$100 per field.

The Park and Recreation Board made a recommendation that MUSC could host the Shoot for the Cure Tournament on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, using Kenas 1 and 2, Zehr 1, 2, and 3 and Hennings field with the following provisions: a representative from the Township and the Public Works Director retains the right to cancel usage of the fields due to inclement weather and pending the condition of the Kenas 1 field; and field use must be consistent with Penn State Turf Recommendations. Mr. Fiel motioned and Ms. Meade seconded the motion.

## **Review of Correspondence**

The Park and Recreation Board reviewed the monthly reports for the Parks Department and the Community Services Office. Chairman Maule asked Mr. Costello if the Parks Department could identify the locations for the bat houses in the Township. Mr. Costello said he would speak to Mr. Barndt.

## **Old Business: Capital Projects**

### **Disc Golf**

Mr. Costello explained that he, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Barndt and Mr. Duesler met and discussed the set up of the disc golf. He explained that he needed to prepare a summary that would be presented to the Board of Supervisors at the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting for approval to move forward.

### **Rose Twig Section**

Mr. Costello said the Rose Twig section will be represented at the February 26<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting. At the February 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, the bids would be awarded to the new contractors for 2007. Mr. Costello wanted to wait and see who would be awarded the bid before he made a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

### **Bark Park Fencing**

Chairman Maule asked Mr. Costello if he had the figures to install the fencing at the Bark Park. Mr. Costello said no, but that Mr. Barndt was working on it. Mr. Costello will check with Mr. Barndt and update the Park and Recreation Board at the March meeting.

### **Flag Pole Installation**

Chairman Maule asked if Mr. Barndt had installed the flag poles. Mr. Costello said that the recent weather conditions had hampered his ability to install them.

### **Old Business: Review and Approve the Bylaws**

The Park and Recreation Board reviewed the proposed bylaws with the new mission statement that the Park and Recreation Board created at the August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Workshop. Ms. Gural-Bear explained to the Park and Recreation Board that the bylaws have to be reviewed and approved by the Board of Supervisors with the new mission statement added. The Park and Recreation Board motioned to approve them as submitted.

### **New Business: Informational Article at Bark Park**

Ms. Berkey distributed an article to the Park and Recreation Board members about how to decode canine body language. Ms. Berkey asked if this article could be displayed at Bark Park for review by visitors.

### **New Business: Parks and Recreation Survey**

Ms. Gural-Bear explained that a bid for the recreation survey was mailed out to Lincoln Institute, Franklin Marshall, Tom Gailey, and one other organization. Ms. Gural-Bear said that the Township Staff met with Tom Gailey and he and the other companies are suggesting focus groups and a telephone survey. Ms. Gural-Bear said that the Township is considering both of these. Ms. Meade asked if an internet survey could also be considered and Ms. Gural-Bear said that it would be taken into consideration. Mr. Witmer asked if the Township residents will be advised that this will be occurring and Ms. Gural-Bear said "yes, the Township residents will be advised."

**New Business: Marketing Recreation Programs**

Ms. Meade asked if the March agenda could include discussing marketing tactics for the recreation programs. Chairman Maule approved this agenda addition.

**New Business: Umpire Clinic**

Mr. Weinstein said that he would be hosting an Umpire Clinic on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Montgomery Township Building.

**New Business: Park Board Applicants (Charnetski, Carey and McDonnell)**

Chairman Maule suggested that Mr. Charnetski be asked to host a bowling league and a tennis program for the Township residents.

Chairman Maule also suggested that Mr. Carey's name be given to MUSC as a candidate for a soccer coach.

Chairman Maule said that Mr. McDonnell should be referred to the Open Space Committee since his primary interest is conserving open space in the Township.

There being no further business, Chairman Maule adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

*The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 8p.m. at the Montgomery Township Building.*