

**Montgomery Township
Park & Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes for July 11, 2007**



The July Park & Recreation Board meeting was attended by Barry Weinstein, Larry Fiel, David Keightly, Leesa Meade, Keith Johnson, Heather Berkey, Kevin Costello (Public Works Director), Pam Gural – Bear (Assistant Township Manager) and Evelyn DiFeo (Recreation Coordinator).

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

At 8:15p.m., Vice Chairman Barry Weinstein called the meeting to order. Mr. Keightly motioned; Ms. Meade seconded the motion and the Minutes were approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Hartman Road Park

Tony Ruggieri, Vice President of Montgomery Township Baseball Softball Association, asked when the development of Hartman Road Park would begin. He said that one of the venue managers had spoken to the project manager for the David Cutler Group and he was told that they would not be building the park. Mr. Costello explained that the park will be built by the contractor, but it will be designed by Montgomery Township. The timing as to when the park will be built is up to the David Cutler Group, but they are building it. Mr. Ruggieri asked who would the MTBSA speak to at the David Cutler Group to confirm this. Mr. Costello explained that the Township would handle the communication with the David Cutler Group.

Whistlestop Park Project

Mr. Ruggieri asked when the Whistlestop Park project will begin. Mr. Costello explained that the project will not begin until 2008. Mr. Costello explained that it will cost \$100,000, but the project has not yet been approved by the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Costello explained that Mr. Cutler has 35,000 to 40,000 yards of top soil available for this project. Mr. Costello said that the Township Engineer, John Chambers, needs to calculate the amount of top soil needed. He continued to explain that the Township needs to find a location to store it until the time they plan to work on the project.

Mr. Ruggieri asked what fields will not be available for the 2008 season, since Rose Twig will also be worked on. Mr. Costello said that Rose Twig will not be available until the 2009 season. Whistlestop will be worked on in 2008 and will not be available until 2010. The estimate for the field at the Hartman Road Park is 2010. Mr. Ruggieri explained that the baseball association will need two 90' fields for the 2008 season. Mr. Ruggieri said that the association would like to have a 60' to 75' single baseball/softball field installed at the back section of Rose Twig instead of the 90' baseball field. He also said the association would like to move all the softball games to the Rose Twig section and the baseball games to the Windlestrae Park Main Section. Mr. Costello explained that the association needs to make a decision as to what size field they would like at Rose Twig and that the Township has spent a lot of money on the engineer to accommodate their previous request. Mr. Ruggieri asked if he could speak with the association and give Mr. Costello an answer regarding the field size in one week. Mr. Costello agreed.

MTBSA Fall Softball

Mr. Ruggieri said that parents at the Home Run Derby were asked if their children would be interested in participating in a fall softball league and that the response was quite positive. Mr. Ruggieri would like to work with the soccer association to schedule games for this new fall league, which, hopefully, will be held at the Rose Twig section of Windlestrae Park. Ms. Gural-Bear and Ms. DiFeo said they would check the field reservation schedule to see if they could accommodate MTBSA.

North Penn School District Fields

Mr. Ruggieri said the association will be asking the school district about “skinning” a field. Mr. Ruggieri explained that although the association built a skinned field at Montgomery Elementary School in 2006, they would like to skin Bridle Path Elementary or Knapp Elementary for children to play softball.

OLD BUSINESS

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Disc Golf

Mr. Costello said that a single bid was received for the Disc Golf, and that it was from Dr. John Deusler. The bid process was opened on Tuesday (July 10) and the bid will be awarded at the July 23 Board of Supervisors meeting. The next step is to notify the bidder of the award and collect the necessary paperwork (e.g., bonds, etc.) and then the work can be started. Mr. Costello said the Disc Golf course should be completed by the Autumn Festival in October.

Park and Recreation Survey

Ms. Gural-Bear explained that Franklin & Marshall (the company that is conducting the survey) are in the process of putting together a survey of questions. Ms. Gural-Bear explained that the Board of Supervisors would like to add figures to the questions regarding capital projects, such as a community center and a community pool. Franklin & Marshall and the Township are optimistic about getting the survey out by the end of August. Once the survey has been completed, Franklin and Marshall will tally the results and present them at a Board of Supervisors meeting.

REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

Stone Ridge Kiosk

Ms. Meade said she noticed that a kiosk was installed at the basin of the Stone Ridge Development. Ms. Gural-Bear explained that the kiosk was added by the Environmental Advisory Committee to explain the purpose of the basin and how it works.

Wasp Problem at Fellowship Park

Mr. Keightly mentioned that there is a possible wasp problem at Fellowship Park. Mr. Costello explained that the wasps are “killer” Cicada wasps.

Adding Trash Cans at Heavily Used Parks

The Park and Recreation Board members asked Mr. Costello if the Public Works Department could add trash cans to heavily used parks, such as Windlestrae Main Section and Spring Valley Parks. Mr. Costello said he would look into it. The Park and Recreation Board asked if the Township would consider adding recycling cans at the parks. Mr. Costello explained that they have tried to implement a recycling program at the parks, but they have been unsuccessful as people have used the recycle cans for trash rather than for recycling.

The Park and Recreation Board also asked Mr. Ruggieri to emphasize to the coaches that their teams need to clean up their trash when they have completed their game.

NEW BUSINESS**BARK PARK CELEBRATION**

The Park and Recreation Board congratulated Ms. Berkey for hosting a successful party for the Bark Park's Fifth Anniversary Celebration.

Mr. Weinstein updated the Park and Recreation Board on Chairman Bill Maule's progress.

There being no further business to discuss, Vice Chairman Mr. Weinstein adjourned the meeting at 9:50p.m.