

Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board

Minutes of Tuesday, April 26, 2011

A meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, April 26, 2011, at the Plymouth Township Community Center. Present were Board members Bill English, Kim Pennington, Karen Lorence, Pat Ianelli, Lynda Lawrence, Joe Stem, and Bridget Sudall; Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Phil Brady; Building and Grounds Director Rick Carbo; Council Liaison Maria Weidinger; and Board Secretary Rosemary Winterbottom.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Plymouth Soccer

Mr. Joe Hunter, President, was present to represent the Plymouth Soccer organization. It was stated that the group was comprised of approximately 1421 members. The base registration fee is \$85, with a \$175 registration fee for the travel program.

It was noted that the group lost many financial sponsors due to the economy, so expenses were cut. The group is again declining any financial contribution from Plymouth Township, and requests that those funds be given to another youth organization in need.

The impact of the loss of use of Victory #3 and #4 fields for practice in the Spring to the lacross organization (Conshohocken Bulldogs) was discussed. Phil Brady is setting up a meeting with Terry Yem from Colonial School District to discuss this situation

The Board thanked Mr. Hunter for his presentation. Board member Lynda Lawrence complimented Mr. Hunter and expressed her opinion that she considers Plymouth Soccer a role model for youth organizations.

Plymouth Junior ABA

Mr. Robert Himmelreich, President, was present to represent Plymouth Junior ABA. It was stated that the group was comprised of approximately 420 members. Boys and girls ages 4-13 make up the 41 teams sponsored by the organization.

It was also stated that the officers for the organization are elected by the Executive Council, and Mr. Himmelreich briefly explained the process.

It was stated that the group lost 12-15% of their financial sponsors last year. It was noted that late billing from the Colonial School District presents a problem.

Phil Brady noted that this topic will be discussed during the planned meeting with Terry Yem from Colonial School District.

The Board thanked Mr. Himmelreich for his presentation.

Plymouth Little League

Mr. Mike Remiszewski was present to represent Plymouth Little League (President Dana Young unable to attend). Mr. Remiszewski coordinates the Junior and Senior levels (ages 13-16 year olds) of teams. A brief update on the organization was given.

In response to a question from the Board, it was stated that there are occasional problems with adult behavior at the games. Mr. Remiszewski reported that work had been done by the organization on Field #4 last year; however, the results of this work were not as expected and drainage problems still exist.

Sponsorships for the organization have increased, and the organization has an individual who is dedicated to this effort.

The Board thanked Mr. Remiszewski for his presentation.

PW Spartans

Mr. Mark Wakefield, Athletic Director, was present to represent the PW Spartans Football and Cheerleading organization. Mr. Wakefield stated that registration numbers have been good, although there have not been enough players to field a 105 lb. team for the past two years.

The finances for the organization are good, due to cutting back on expenses over the past two years. The selling of Football Mania tickets is the biggest fundraiser for the group. The cost of helmets (which can be used a maximum of 10 years) remains a large expense.

The topic of problems with adult/spectator behavior was also discussed.

The Board thanked Mr. Wakefield for his presentation.

1. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2011, meeting was made by Kim Pennington. This motion was seconded by Lynda Lawrence and unanimously approved.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

No guests or visitors were present during the meeting.

3. DISCUSSION OF PACKET MATERIALS

The monthly report for March-2011 was presented and reviewed by the Board.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. General Department

1. Sewer Bills – Follow Up

Board members acknowledged receiving the Plymouth Community Center flyers in their recent sewer bills.

B. Community Center/Community Center Park

1. UV System Grant and Bid

Rick Carbo reported that bids are due on April 27 at 10 AM.

2. GPCC 11 -- Report

Phil Brady presented the financial report from the Greater Plymouth Community Center 11 celebration held on April 9, 2011. Photos were shown from this event as well as the Mid-County Basketball Clinic (held during Spring break) and Family Zumba Day.

C. Parks Maintenance/Parks Issues

1. JFK – Solar Lights and Signs

Rick Carbo reported that the solar lights are expected in by May 20. The holders for the signage are expected in by next week.

2. PECO Green Region Grant -- EPV

Rick reported that this grant is currently under review. This grant will be utilized for aeration of the ground at East Plymouth Valley Park.

D. Wetherill Park

1. Interpretive Signage Awarded – Grant

Rick Carbo reported that this grant was awarded. The artwork is now in the approval process.

2. Philadelphia Zoo Grant Program – Under Review

Phil reported that this grant is expected to be awarded in May-2011. This grant will be used for a map of Harriet Wetherill Park to be used by visitors.

E. Programming

1. Spring and Summer Programming/LV

Phil Brady reported that the latest Leisure Visions is now out, and is a Spring and Summer combined issue.

2. Performance Sponsorships/Postcards/Schedule

Phil reported that the postcards listing the performances are just about ready to be mailed out. Sponsorships have been obtained for almost all performances.

3. PTD – Planning/Sponsorships

Planning is proceeding for Plymouth Township Day, scheduled for June 4, 2011. Phil Brady distributed a sheet for Board members to note their size for tee shirts.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Council Liaison Report

Maria Weidinger reported that the huge LED billboards proposed for the Blue Route are being opposed. Maria also reported on progress of PA Turnpike construction as well as planned parking in connection with the Lafayette Connector project.

Maria noted that the July 4 Parade will remain on Jolly Road for this year. The Board's recommendation for the location of a proposed Veterans Memorial were given to Council for their consideration. Additionally, the Board's recommendation to not provide funding for Conshohocken Little League was also given to Council.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

There were no items to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion for adjournment was made by Lynda Lawrence and seconded by Kim Pennington.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, May 24, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Winterbottom

Rosemary Winterbottom, Secretary