

## Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board

### Minutes of Tuesday, February 28, 2012

A meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at the Plymouth Township Community Center. Present were Board members Bill English, Kim Pennington, Joe Stem, Bridget Sudall, Karen Lorence, and Lynda Lawrence; Parks and Recreation Director Karen Franck; Council Liaison Maria Weidinger; and Board Secretary Rosemary Winterbottom. Board member Pat Ianelli was not in attendance.

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

#### 1. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2012

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2012, meeting was made by Kim Pennington. This motion was seconded by Karen Lorence and unanimously approved.

#### 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

There were no guests or visitors present.

#### 3. DISCUSSION OF PACKET MATERIALS

The monthly report for January-2012 was reviewed. Karen Franck noted that the number of Silver Sneakers visits during the month were the highest ever, which she attributed to additional insurance plans now eligible for the program.

Photos were shown to the Board from a recent wheelchair basketball game that was held at the Community Center, Float Night, and the Jump Start Pre-School Program.

#### 4. OLD BUSINESS

##### A. General Department

##### 1. Goals and Accomplishments

The written report of 2011 Goals and Accomplishments which had been provided to the Board Members was reviewed by Karen Franck. Karen noted that GPCC 11 went as well as GPCC 10, and this birthday observance will now be a yearly event. Karen also noted that Pavillion rentals increased approximately 27%. Karen expects that overall cost recovery should be

the same as 2010.

Goals for 2012 include Harriet Wetherill Park and the Fitness Center expansion.

B. Community Center/CC Park

1. Fitness Expansion

Karen Franck reported that the bids are due on March 1, 2012.  
Karen explained that the work must be completed by June 22, 2012.

2. Aerobics Survey

An aerobics survey had been sent out. A large number of the responses received requested that some free classes be included as part of the yearly membership fee.

3. Student Rate Promotion

A summer promotion rate (May 1 through August 31) for college students was approved by Council. The \$99 fee for three consecutive months includes the use of the pool.

4. NCAA Field Fee Increase

A rate sheet showing new rates approved by Council for the GPCC Baseball Field was distributed to the Board members.  
Karen Franck noted that rates had not been increased since 2003.

C. Parks Maintenance/Parks Issues

1. PECO Green Region Grant – EPV

Rick Carbo is ready to order and install the ultrasonic unit for the pond at East Plymouth Valley Park. Benches and trash containers will also be placed along the pond, as well as three panel signs which will describe the pond. Completion of this project is expected by mid-April.

2. EPV – Paving and Practice Field Improvements

Paving of the main parking lot at East Plymouth Valley Park will be done as part of the Capital Improvement Plan in 2012. The football organization will be involved in improvements to be done on the practice field.

#### D. Wetherill Park

##### 1. Conservation and Management Study

- a. RFP, Proposal – Consultant Recommendation
- b. Timeline, Process, and Study Committee

Bill English, who had participated in the selection committee for the consultant, explained the selection process to the Board. Bill reported that Land *Concepts* Group has been selected to complete the Harriet Wetherill Park Conservation and Management Plan.

Karen Franck stated that an official go-ahead letter will need to be received from DCNR. Karen expects that the project would probably begin in April-2012 and run through March-2013.

Lynda Lawrence offered to be the Board's representative for the Study Committee.

##### 2. HWP Programming

- a. Summer Camps

The Summer Camp Brochure is now out. The Schuylkill Environmental Center will conduct some environmental classes.

#### E. Programming

##### 1. General Programming Direction/Sponsorships

Camp registration has begun. Summer performances are all scheduled. Karen Franck reminded the Board that Plymouth Township Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 2, 2012.

##### 2. Partnership Programs: Prince of Peace and Kencrest/Greater Bridgeport Elks

Karen Franck reported that meetings have been held concerning the partnership with Prince of Peace and Kencrest involving a program for children with autism. Activities for children will be planned, and speakers will be scheduled to discuss helping parents with autistic children. The first speaker is scheduled for March.

The Bridgeport Elks partnership will involve the Elks providing prizes, volunteers, etc., for the Fishing Derby to be held in April.



3. Float Night

Karen Franck reported that Float Night was very successful, and that the event was sold out.

4. Summer "Extras"

Karen Franck explained that two "extra" one-week camps (a one-week camp right before the regular camp session, and a one-week camp immediately following the regular camp session) have been added for this Summer. Karen reported that some children have already been registered for these one-week camps.

5. GPCC 12 – 3/24/12

Karen noted that GPCC 12 is scheduled for March 24, 2012. The same 10% discount on passes will again be offered for signups on that date.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Council Liaison Report – Maria Weidinger

Marin Weidinger reported that topics discussed during the recent Plymouth Township Council meeting included zoning for a Sleep Lab, a citizen board vacancy dealing with the census, and a digital sign at Plymouth Square Shopping Center. Maria noted that three new police vehicles and a leaf claw/plow machine had been purchased.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

In response to a question from Lynda Lawrence concerning the Massage Therapy Program, Karen Franck explained that interviewing is being conducted for a new massage therapist to replace the therapist who left.

Joe Stem requested that the solar power light at JFK Park remain on after 1 AM due to recent incidents of trash being left at the field.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion for adjournment was made by Bridget Sudall. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27 , 2012.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Rosemary Winterbottom*  
Rosemary Winterbottom, Secretary