

Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board

Minutes of Tuesday, October 28, 2014

A meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, October 28, 2014, at the Plymouth Township Community Center. Present were members Bill English, Kim Pennington, Lynda Lawrence, Barbara Thompson, Pat Ianelli, Bridget Sudall, and Joe Stem; Parks and Recreation Director Karen Franck; Council Member Dean Eisenberger; and Board Secretary Rosemary Winterbottom.

Chairman Bill English called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2014, meeting was made by Pat Ianelli. This motion was seconded by Kim Pennington 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 Septembert-2014 was reviewed. Karen Franck noted that generally all programs are doing well. Silver Sneakers attendance is up. Fitness Center attendance goes up and down.

Karen showed the Board members pictures from Pool O Ween and pumpkin carving, after school activities, car show at Montgomery County Technical School, pre-school Halloween activity, and the hayrides at Harriet Wetherill Park.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. General Department

1. Park Partner Recognition

Karen Franck reported that 15-20 park partners were recognized at the last Plymouth Township Council meeting. Park partners sponsor movies or concerts, contribute to Plymouth Township Day, or volunteer for programs.

B. Community Center/CC Park

1. Promotions – November, December

Karen Franck reported that the promotion for November is 10% off the membership fee when signed-up or renewed on November 15, 2014. Karen noted that this promotion has been very popular in the past. A gift certificate promotion will be offered in December.

2. Pool Pak Installation -- Update

Karen reported that the old pool paks have been removed from the roof and both new units have been installed on the roof. Some minor adjustments still need to be done on the second unit.

3. Silver and Fit

Karen stated that registration for Silver and Fit has been better than expected at this point in time.

4. Foul Ball Netting Fall Installation

Karen reported that Plymouth Township Council has approved funding for the netting at both the baseball field and soccer field. It is expected that the netting will be installed this Fall.

5. Small Group Training Focus -- Room Changes

Karen reported that small group training classes are going well. Some classes even have a waiting list. The current active zone will be moving to a different location. A "\$5 week offer" to try out classes is planned to be offered in January.

C. Parks Maintenance/Parks Issues

1. JFK Park Fence and Netting

Karen Franck reported that the fencing has been installed at JFK Park. The netting for this project has not been received yet. Joe Stem stated that he felt that the fencing at the park is working well.

2. Field 1 Fencing Bid Installation

Karen Franck reported that Plymouth Council has approved funding for the fencing on Field 1 at East Plymouth Valley Park. It is expected that the fencing will be installed in the Fall.

3. Black Horse Park Donation

A \$5,000 donation has been received from Bimbo Bakeries to be used at Black Horse Park. This donation will be used for a back stop and players' benches. This donation was part of a Bimbo Bakeries neighborhood improvement project.

D. Wetherill Park

1. Active Grants Submissions: Penn Dot, CFA
2. Current Grant Bid

Karen reported that the grant submission to Penn Dot is not expected to be awarded until December.

Karen also reported that the CFA grant (the second grant) was not received.

3. DCNR Grant Items

Karen noted that the \$250,000 DCNR grant (with \$250,000 township match) will be used for the pavilion, playground, and basic meeting room.

4. PECO Grant Opportunity

Karen reported that a submittal has been made for the PECO grant "bonus round". Karen noted that only one award is granted per county. If received, this grant would be used for youth-oriented signage.

E. Programming

1. Winter Focus

Karen noted that swim lessons have been changed. The focus will now be on upcoming promotions, Silver and Fit registrations, and small group training sessions. Poolar Plunge is a new event, and will be held on November 8.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Council Liaison Report – Dean Eisenberger

Council Member Dean Eisenberger reported on the following topics:

- Council is currently in budget sessions. Council does not want to increase property taxes, which have remained the same for many years. Council is working to address an expected deficit for next year.
- Council would like to obtain some grant money for the Cross County Trail.
- A public storage facility is proposed for Chemical Road (the area behind Ridge Park School).

6. MISCELLANEOUS

Barbara Thompson asked if there are any current plans for Bicentennial Park. Barbara noted that there is a large evergreen tree that needs attention and the bridge needs some repair. Karen Franck will visit the park.

Bridget Sudall asked if a display case could be installed near playgrounds to hold flyers on current programs. Karen will check on this.

In response to a question from Bill English, Karen Frank stated that there were no issues during Spartan football season this Fall.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion for adjournment was made by Kim Pennington and seconded by Joe Stem.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, November 25, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,
Rosemary Winterbottom
Rosemary Winterbottom, Secretary