

C: COUNCIL
2-014

Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board

Minutes of Tuesday, January 27, 2015

A meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at the Plymouth Township Community Center. Present were Board members Bill English, Kim Pennington, Pat Ianelli, Joe Stern, Barbara Thompson, and newly-appointed member Neil Clark; Parks and Recreation Director Karen Franck; 2015 Council Liaison Dean Eisenberger; and Board Secretary Rosemary Winterbottom. Newly-appointed Board member Patty Trask was not in attendance.

Bill English introduced newly-appointed Board member Neil Clark to the Board members.

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Kim Pennington nominated Bill English for the position of Chairman-Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board. This nomination was seconded by Barbara Thompson. There were no further nominations for this position. The Board vote was unanimous in favor of this nomination and Bill English was elected to the position of Chairman-Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board for 2015.

Kim Pennington nominated Pat Ianelli for the position of Vice Chairman-Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board. This nomination was seconded by Bill English. There were no further nominations for this position. The Board vote was unanimous in favor of this nomination and Pat Ianelli accepted the position of Vice Chairman-Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board for 2015.

1. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2014

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2014, meeting was made by Kim Pennington. This motion was seconded by Pat Ianelli and unanimously approved.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

There were no guests or visitors present.

3. DISCUSSION OF PACKET MATERIALS

The monthly reports for November-2014 and December-2014 were reviewed.

Karen Franck noted that pass sales are increasing, and she believes that recent promotions have contributed to this increase. Some aquatic programs are still down in attendance; changes to the aquatics programs are being made.

When questioned by Bill English about any up-coming trips, Karen reported that there are not as many trips being planned as in previous years. Karen also stated that the Fitness Center improvements have helped programs, when questioned on this by Dean Eisenberger.

Karen showed the Board pictures from the Martin Luther King Day of Service event (sewing pillowcases), Super Hero Day, small group suspension training, Swim and Give, the after school program, gingerbread house construction, and Breakfast with Santa.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. General Department

1. Sidewalk Grant

Karen Franck reported that a grant was received for construction of additional sidewalks adjacent to the Community Center. Karen is still waiting to receive the official contract. This will be a three-year grant.

2. Township Building Access

Karen reported that a redesign of access and entry to the Plymouth Township Building is being done to improve safety and security. Plymouth Council has decided that youth groups will no longer have access to the basement for storage after 2015. Karen will be sending letters to each youth organization advising them of this new policy, and will try to work with each organization to assist them if possible.

3. Goals and Accomplishments

Each Board member was provided with the 2014-2015 Goals and Accomplishments. Karen Franck provided a brief summary of the report.

B. Community Center/CC Park

1. Promotions – 2015

A list of promotions planned for each month of 2015 was provided to the Board members.

2. Coordination of Silver Sneakers/Silver and Fit

Karen Franck reported that the contracts for both Silver Sneakers and Silver and Fit have been signed.

3. Small Group Training Classes

Karen reported that the small group training classes have been going very well.

4. Capital Projects

A list of 2015 Capital Improvement Projects was provided to the Board members. Park projects include East Plymouth Valley Park bathroom renovations; multi-purpose court and playground renovations at JFK and Colwell Parks; grant matches for Harriet Wetherill Park and sidewalk adjacent to the Community Center; and tractor and gator purchase.

Community Center projects include lobby lights carry over; roof top units; pool lighting; rental rooms tile replacement; and outside lighting under arch.

C. Parks Maintenance/Parks Issues

1. Black Horse Park Donation

Karen reported that installation of the new backstop and benches at Black Horse Park funded by a donation from Bimbo Bakeries is complete.

D. Wetherill Park

1. CFA Act 213 Grant

Karen Franck reported that this project for a new entranceway onto Butler Pike and new trails is currently out for bid. Karen expects that the work will be done in the Spring, as the project must be completed by June 30, 2015.

2. DCNR Grant

Karen reported that this \$256,000 grant will be used for a nature-themed playground, pavilion, and outdoor bathrooms. Karen is waiting for receipt of the official contract. The township will provide a matching \$256,000.

E. Programming

1. Bob Bigelow – March 5, 2015

Karen Franck has sent a letter to all youth organizations asking for representatives and at least one board member from their organization to attend a Youth Sports Seminar on March 5, 2015. The speaker at this seminar will be Bob Bigelow, a former NBA player and noted author, who provides new approaches for positive change in youth sports.

2. Camp Registrations

Karen reported that the beginning of camp registrations will begin next week. Day camp registrations are first, followed by registrations for other camps. There will also be registration for one-week camps.

3. Summer Swim Sessions

Summer swim sessions will include the regular five-week sessions as well as some one-week sessions. It is hoped that these options will help improve attendance in these programs.

5. NEW BUSINESS

No items were discussed.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

Council Liaison Dean Eisenberger updated the Board members on the following items:

- The Cross County Trail Feasibility Study has been completed,
- A public meeting will be held on the Cross County Trail,
- A public meeting will be held on Long Term Sustainability for Businesses,
- The trash-to-steam plant was sold on 1/1/15,
- Bimbo Bakeries will be ending production on 3/31/15 (loss of 150 jobs),
- Lafayette Street Extension project,

- Necessity of the new fire tax, and
- Development of the former Houlihan's location.

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, February 24, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Rosemary Winterbottom
Rosemary Winterbottom, Secretary