

Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board

Minutes of Tuesday, April 26, 2016

A meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, April 26, 2016, at the Plymouth Township Community Center. Present were Board members Barbara Thompson, Pat Iannelli, Jason Sugalski, Neil Clark and Patty Trask; Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Phil Brady; and Board Secretary Rosemary Winterbottom. Board Members Kim Pennington and Jennifer Dow were not in attendance.

Board Vice-Chairman Barbara Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PW ICE HOCKEY

Mr. Ron Keller was present to represent the PW Ice Hockey organization. Mr. Keller stated he serves as Treasurer for the organization and has been involved with the group as a parent for the past seven years.

Mr. Keller stated there were 48 participants in the program last year, which included two middle school age teams and one high school age team. All teams had a very successful season. Mr. Keller stated the fee to play with the organization was \$925 last year. He is targeting to be able to reduce that fee to \$800, but it is hard to estimate expenses because of rink fees and the number of future participants. It is anticipated to have fund-raisers as well to defray expenses.

Mr. Keller explained the club's by-laws which address the voting for board members of the organization. There is currently an interim board. Mr. Keller was hoping for support in an effort to change the current by-laws, but Phil Brady noted any support would be hard to administer. Member Jason Sugalski suggested that when a new board is voted in, that they be asked to incorporate changes to the by-laws.

Mr. Keller thanked the township for their support of the organization over the past years.

The Board thanked Mr. Keller for his presentation.

PLYMOUTH JUNIOR ABA

Mr. Bob Himmelreich was present to represent Plymouth Junior ABA. Mr. Himmelreich noted it was the organization's 61st consecutive year serving youth.

Mr. Himmelreich stated there were 479 participants in the program this past

year, ages from 5 years old to 16 years old. The 16 year old program has proved to be very successful. There were 37 inter-mural teams this past year. Almost all teams had two coaches (all volunteers). The referees are also all volunteers.

The organization had to move their equipment from the Plymouth Township Building into an equipment shed that was provided by the township. Mr. Himmelreich expressed much gratitude to Plymouth Township for providing the shed. The organization installed shelving in the shed, at a cost of approximately \$2,000.

Mr. Himmelreich anticipates another large registration for the upcoming year, which will present a problem in finding additional gym time. Mr. Himmelrich stated that the cost of gym times are high, but Phil Brady noted that the gym fees had been re-negotiated a few years ago and have remained stable.

Mr. Himmelreich expressed his appreciation for the support from the township over these many years.

The Board thanked Mr. Himmelreich for his presentation.

GREATER NORRISTOWN WRESTLING CLUB

Jason Sugalski was present to represent Greater Norristown Wrestling Club.

Mr. Sugalski reported that participation in the organization increased to 84 participants last year, up from 39 participants the previous year. This increase was attributed to the fact that some neighboring communities (East Norriton, Roxborough and Springfield) no longer sponsor wrestling organizations. In response to a question from the Board, Mr. Sugalski stated that the increase was most noted in the 5, 6, and 7 year old age group. Additionally, the number of coaches needed was 12 coaches, up from four coaches the prior year.

It was noted that a name change for the organization is being considered for the future.

Mr. Sugalski stated that the equipment shed provided by the township has worked out very well. It was also noted that Shawn Mazei has provided much help with scheduling school gyms for the organization.

Mr. Sugalski thanked the Board for their support.

The Board thanked Mr. Sugalski for his presentation.

1. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2016

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2016, meeting was made by Pat Iannelli. This motion was seconded by Patty Trask 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 March-2016 was reviewed. Phil Brady stated that the sale of passes is going well.

Phil Brady showed the Board photos from the Fishing Derby, walking club (meets second Tuesday at 10 AM from April to October), Earth Day events at Harriet Wetherill Park, and the Easter Eggstravaganza in the pool.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. General Department

1. PECO Grant Progress

Phil Brady stated that Karen Franck has a meeting on this tomorrow. This grant is for the proposed bike spur as part of the cross-county trail through Plymouth Township.

2. Plymouth Township Day – June 4, 2016

Plymouth Township Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 4, 2016. Phil Brady distributed a sign-in sheet for Board members to volunteer to work the event. Phil noted it is the 25th Anniversary of Plymouth Township Day. There will be some new food trucks this year. All rides will be on Field #4.

3. DCNR Grant Submission

Phil Brady reported that a grant was submitted to update the

Open Space Plan. This will highlight trails, sidewalks, and walk/bike ability within Plymouth Township.

B. Community Center/CC Park

1. Gym and Atrium Lighting

Phil stated that the atrium lighting has been completed. A cost savings in electricity has already been noticed.

Rick Carbo expects to have the gym lighting done in the Fall.

C. Parks Maintenance/Parks Issues

1. GPCC Fields

Phil Brady reported that Rick Carbo has proposed a synthetic surface for the soccer field. Depending on cost and approval, this would be done in conjunction with a synthetic surface being installed at the baseball field used by Villanova.

D. Wetherill Park

1. DCNR Grant Bids/State Contract

Phil Brady reported that a bid was submitted for installation of the playground equipment and pavilion. The actual playground equipment will be obtained through a state contract. It is hoped that this project can be completed by late Fall.

2. Act 13 Grant

Phil reported that there is still no word on this grant award.

E. Programming

1. Summer Camp Registration

Phil Brady reported that summer camp registration is going well. Most camps are almost full; there are only a few open weeks remaining.

2. Summer Special Events

The summer special events will include four movies and three

concerts. The series begins on June 22 and runs until August 3.

5. NEW BUSINESS

No items were discussed.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

No items were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion for adjournment was made by Neil Clark and seconded by Patty Trask. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, May 24, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Winterbottom

Rosemary Winterbottom, Secretary