

**Springettsbury Township
Parks & Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
21 March 2011
6:00 PM**

In Attendance

Board Members: Sherry Nichols – Chair
Steve Wolf – Vice Chair
David Seiler
John Kerchner

Staff: David Wendel, Parks and Recreation Director

Other: Amanda Witman, York County Convention & Visitors Bureau

1. Call To Order:

Nichols Ms. Nichols called the meeting to order at 6 pm. She welcomed the Board and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wendel Mr. Wendel reported that he received Kevin Youcheff's resignation from the Parks and Recreation Board on March 19. After serving nearly 3 years as a member of the Board, Mr. Youcheff cited family and professional commitments for his reasons for not being able to continue to serve.

2. Action on Minutes: (21 February 2011)

Mr. Seiler moved to accept the 21 February 2011 meeting minutes. Mr. Kerchner was second. Motion unanimously carried.

3. Communication from Citizens:

Wendel Mr. Wendel reported that he received a couple of calls regarding use of the inline hockey rink. The callers reported that a group has been using the rink for Bike Polo on Wednesday nights. This group supposedly has been telling the hockey users they cannot use the rink because they have it reserved on Wednesday nights. Mr. Wendel indicated that no group currently has the rink reserved, therefore, it is open for public use on a first come, first served basis. However, he is concerned about the potential damage to the surface of the rink. Although after doing some research it appears the mallets used to hit the ball may not damage the surface, the concern is more with the tire marks left on the surface as a result of constant braking. With the Township scheduled to make a \$10,000+ investment this year to resurface and repaint the rink, it would be in our best interest as we attempt to preserve and maintain these facilities to limit such activity. In my opinion, the bottom line is the rink should be used for its intended purpose and design, hockey, rather than for other sports that prevent the intended users from playing.

Mr. Wendel will visit the rink and attempt to observe this activity to determine its impact on the facility and its users. He will report back to the Board with his findings.

4. Communication from Board Members:

Seiler Mr. Seiler observed rugby being played at Camp Security Park (east side of stream.) He questioned whether this group had participated in the facility allocation process to reserve the field.

Wendel Mr. Wendel reported that the field in question had not been reserved by anyone at the February (spring/summer sports season) facility allocation meeting. He indicated that the field has been used for youth rugby several years ago until the organization disbanded but no formalized activity has been scheduled on the field since that time. Mr. Wendel indicated he would visit the site on the day and time in which the activity was observed to determine if it's of a casual nature or if it's something formalized.

5. Director's Report:

Wendel Mr. Wendel reported on the following matters:

- **Partnership Development:** We are currently on pace to meet or exceed last year's partnership total for Sounds of Summer. We applied for a grant totaling \$5,000 from the Dawn Foods Foundation. We hope to receive a response by the end of April or early May. Partnership development for Saturday in the Park will commence in late May. The Partnership Packet for Saturday in the Park will be distributed at our April Board meeting.
- **Park Improvements:** The Getaway Playground will be closed for public use from Monday, April 4 to Friday, April 15 for annual maintenance. The maintenance will include power washing and sealing the structure and adding wood fiber surfacing material. An inspection and completion of minor repairs will be done prior to sealing. Since significant work has been done over the past two years to preserve the structure and improve safety, minor repairs due to general wear and tear should be all that's needed at this time.
- **Facility Use:** Our facility allocation meeting for the spring/summer sports season was held in February. 5 of our 10 parks will be used by 10 different sports organizations to hold soccer, lacrosse, baseball, softball, tennis, basketball and flag football programs. The 10 organizations will serve over 2,000 youth and adults in our parks. With the additional fields made available at Penn Oaks Park 2 years ago, we have been able to discontinue, based on the recommendations of our Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan, formalized sports at Stonewood Park, Kingston Park and Augustus Schaefer Park. As a result, resident concerns regarding noise and increased traffic and safety issues have been minimized.

6. Old Business: None Reported

7. New Business:

Wendel

York County Convention & Visitors Bureau:

Amanda Witman from the York County Convention & Visitors Bureau provided an overview on the operation and function of their organization. She provided a listing of some of the major events scheduled to be held in York County this year. The visitors guide and calendar she shared sparked some interest by the Board in relation to our events such as Sounds of Sumer and Saturday in the Park.

Wolf

Mr. Wolf inquired how we can list our events in their guide, calendar and web site.

Witman

Ms. Witman indicated that in order to list your events in the York County Convention & Visitors Bureau (YCCVB) publication as well as their web site and calendar, you must become a member. The membership fee is \$140.

Wendel

The Board agreed that this may be something we want to consider since we hold two (2) significant events that could benefit from County wide promotion. And, the nominal fee makes it a cost effective method to promoting our events. The membership information will be reviewed with further discussion at our April meeting.

Wendel

Meeting Schedule:

The Board was given the option of conducting our annual park tour on Monday, August 1 or Tuesday, August 2. The Board agreed to schedule the park tour on August 2. We will depart from the Township Offices at 5:30 pm. In addition to touring the parks, the Board will have an opportunity to observe Summer Playground activities.

Nichols

Natural Playgrounds:

Ms. Nichols presented information on how to design, build and sustain Natural Playgrounds. A natural playground is a unique design that combines landscape elements with natural materials, structures, and features to create safe, accessible, age-appropriate play, and learning opportunities in natural play areas. Natural playgrounds look like miniature natural landscapes full of intriguing play and learning opportunities for children of all ages. This type of playground may fit well with the natural environment of Pleasureville Park or the undeveloped North Hills site for example. Ms. Nichols also shared information on concrete ping pong tables that may be appropriate for an area, if developed, for passive forms of recreation such as Bocce and horse shoe pits. Ms. Nichols requested the Board to view the Web site and revisit the matter at our next meeting.

8. Announcements: Next meeting Monday, April 18, 2011 at 6 pm

9. Adjournment: Ms. Nichols adjourned the meeting at 7:43 pm.