

## Recreation Board Minutes

January 28th, 2019 6:00pm

Rec Board: Sherry Nichols, Sean Georgi, Nancy McDowell

Director: Colin Lacey

Colin began the meeting by welcoming the attending board members and calling order to the meeting. The first item of discussion was communication from community, Peter Mudge of Boy Scout Troop 54 was in attendance to present to the Rec Board his "Little Library" proposal for Springettsbury Township Park. Peter constructed a slideshow to highlight the proposed project. He recommended that he would establish the free library at one of the entrances to the new playground "Springetts Castle Park" or within the center bench area of the playground. The library would be secured into the ground with a metal pole and a cabinet attached to store the books. Sherry shared her thoughts in support of the idea, along with Nancy. Location was suggested by the board, making sure that the best location is selected. The Rec Board approves the idea. Colin recommended to Peter to further spec out the final plan for the Board of Supervisors presentation, and to also have several design options for the Board to select from. Peter agreed with the suggestions and would like to have his "Little Library" proposal on the Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors agenda.

The next agenda item addressed was Ordinance S.289-49.M and whether to update the ordinance to accommodate the Recreation Districts that have reached max capacity in land development and potentially will no longer receive allocated funds from the developers. The ordinance currently states:

- The Recreation Planning Districts indicate the allocation of all funds gained through recreation fees from new development. 60% of the funds must be spent on park improvements in the district of the development. The remaining 40% is spent on parks in District 5 which are two central parks of the Township. (Springettsbury Township Park & North Hills Park). The funds may be moved to another district should the Board of Supervisors determine it is in the Township's best interest.

After several points of discussion from the Rec Board, they unanimously agreed to keep the ordinance the same, as the Board of Supervisors have the authority to allocate the rec planning fees as they see reasonable with a vote to override the ordinance.

The Summer Park Program registration fee was the next item of discussion. The Board referenced the information that was reviewed during the Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> BOS work session, as the Board of Supervisors offered opinions in support of a fee increase to help with the upkeep of the program. The Rec Board was in support of a fee increase as well, with Sherry, Sean and Nancy stating that a \$30 Resident Fee and a \$60 Non-Resident fee would be appropriate and justifiable. Colin stated that the total cost value each registrant is roughly \$125 for the 8 week

program. The program's current total expense is \$90,000.00 with a majority of funds going to employment and materials. The program has a revenue of \$17,300.00. With the proposed fee increase, the total revenue would potentially increase to \$25,800.00, given past trends of enrollment. Having the additional revenue would allow for an hourly rate increase for the Park Directors, who currently receive \$9.00 an hour. The Board discussed the current employee retention and if the hourly wage is enough or competitive. Colin informed the Rec Board that the program was slightly understaffed last year, due to the individuals he looked to hire turned down the position for higher paying jobs, even if this position pertained to their field of study. The Rec Board stated their support for the potential of a higher hourly wage for staff, Nancy also stating it is important to recognize the quality of staff that the program has historically employed. Colin informed the Rec Board that he will construct a memo to the Board of Supervisors for the Fe. 14<sup>th</sup> BOS meeting to have the recommendation reviewed.

Augustus Schaefer Park was the next item on the agenda, which the Rec Board started by reviewing the discussion that occurred at the Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> BOS work session and the public comment that was received. The Rec Board agrees that a touch up is needed at this location and has gone overlooked for years due to costly improvements towards ADA compliance. The Rec Board would like to see an updated Cost Option Plan for the park done by YSM, then upon receiving this updated document with accurate 2019 pricing the Rec Board will narrow the scope of work that is appropriate for this site. Colin informed the board that he will have Ann Yost of YSM construct an updated Cost Option Plan for Augustus Schaefer Park. Colin also stated that with a Cost Option Plan and updated Site Sketch will aide in the movement forward for applying for a DCNR Grant. This discussion also led to the Rec Board suggested that the department constructs a Parks Priority list that evaluates which parks need improving in a prioritized order. Colin agreed to this concept and confirmed it would be a positive document to reference in moving forward in a strategic manner.

The last item addressed was the 2019 Food Truck Friday's schedule at Springettsbury Township Park, which will be held May 3<sup>rd</sup> to August 30<sup>th</sup>.

With no further comments the meeting was adjourned, and the next meeting being held Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6:00pm.