

**Springettsbury Township  
Parks & Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes  
19 September 2011  
6:00 PM**

**In Attendance**

Board Members:

Sherry Nichols – Chair  
Steve Wolf – Vice Chair  
David Seiler  
Steve Bartkowski  
Sid Martin

Staff:

David Wendel, Director of Parks & Recreation

**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.

**2. Action on Minutes: (20 June 2011)**

Mr. Wolf moved to accept the 20 June 2011 meeting minutes. Mr. Seiler was second. Motion unanimously carried.

**3. Communication from Citizens:**

**Seiler**

Mr. Seiler thought it was important to share and note that when conversing with a Springettsbury Township Police Officer and a waitress at a local restaurant, they both had very positive comments about the programs and services provided by the Parks and Recreation Department. He believes it's important to note when residents or even other Township staff/officials talk favorably about the Parks and Recreation Department.

**4. Communication from Board Members:**

**Seiler**

Mr. Seiler shared his observations from a performance he attended this summer at the Springettsbury Park Amphitheater. He was impressed with the capacity crowd, particularly on a Wednesday evening. The crowd seemed to enjoy the act based on all the dancing that took place. Mr. Seiler also commented on how all the facilities in the park seemed to be in use.

**Wendel**

Mr. Wendel commented that the activity Mr. Seiler observed in the park is typical during the summer months. Casual users combined with more formalized use keeps all of our facilities active, particularly during the summer season.

**Wolf**

Mr. Wolf reported that he and his wife volunteered for Saturday in the Park. When he reviewed the list of volunteers he was surprised by the lack of support from the Parks and Recreation Board. Only he and Sherry Nichols were scheduled to volunteer from the Board. He believes the

Board needs to commit to this event by volunteering and supporting the Parks and Recreation Department.

## 5. Director's Report:

### Wendel

Mr. Wendel reported on the following matters:

- **Summer Playground:** There was a total of 1000 youth registered at 9 park locations throughout the Township. Springettsbury Township Park lead with 156 registered followed by Kingston (153), Stonewood (142), Springetts Oaks (122), Fayfield (99), Rockburn (93), Penn Oaks (92), Stony Brook Elementary (79), and Pleasureville Park (64). Over 400 youth could be found on our parks on a daily basis. Overall, the program was very successful. We had some growth in neighborhoods that are starting to see a change from empty nesters to larger families. Conversely, we saw a decrease in registration in some neighborhoods where there was a lack of younger children to replace those who are no longer of park age. This is a pattern we often see but was more apparent at parks like Kingston and Stonewood this year.

Our partnership with The Art Institute of York expanded through the use of their gallery to hold an Arts & Crafts exhibit to recognize the winners of the York Galleria Mall show. The exhibit included light refreshments and a video. The children received invitations to attend the exhibit. It was a very special evening for our kids and their parents.

- **Sounds of Summer:** The concert season started on Sunday, June 12 with the Irish rock band Blackthorn and concluded on August 6 with Beatlemania Now. Capacity crowds filled the amphitheater all summer totaling over 30,000. Our partnerships with YTI and The Art Institute of York added for the first time (2) Saturday afternoon events: "The Battle of the Bands" and "Rock the Canvas". We hope to continue these partnerships next year. In terms of partnership development and cost recovery, we had a total of 37 partners, applied for and received (2) grants, and, including concession commissions and donations, our cost recovery efforts yielded \$48,200.
- **Saturday in the Park:** The event is scheduled on Saturday, September 24. The Board was encouraged to attend so they can see first-hand the various activities and the public's response to the event.
- **2012 Budget:** Each Department was instructed to hold the line on spending. Although our 2012 proposed budget resembles our current budget, it should not compromise the level of services we currently provide to the residents of Springettsbury Township. Budget meetings with the Board of Supervisors will be scheduled to review and discuss our proposed budget in near future. The Board is encouraged to attend.

**6. Old Business:**

**Wendel**

**Parks Tour:** Since we were unable to conduct our parks tour in August due to a lack of available Board members it was discussed that we should attempt to conduct before the end of the year. Two dates were recommended: Wednesday, October 5 and Wednesday, October 12. Mr. Wendel will review his calendar to identify a date and time.

**Wendel**

**Future Parks Improvement Projects:** With potential funding for large scale Capital Projects at least 2 to 3 years away, and changes in priorities and trends in parks and recreation a possibility during that time frame, it was determined that we should table these discussions until we have a more definitive time line for developing a plan. With that in mind however, we will continue to review and explore parks and recreation opportunities that may be of interest to the residents of Springettsbury Township.

**7. New Business:**

None to Report

**8. Announcements:**

Next meeting Monday, October 17, 2011 at 6 pm

**9. Adjournment:**

Ms. Nichols adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.