

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

In Attendance

Board Members:

Sherry Nichols – Chair
Steve Wolf – Vice Chair
David Seiler
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: (17 October 2011)

Mr. Seiler moved to accept the 17 October 2011 meeting minutes. Mr. Wolf was second. Motion unanimously carried.

3. Communication from Citizens:

Seiler

Mr. Seiler inquired about the resident concern regarding formalized soccer being played at Kingston Park.

Wendel

Mr. Wendel reminded the Board that formalized sports have been prohibited at Kingston Park for several years. The change resulted in recommendations made in the Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Plan resulting from concerns regarding increased traffic, noise and limited parking and other facilities to accommodate the large numbers of people who attend such events. The soccer organization that used the facility in the past was moved to Penn Oaks Park when the improvements were completed. In regards to the use in question, Mr. Wendel reported that he visited Kingston Park on several occasions during the time and day Ms. Broderick observed formalized soccer being played. On each occasion, he found no formalized sports being played. Mr. Wendel contacted Ms. Broderick and reported his findings. She thought the group's season may have ended which may have been the reason activity was not observed. Mr. Wendel told her to contact him if she again observes formalized sports played at Kingston Park.

4. Communication from Board Members: None Reported

5. Director's Report:

Wendel Mr. Wendel reported on the following matters:

- **Holiday Tree Lighting:** The event was held on Friday, November 18 at 6 pm. The Central York Christmas Brass and Carolers performed followed by the First Capital Brass. Two groups from York Suburban were absent from this year's event due to a prior commitment and personnel changes. Their absence as well as Central York's playoff game in the PIAA District football playoffs seemed to contribute to lower attendance this year. The event however, helped Toys for Tots collect hundreds of new toys and nearly \$300 in donations. We also had the York Catholic girl's tennis team on hand to help give out cookies and hot chocolate. And, our very own Steve Wolf was thanked and recognized for again playing the role of Santa Claus and handing out bags of goodies to all children. Overall, the Holiday Tree Lighting was a good event that was well received by the people in attendance.
- **2012 Budget:** The Departments proposed budget was presented to the Board of Supervisors on October 27. It appears the budget may be approved as submitted, however, it will not be confirmed until adoption in December.
- **Annual Report:** The plan was reviewed with the Board. The following highlights were reported:
 1. Over 6,000 participants in our community-based services.
 2. Community events such as Sounds of Summer, Saturday in the Park and the Holiday Tree Lighting attracted nearly 40,000 visitors to Springettsbury Park.
 3. 1000 youth participated in Summer Playground. The second consecutive year we have had 1000+ participants.
 4. Recovered 48% of operating budget. Over the past 5 years the department has recovered nearly 50% of its operating costs - Well above the 30% average for a department of its size and structure.
 5. Partnered with 109 businesses to help support our community events. An increase of 14% from 2010.
- **2012 Goals:** The Board was encouraged to review the Comprehensive Plan to identify and discuss department goals for 2012. Additionally, it was recommended that members take time to reflect on their participation on the Board over the past year to determine if and how they can become more involved. Areas that could utilize Board support include community events and partnership development. Furthermore, Mr. Wendel emphasized to the Board that they are the ambassadors of the Parks and Recreation Department and can promote and assess the value of our services through their interaction with their neighbors and others in our community. Mr. Wendel reiterated that although the Board functions in an advisory capacity, they have the ability to significantly enhance and impact the department through their work in and outside of our meetings.

6. Old Business: None reported.

7. New Business: **Parks & Recreation Board Officers:**

Wendel With the year coming to a close, the Board reorganized in preparation for 2012. The officers for 2012 include:

- Sherry Nichols: Chair
- Steve Wolf: Vice Chair
- Sid Martin: Alternate

8. Announcements: Next meeting Monday, January 16, 2012 at 6 pm

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