

**Springettsbury Township  
Parks & Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes  
18 February 2013  
6:00 PM**

**In Attendance**

**Board Members:**

Sherry Nichols-Chair  
Sid Martin-Vice Chair  
Leslie Jones  
John Kerchner  
Andrew Mears

**Staff:**

David Wendel, Director of Parks & Recreation

**Absent:**

Steve Wolf

**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.

Introduced and recognized new member Andrew Mears.

**2. Action on Minutes: (19 November 2012)**

Mr. Jones moved to accept the 19 November 2012 meeting minutes. Mr. Kerchner was second. Motion unanimously carried.

**3. Communication from Citizens: None Reported**

**4. Communication from Board Members:**

**Nichols**

Ms. Nichols shared a piece from the (December 2012) NRPA Parks and Recreation publication. The piece described an innovative planning tool implemented by the City of Mesa, Arizona that engaged the residents in a process to “build a better community”. During this process, their message to the community to “imagine, invest and improve” became their mantra and part of their culture. Ms. Nichols suggested we should consider developing such a process to get residents involved. This will be revisited at our March meeting.

**Jones**

Mr. Jones reported that signage prohibiting hunting at the land preservation site formerly known as the Walter’s property should be posted.

**Wendel**

Mr. Wendel indicated he would address with the Township Manager.

## 5. Director's Report:

### Wendel

Mr. Wendel reported on the following agenda items:

- **2013 Budget:** Copies of the approved budget were presented to the board for review. The department's operating budget decreased slightly from \$485,500 in 2012 to \$483,500 in 2013. Funds in the amount of \$10,000 were allocated from the Subdivision Recreation Fund (21) for the annual power spraying and sealing of the Creative Playground. Additionally, \$100,000 was allocated from the Capital Improvements Fund (30) for the ADA route/loop trail at Stonewood Park and engineering work related to the development of a new playground at Springettsbury Park. In a review of the 2012 budget, expenditures were approximately 6% lower than projected primarily due to decreases in registration related to our community based programs and trips. On the revenue side, we exceeded our projections but fell short of 2011 revenue totals by about 2%. Again, lower registration totals translated into lower revenue returns. Currently, less than \$50,000 is available in the Subdivision Recreation Fund for park improvements.
- **Stonewood Park:** The development of a loop trail at Stonewood Park is scheduled to occur in the spring; however, it will be contingent upon weather and park conditions and when the bid documents are finalized. The loop trail will not only make Stonewood Park ADA compliant but will provide opportunities for users to engage in activities such as walking, jogging and bicycling on a quarter mile, 8' wide bituminous trail.
- **Sounds of Summer:** Provided board with a copy of the 2013 concert schedule which includes a diverse line up of performers and fireworks on June 30. The schedule is currently posted on our website, Facebook and in the York County Convention & Visitors Bureau publication. We hope to continue our partnership with Cumulus Media which will provide us with even greater exposure through their four stations.
- **Partnership Development:** Provided board with a copy of the 2013 Sounds of Summer Partnership Packet. We need to secure more partners. There are a number of questions regarding some of our higher level partners including our presenting partner Dawn Foods; our media partner Cumulus and our fireworks partner. York Waste has been our fireworks partner for a number of years, however, Penn Waste was awarded the trash contract, and at this point, we do not know whether they will sponsor the fireworks. The value of these three partnerships is \$14,000 which represents approximately 35% of the partnership revenue generated in 2012. The board was requested to help identify potential partners.
- **Cost Recovery Opportunities:** Given the state of our partnership development efforts for Sounds of Summer, consideration should be given to developing an annual event that will help in our cost recovery efforts for Sounds of Summer. The Longs Park Music Series in Lancaster for example, holds an annual arts and crafts show that benefits their concert series. The board was requested to research events held in and outside the area and generate some ideas. Whatever event we decide to hold, it will not occur until 2014.

Some of the ideas shared by the board included holding a craft show, yard sale/auction, sell produce/baked goods, charge admission to the fireworks and or eliminate the Saturday in the Park fireworks to save money. Mr. Wendel reported that we recover all of our costs associated with Saturday in the Park, and we've had a sponsor for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks for a number of years. As a result, such measures are not necessary at this time.

## **6. Old Business:**

### **Wendel**

**Geophysical Survey:** The geophysical survey results for the land preservation site formerly known as the Walter's property was distributed to the board for review. The survey findings show that there are high levels of magnetic response in three areas or hot spots totaling about 10 acres in the southeast section of the property. Although not conclusive, the survey suggests that this area may have been the site of Camp Security. In order to clearly determine what exists in the area, close interval magnetic testing is recommended, and depending on the results, it should be followed by excavation and or shovel testing.

### **Wendel**

**Annual Report:** Comments and or questions regarding the Parks and Recreation Department Annual Report were solicited.

## **7. New Business:**

### **Wendel**

**Bartkowski Resignation:** The board was made aware of Steve Bartkowski's resignation. He resigned due to a conflict with a class he recently started teaching in the evening. He conveyed his respect for the board and well wishes in his resignation letter.

**8. Announcements:** Next meeting Monday, March 18, 2013 at 6 pm

**9. Adjournment:** Ms. Nichols adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.