

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

In Attendance

Board Members:

Sherry Nichols-Chair
Sid Martin-Vice Chair
Leslie Jones
Andrew Mears
Steve Wolf

Staff:

David Wendel, Director of Parks & Recreation

Absent:

John Kerchner

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: (18 February 2013)

Mr. Martin moved to accept the 18 February 2013 meeting minutes. Mr. Mears was second. Motion unanimously carried.

3. Communication from Citizens: None Reported

4. Communication from Board Members: None Reported

5. Director's Report:

Wendel

Mr. Wendel reported on the following agenda items:

- **Summer Playground:** The interview process continues for Summer Playground staff. Approximately 50% of the staff plans to return this summer. Our goal is to finalize the hiring process by the end of April if not sooner. Inevitably, we find ourselves trying to fill a position or two prior to the start of the program because someone pulls out. This has been the trend the last several years.
- **Stonewood Park:** The Township engineer is working on the site plan and determining whether any permits will be needed for the project before preparing the bid documents. We are looking at an August date rather than spring for construction due to the wet conditions at the park and possible damage caused by the large equipment traversing the site. Since access may have to come from Old Orchard Road and around the wetland area, we will need dry conditions to avoid problems.

- **Spring Newsletter:** The spring newsletter was shared with the Board. The diversity of the programs reviewed as well as the appearance of the piece. It is our primary marketing tool to promote and advertise our parks and recreation services.
- **Creative Playground:** The playground will be closed from April 1 to April 12 for power washing and staining. Repairs to the playground to enhance safety will be ongoing in preparation for this work. When completed, additional wood fiber will be added to increase material depth and enhance safety.
- **Sounds of Summer:** We were recently notified that due to sequestration budget cuts, the Navy Band will not be able to perform for us this year even though we scheduled them in November. They are not permitted to travel beyond 50 miles from their base for any performances. As a result, we now need to fill two dates and cover the cost of the bands and sound production. The Navy Bands do not charge a fee and provide their own sound. When the bands are selected, the revised schedule will be forwarded to the Board.
- **Partnership Development:** Provided board with a list partners we secured and those that are pending for Sounds of Summer. Still waiting to hear from Dawn Foods regarding our grant application for \$5,000. Will continue to seek partners through the end of April.

6. Old Business:

Nichols

(Department Mantra): Developing a mantra might help give a community feel for projects and or events.

Wendel

The article that Sherry referenced regarding the mantra the City of Mesa, Arizona developed appeared to be part of larger project/campaign. From my readings on their website, they developed a mantra to help keep them focused on the task of getting their residents to participate and buy into a plan to borrow \$60,000,000+ for a variety of park projects. This occurred over a period of a year or more. With that said, this might be something we consider if we engage the community in a large scale project such as a community built playground.

Mears

First, we should determine the direction of the Board and or a specific project.

Martin

A mantra may be better suited for the community build playground project.

Mears

Re-imagine, re-invest, re-play and re-energize was a suggested idea for a mantra.

The consensus was that developing a department mantra was not necessary at this time but may be useful when we pursue future park projects that involve public support.

Wendel (Fundraising Ideas): Met with Tim Howard, President of the Art Institute of York, PA who is willing to discuss with his staff the idea of helping the Township plan and coordinate an arts/crafts show as a fundraiser for Sounds of Summer.

Nichols Provided information on the annual arts/craft show held at Long's Park that supports their free summer concert series. She also shared information on juried and non-juried arts/craft shows.

Jones Suggested we may be able to seek sponsors and cover a significant amount of the cost for the new playground at Springettsbury Park. Would like to proceed with developing a catalog for the various playground elements that could be sponsored.

Wendel Will consult with our playground vendor Landscape Structures to develop such a piece.

7. New Business:

Wendel **Board Trainings/Conferences:** It was recommended that the board consider attending some of the trainings, workshops and conferences sponsored by the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society. We have a training budget that can help in covering the cost of those that require a registration fee.

8. Announcements: Next meeting Monday, April 15, 2013 at 6 pm

9. Adjournment: Ms. Nichols adjourned the meeting at 7:58 pm.