

Upper Merion August 13th, 2013
Park and Recreation Minutes

Guest: Mr. and Mrs. DeRosato, Jeff Ghanaymen, Mike Lorraine, Sandy Vannicelli-Newstien, Mr. and Mrs. Littlewood, George Nikolaou,

Barb Schafer, Tina Garzillo, Dave Burns, Mike Trachtenberg, Eileen Connelly, Mary Ann Ahearn, Neil Sardiñas
Dan Russell, Bill Schutter, Bill Jenaway

1. Pledge

2. Approval of Minutes. Last months minutes were not approved this evening

3. Guest

Request from Valley Forge Patriots (Softball Team) want a small shed (10x16) at Heuser Park. They would like to place the shed next to the bigger shed that is already there. It will be placed on the grass. They also stated the fields are great. Ages 10-18. It is Fast Pitch. The shed will be permitted and insured. They have over a 100 players on their rosters.

The Patriots are a bridge from UMBA. They are a travel organizational team to get ready for possible college participation and hopefully earn scholarships. They are affiliated with several other Upper Merion Baseball Assoc. parent coaches.

All players are not Upper Merion Residents. The ratio is 50 % for older players.

The girls are a select team.

Where is the equipment stored now? Coaches keep it.

Question from the Board:

How big a shed will you need? Will you grow bigger? Are you planning to buy more equipment? We don't believe we need a bigger shed.

All coaches are ACE certified.

The Board all passed Mike Trachtenberg's recommendation to allow the shed to be placed.

Bill Jenaway recommended that the ball club write a letter to wave some procedures to stream line the process, which includes copies to Dan Russell.

George Nickolaou. Prussian Football... new signage... the football team has communicated with the Upper Merion LAX program president. Advertisement Signs will be bolted and unbolted as shown on handout. This is easier to do because it is year round advisement. And AD revenue could go to both Football and Lacrosse teams year round.

Get dimensions to Mark Zadroga ASAP. A rendering by Dan and the board is requested from Mr. Nikolaou.

Motion was offered by the board to approve the clubs recommendation but was not voted on because the Board needs the dimensions of the signs and signage space before a recommendation is sent to the Township Supervisors.

Dan raised an issue regarding Heuser Park. The issue is to Name the game field after the Vannicelli Family. Mr. Nickolaou said they would contribute to this cause. Barb Schafer recommended that the name be on the scoreboard for the Vannicelli's. Barb Schafer gave a rich history of all the work the King of Prussia Indians had to originally provide to get Heuser Park ready.

MS. Vannicelli's said it must be red and white and it must say Indians and also have a tomahawk. She also commented to please spell Vannicelli correctly. Further discussion about where the sign ought to be placed at the field. Township owns the scoreboard. More discussion about the sign/scoreboard.

Mr. Nickolaou will investigate the sign dimensions, designs and various other requirements... per the Vannicelli's request.

The DeRosatos want to see the right to know request for information they are requesting. Mr. Jenaway and Dan Russell discussed with the DeRosatos how the process works.

Request need to go to the Solicitor.

Also discussed, the term, "Basketball Quality lighting..." The DeRosatos want it known that they did not request, "Basketball Quality Lighting". They wanted lights and a pole. June minutes should be amended to say that the DeRosatos only wanted a light or lights on a pole.

Discussion focused on existing broken lights PECO will get back to us with regards to a request for service. Mr. Schutter and Dan coordinated on the open request. What about the lights outside the park (the street lights)? It is believed the one light is on and the other light inside the park fence is still out. Mrs. Connelly again credited Mr. Schutter for the upkeep of the park.

The weeds along the fence at Swedesburg Park are very high again. Mr. Schutter will get to them.

The DeRosatos credited Mr. Schutter with cutting down the trees around the basketball court.

Discussed Police and Security lighting in coordination with PECO for the park. What about the vegetation to King Manor/Bob Holland Park? What happened to the Arborvitaes to the border of the park?

Dan said a person had offered a donation of Arborvitaes. He has made three calls but his calls were not returned. Further discussed GPS boundaries of the park for this project.

The DeRosatos reviewed previous minutes regarding police activity at Swedesburg Park. Mrs. Connelly talked about the use of the park and making it a future budget item for more targeted care.

Supervisor Report- Bill Jenaway:

Items... The trail work on this side of the township is significant.

He also stated that the park and recreation board member's park reports are helpful for the township supervisors. He emphasized to Dan they need a Master Plan b/c of all the users of the TWP services.

Directors Report- Dan Russell:

Update on Community Center- Ken Ballard working on business plan with Park and Rec staff.

Dan is looking for final proposal by September 19th. All board members are requested to attend.

Budget numbers are being put together now.

Trail update- Board of Supervisors added new additions b/c of bridge concerns. An extra \$200,000 is needed for the bridge. Then easements with the Towers and other agents in the area are working.

Dan needs help from the Board with the schedule annual Community Day/Weekend...includes the Tri-Centennial Parade. Barb Schafer offered to help sell tickets for the carnival rides. Dan reviewed the parade route. Still taking applications on floats. Dan shared the exciting news about having a live music festival at Heuser Park.

The Carnival will hopefully make money for the township programs. We need some one in the booth selling tickets. If not we will have to pay the carnival people to run the ticket booth. It is all cash. No charging for tickets. Barb Schafer volunteered to help on Saturday 9/7/2013.

Dan is Advertising for the Carnival.

We, The board will meet the second Tuesday the 10th.

Mr. DeRosato asked if the bike trail is away from the Asbestos Factory? Yes therefore trail project is more expensive.

McKaig Park and the flash storms: Their are a lot of erosion problems. Dan will be walking the park tomorrow with an engineer to develop some ideas to do something to solve the problem.

Dan has received two proposals to help develop the park and rec. master plan. The plan will include prioritizing what parks get taken care of 1st. Discussed various park needs like resurfacing playgrounds in the parks. The basketball courts were identified as a need. And the rubberized playground mats continue to be a concern.

Residents of Bob White asked about the Mile a Minute Vine? Eco Goats(Brian X. the owner is interested from Eco goats) but he got another job with more visibility. The cost is not real expensive. The article was interesting in the paper. There is a group in Blue Bell. They are a new business venture. They want to start out with their goats.

The new activity guide is out.

Bill Schutter: Park reports

Bill gave the board updates based on our park reports. Some things like

Basketball nets replaced, Bob White sprayed for poison Ivy.

Executive Estates worked on tennis courts and repaired fence.

Leo Ross bench replaced

Sweetbrier trees have been razed. Apparently the Kazur family was very happy and grateful. The wood on the bridge was replaced. Down at the farm painting around the park was done.

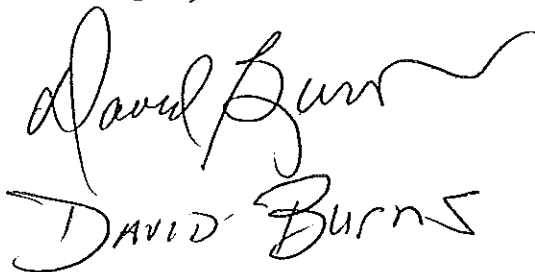
Question about the Kingwood Park fence gates keep being taken. That is why they won't be replaced =(The grass strip behind the park strip is all cleaned up.

The vines on the fence to be done soon.

Swedesburg Park repaired fireman's pole.

Bob Holland Park we will have PECO come out.

Meeting Adjourned


DAVID BURNS