



Parks and Recreation Board Minutes from February 13, 2018

In attendance: Joanne Crawford, Kevin Kissling, Melissa Sterling (BOS), Tom Manley, Jim Convey, Terry Ferris, Megan O'Rourke, Tom Blomstrom (Parks and Recreation Director), Mike Lannutti (Parks and Recreation Staff - Recording Secretary).

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM at the Parks and Recreation Administration Building at Koontz Park.

Kevin Kissling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Re-organization

- Introduction of new board members Jim Convey and Megan O'Rourke. All members in attendance introduced themselves and gave some personal and professional background.
- Selection of Chairperson: Tom Manley motioned to continue the terms of Chairperson Kevin Kissling and Vice-Chairperson Joanne Crawford. Terry Ferris seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.
- Tom Manley will continue as the WAA representative. The next scheduled WAA meeting is scheduled for 3/19/2018 at 7:00pm at the PWHS Library.
- Joanne Crawford will continue to represent the PR Board at the Comprehensive Plan Meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for 3/20/2018 at 7:00pm at the Spring Mill Fire Company.
- Discussion of selecting a PR Board Representative to serve as a liaison for the 4th of July Parade Committee.
 - It was decided that once meeting dates are selected, Tom Blomstrom will notify PR Board members and look to have a representative rotate as liaison.
- The 2018 meeting dates were announced. The August 7th meeting will be held at Leeland Park.

Approval of Minutes

- Approval of October, 3rd Meeting motioned to approve by Joanne Crawford, Terry Ferris seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.
- Approval of December 5th Meeting motioned to approve by Thomas Manley, Terry Ferris seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

Whitemarsh Art Center Report

- Report was accepted as submitted. Motioned to accept by Joanne Crawford, Terry Ferris seconded. Report was approved unanimously.

Director of Parks and Recreation Report

- Tom Blomstrom presented the February-March Director's Report as submitted.

- Comments on Director's Report
 - Miles Park Grant Project
 - With no bid coming in under the budget during the 1st round of bidding, requirement changes were made and a 2nd round for accepting bids opened in mid-December.
 - The grant project was awarded to LandTek Group for the amount of \$640,156.00.
 - It is anticipated that work will begin in late March or early April. The ultimate goal is to only lose one spring season worth of baseball/softball during construction.
 - It was discussed if all of the fields will be getting work done at the same time, or if the AA Field may have the opportunity to play games while the upper fields are being worked on. Tom will verify the work schedule at a meeting with the Township engineers and pass that information along.
 - Cold Point Park Project
 - The final concept drawing for Cold Point Park was announced and presented.
 - The portion of the project being completed by the Whitmarsh Township Public Works Department is currently underway.
 - Discussion on vandalism at the Wells Street Open Space field. The individual was caught and an estimate was received to fix the damage. Restitution is being sought.
 - Tom Blomstrom made the announcement that Emily Labowitz has been promoted to Program Coordinator. Great news for the department and a wonderful addition to the team.
 - Terry Ferris proposed the idea of possibly recognizing a Township Resident that she has noticed as volunteering their own time to clean up the area around Wells Street Open Space.
 - Discussion about recognition of volunteers and what has been done in the past. Tom Blomstrom will look into this and report back.
 - Tom Manley motioned to accept the Director's Report, Terry Ferris seconded. Accepted unanimously.

New Business

- Natural Lands Trust Cast Study
 - The Wells Street Open Space and Township were chosen for a case study that was published by the NTL.
- Township Day Registration Forms for 2018 were provided to the group for their review.
 - Request to reach out to any partners/networks regarding sponsorship & partnership opportunities for the event.
- Discussion of the request from Whitmarsh Little League to utilize Leeland Park for T-Ball this season to recover fields unusable during the Miles Park Grant Project.
 - T-ball will be using Leeland Park during the grant project to host 1 game at a time on Saturday's 11:00am – 5:00pm, Sundays after 3:30pm, and potentially weekday evenings as needed.

- Games will leave time between for the safety of participants, residents, park goers, etc.
- Tom Manley motioned to support T-Ball using Leeland Park for the season, Joanne Crawford seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.
- Discussion of the Girl Scouts Group 12 Brownies' proposal to purchase, paint, and donate a mini-library that will be placed on McCarthy Trail.
 - The William Jeanes Memorial Library has already approved to help support the mini-library.
 - Joanne Crawford motioned to support the mini-library, Tom Manley seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.
- Announcement of the parking lot plan on Wells Street. The public-private parking lot is a joint project of Militia Hill Security and Whitemarsh Township
 - The plans and agreement have been finalized and approved by both entities.
 - The Township is in the final stages of submitting a grant request to the county that would assist with funding the project. The project has been budgeted for 2018 and will process regardless if the grant is received or not.
 - Discussion regarding responsibility of upkeep and maintenance to the proposed parking lot. The Township assumes responsibility.
 - A motion to support the Wells Street Natural Lands Trust Stewardship Plan and the joint public-private lot was made by Tom Manley. Terry Ferris seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.
 - A signed letter of support from the PR Board will be submitted for inclusion in the Montgomery County Grant Submission.
- Discussion between Jim Convey and Megan O'Rourke regarding field scheduling for WLL and WGSL at Valley Green Park. WLL will be utilizing Valley Green on Monday and Tuesday evenings.

Old Business

- No old business.

Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm. Motioned by Joanne Crawford, seconded by Terry Ferris. Approved unanimously.

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 3rd, 2018 at 7pm at the Parks and Recreation Administration Building-Koontz Park

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Lannutti