

STRABAN TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
George Mauser, Deb Kammerer, Tom Adair, Joyce Wentz, Debbie Arnold

MEETING OF: MARCH 19, 2012

The Straban Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Board met this date, as publicly advertised, at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Straban Township Municipal Building, 1745 Granite Station Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325 with Board Chairman George Mauser presiding. Others in attendance were: Member Debbie Arnold; Treasurer Tom Adair; Member Joyce Wentz; Mark Walde, Road Master; Jon Kilmer, Township Engineer; Supervisor Sharon Hamm; and Office Manager Robin Crushong. Vice-Chairperson, Deb Kammerer was not present.

Others in attendance were: Brian Black, Joel Plank and Dan Bigham, Gettysburg Youth Baseball Association (GYBA); George Douglas, Gettysburg Area Girls Fastpitch Softball (GAGFS); Jeff Balm; and Jeff Yingling, South Central PA Soccer Academy (SCPASA).

Board Chairman George Mauser brought the meeting to order.

Minutes:

Mr. Adair moved, seconded by Ms. Arnold, to approve the February 20, 2012 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

The Treasurer, Mr. Adair gave the Treasurer Report. There was one expense for the month in the amount of \$375.00 which was for the mulching blade that was approved by the Board of Supervisors. The only income was interest in the amount of \$3.85. The balance in the Recreation Account is currently \$44,921.83. However, while the Office Manager was reviewing the Recreation funds and General Funds it was discovered that funds in the amount of \$12,500.00 were never transferred from the General Funds to the Recreation Funds when the Recreation Fund was opened in 2005. With this transfer the Recreation Account balance will be \$57,421.83.

Appearances:

Park Operations 2012 Season: Briefing & discussion with representatives of sports organizations –

At this time Chairman Mauser began the presentation of the Recreation Advisory Board's expectations for the 2012 season. Mr. Mauser stated that everything discussed in this presentation is with the intent of the Board of Supervisors. See "**Straban Recreation Board Outreach**" attached.

Discussion: Mr. Black brought up the issue that his organization would like Field "A" storage box exclusively for its use. Mr. Mauser asked how this would be possible if there are more teams than there are boxes. With further discussion taking place, there was obviously an issue regarding the desire for groups to store material in a dedicated locker and identification of township versus private equipment. Mr. Walde indicated that township property is clearly marked. Mr. Mauser suggested that the organizations

identify issues and submit suggested solutions about storage alternatives to the township office for consideration by this board.

Mr. Douglas stated that Field "C" goal pegs are not fitting correctly, that the caps are coming out and wanted to know if his organization could take care of this. Mr. Walde stated that the other organizations have been satisfactorily maintaining the goals and the road crew have limited time to do the task. This would be a maintenance department job and Mr. Walde said that he has no problem with the organizations doing this. Mr. Mauser stated that Mr. Walde and the organizations should coordinate this between themselves.

Mr. Douglas also brought up the fact that there are children at the park unsupervised hitting and throwing balls against the fence. This does damage to the fences and it should not be allowed. **Ms. Wentz moved, seconded by Ms. Arnold to authorize the Office Manager to check with Len Dick on the price for a sign that would state "NO HITTING OR THROWING BALLS AGAINST FENCE". Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Black asked the Board if it was possible for his team to have a concession stand and sell water, soda and Gatorade. Mr. Mauser stated that the Board of Supervisors have not changed policy on this matter and do not wish to have sales on the park property. Mr. Mauser suggested that the team do their monetary exchange off-site and then bring the drinks for the teams to the park. Mr. Adair reiterated that there is to be no monetary exchange on the park property. Mr. Mauser suggested that if GYBA still wishes to pursue concessions, Mr. Black has the option to make a presentation for the Board of Supervisors with a specific proposal including the pros and cons and justification. This action would be at the expense of GYBA. Ms. Hamm stated that any effort to get approval to make money at the park from the Feds would have to be done by the organization. The Township does not want to pay the solicitor or employees to get the approval because it has no benefit to the township.

Mr. Balm asked for clarification of power equipment not being allowed on the fields. He has lining equipment that makes it easy for them to line the field. He said they are capable of manually lining the field without it but was wondering if they could use it. Mr. Walde said that they were mostly concerned about liability and security issues associated with use of ATV, tractors and other power equipment.

Mr. Balm asked about the alignment and drainage of the fields. Mr. Walde said that the road crew never touched those and that organizations may adjust use of the fields as needed. Mr. Kilmer was present and he stated that the layout of the fields were 300' x 230' for the larger field and 230' x 150' for the two (2) smaller fields. Mr. Mauser stated that grading is a top priority and that this Board is working with Mr. Kilmer on getting that done.

Mr. Black asked about the two (2) week scheduling. He wanted to know that if he checks the calendar today for availability for this week and next week, will that be current. Mr. Mauser stated that if a request comes in for two (2) weeks out it will be scheduled and put on the calendar. Mr. Mauser asked all organizations present for their fall schedules by July this year and the spring schedules were to be in by March 15th.

With no further questions from the organizations, Mr. Mauser thanked the organizations for coming out tonight and invited them to stay for the remaining of the meeting if they so desired. Mr. Mauser also stated that the charts used to conduct this session will be posted to the township website.

Old/New Business:

- a. **Review park landscaping improvement detailed planning, update schedule:** Mr. Kilmer reviewed the updated landscaping improvement plan with the Board and representatives of the organizations that stayed around. Mr. Kilmer stated that the permit would be for the entire property but phase the earth disturbance at bite size every two (2) years. The price quote from C.E. Williams Sons, Inc. for the soccer field would cost \$38,000.00 and the grading and pipe work would cost \$17,000.00. Mr. Kilmer will hold off final submission of the permit which would increase the time-line 30 days. Mr. Mauser asked Mr. Kilmer to have a chart of the phasing of the plan and estimated budget available for the Board of Supervisors at their next meeting for approval. The bids for the paving will be going out shortly. The bids will be opened at a Board of Supervisors meeting, then reviewed by Mark Walde and Solicitor Davis, and then go to the Recreation Board. Depending on the prices that are received, maybe the road workers could do some of the work to reduce the costs. This is something that will have to be discussed at a later time.
- b. **Review Comprehensive Plan preparation status:** Ms. Wentz and Ms. Arnold started working on putting together a draft Comprehensive Plan and delivered a copy to each of the Board Members prior to the meeting for their review. Ms. Wentz went through the Comprehensive Plan draft and noted some areas that need to be refined yet. Some reference to the state requirements, Quit Claim Deed, 10 year planning cycle may be some areas to add to the Comprehensive Plan. They are looking for more recommendations from the Board. Mr. Mauser suggested that everyone review the draft and come up with what is missing, what story is not being told, should it be reviewed annually or every 2-3 years. Maybe reference the Municipal Planning Code concerning recreation fees, Chapter 92, add diagrams, maps, etc. It was decided that the Board members would review and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.
- c. **Determine date for township employees picnic:** Ms. Hamm said that the first employee picnic was held the 2nd Sunday in September in 2010 and last year it was held the 3rd Sunday because of September 11th. The Board agreed with the 3rd Sunday in September for this year making the date September 16, 2012. Mr. Mauser suggested checking the event calendars in Gettysburg and see what is going on if anything that weekend/day.
- d. **BSN Sports Victory Grant:** Mr. Adair had forwarded a flyer about this grant and after review decided that it was for recreation equipment and that is not something that this Board is interested in at this time.
- e. **Donation to the Gettysburg Recreation Park:** It was brought up that in the past years the Board of Supervisors had donated to the Gettysburg Recreation Park. After some discussion it was recommended to let it ride this year until we have a better understanding of the Recreation Funds.
- f. **Appalachian Trail Grant:** Ms. Crushong received some information about a grant and it was suggested that she make a synopsis of the grant information and pass it along to the Board members.

Public Comment:

None

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Adair moved, seconded by Ms. Wentz to adjourn the Meeting at 9:15 p.m. this date.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin K. Crushong
Office Manager

NEXT MEETING: SUPERVISORS: April 2, 2012
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD: April 16, 2012