

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

MEETING OF: APRIL 16, 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: Vice-Chairperson Deb Kammerer; Member Debbie Arnold; Treasurer Tom Adair; Secretary Joyce Wentz; Gene Baugher, Recreation Maintenance; Supervisor Sharon Hamm; and Office Manager Robin Crushong. Jon Kilmer, Township Engineer was not present.

Others in attendance were: Brian Black, Gettysburg Youth Baseball Association (GYBA); Robert McIlhenny, representing Land Conservancy of Adams County and George Douglas, Gettysburg Area Girls Fastpitch Softball (GAGFS).

Board Chairman George Mauser brought the meeting to order.

Minutes:

Mr. Adair moved, seconded by Ms. Wentz, to approve the March 19, 2012 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

The Treasurer, Mr. Adair gave the Treasurer Report. There were expenses associated with the conduit in the amount of \$117.58; engineering expenses in the amount of \$2,679.11; and expenses associated with the improvement of the bleachers in the amount of \$700.75. There was also an expense for new bases in the amount of \$225.85. The only income was interest in the amount of \$3.83. The balance in the Recreation Account is currently \$53,702.37. Ms. Kammerer questioned how many bases were bought for \$225.85? Mr. Baugher stated the price was for one base plus a spare. Ms. Hamm did not think that this expense should have been paid for out of Recreation Funds. Ms. Crushong will make this correction.

Appearances:

Robert McIlhenny, Land Conservancy of Adams County – Mr. McIlhenny stated that the Land Conservancy will be hosting an event, the Road Rally, on October 20, 2012 and would like to make one of its stops at the Straban Township Recreation Park. There would be no more than 10 cars at the park at one time with 2-3 people per car. The Board agreed that this would be a normal request and directed Mr. McIlhenny to fill out a Reservation Request Form and return it to the office for consideration and approval.

Park Operations – Current Park Schedule – Mr. Mauser showed the graphs of the use of the three (3) fields so far this year. There is considerably more use this year than last year. We will need to keep an eye on the soccer fields because of the wear and tear with so many teams using that field. Ms. Kammerer asked if this was being scheduled as one field or two fields. Mr. Mauser stated that it has been scheduled

as one field not two. Since the field has two goals and it can be set up as two fields, the teams should be made aware of this.

Park Operations – Sports organization storage request – It was noted that at last month's meeting the sports organizations that were present requested storage space for each field. The Township does not want to be liable for any personal property so the only things to be kept in the storage boxes should be the lime and lime spreader. The lock and key issue will be worked out between the maintenance crew and the sports organizations. **Mr. Adair moved, seconded by Ms. Kammerer to permit the sports organizations to store lime and lime spreader in storage boxes. Motion carried unanimously.**

Park Operations – No Hitting Signs – At the request of the Board last month, Ms. Crushong inquired about a price for a "NO HITTING OR THROWING BALLS AGAINST FENCE" sign from Len Dicks Signs. The size of the sign to be 18" x 20", .063 white aluminum with red lettering (any color would work). A double sided sign would cost \$42/per sign. A one sided sign would cost \$38/per sign. It was decided that this could be posted on the Bulletin Board and added to the list of rules at the park instead of spending money for signs. Ms. Crushong was instructed to give the paper sign to the road crew to put on the bulletin board at the park.

Review Park landscaping improvement detailed planning – Define phases beyond Phases 1a, 1b,2 – Reviewed the plan and the phases proposed by Wm. Hill's office. The permit process was approved by the Board of Supervisors at last month's meeting. Mr. Mauser stated that the permit covers Phase 1 thru 3. The Board could prioritize the list of Phase 4 and beyond to be defined once the resources are known a few years down the road. The list of Phase 4 and beyond would be those items listed on the map that are not in Phase 1 thru 3. Ms. Kammerer asked if the pad for the proposed pavilion is in Phase 1 thru 3 or Phase 4 and beyond. Ms. Kammerer thought that all the earth moving would be done at the conclusion of Phase 3. Mr. Mauser will question Jon Kilmer on this issue. Mr. Mauser will put together a list of Phase 4 and beyond for the next Board meeting.

Review Park landscaping improvement detailed planning – Paving Cost estimate and prioritization – As the Board looks at its funds available now, a decision needs to be made to use Recreation Funds for paving this summer or go with phases as planned and not pave until Phase 2 as stated in the plan. There is no real benefit to paving now, other than getting a smaller operator to do the job. It was decided to defer paving and move along with the grading/drainage. This would be more beneficial to the park at this time. Once we get to Phase 2 we could do the paving. With the funds available now, there may only be enough funds to get Phase 1 done. **Ms. Kammerer moved, seconded by Ms. Arnold to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the engineering phasing be followed and grading/drainage work be completed in the order of phases. Motion carried unanimously.** Once sequence of work is established, the road master could review the list and take off the work that the road crew could do themselves. The engineer could then prepare the proposal excluding the work that can be done by the road crew.

Review Comprehensive Plan Draft and preparation status – Ms. Wentz reviewed the Comprehensive Plan. All of the suggestions that were received were incorporated including putting in a graph of the population by age. It was decided that this plan should be called the Recreation Plan instead of the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Wentz will finalize the plan and Mr. Mauser will present it to the Board of Supervisors for their review and to be adopted by Resolution of the Board of Supervisors.

Public Comment:

George Douglas – Informed the Board that Field “C” was allegedly vandalized sometime over the weekend. Home plate was removed and thrown to the outfield; caps on plugs were taken out and thrown to the outfield. Mr. Douglas worked a few hours before his practice tonight to get the field ready and the road crew has worked countless hours because if this happening a week ago. Mr. Douglas also asked for Field “C” to be dragged because he has a game there tomorrow evening. Ms. Crushong will ask the road crew if they will be able to get out there tomorrow to do the dragging and will be in contact with Mr. Douglas. The State Police will be contacted concerning the alleged vandalism.

A question arose as to if the road crew could make purchases with recreation monies prior to Board approval. A response from the solicitor indicated that it would not be advisable to pursue this sort of practice. All expenses from the Recreation Fund will be recommended by this Board and approved by the Board of Supervisors prior to any expenditure.

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Adair moved, seconded by Ms. Wentz to adjourn the Meeting at 8:50 p.m. this date.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin K. Crushong
Office Manager

NEXT MEETING: SUPERVISORS: May 7, 2012
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD: May 21, 2012