

STRABAN TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

George Mauser, Deb Kammerer, Tom Adair, Joyce Wentz, Debbie Arnold

MEETING OF: NOVEMBER 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: Treasurer Tom Adair; Member Debbie Arnold; Secretary Joyce Wentz; and Office Manager Robin Crushong. Vice-Chair person Deb Kammerer was not present.

Others in attendance were: Jeff Yingling representing Gettysburg Youth Soccer and South Central PA Soccer Academy and Tony Sanders.

Board Chairman George Mauser brought the meeting to order.

Minutes:

Mr. Adair moved, seconded by Ms. Wentz, to approve the October 15, 2012 minutes by changing the date from September 17, 2012 to October 15, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

Mr. Adair gave the Treasurer Report. There were no expenses and the only income was interest in the amount of \$2.00. The balance in the Recreation Account is currently \$47,094.08. Ms. Wentz moved, seconded by Ms. Arnold to approve the Treasurer Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Appearances:

Mr. Yingling presented the Board with a slide presentation packet informing the Board where the soccer organizations are and some options that the organization is looking at pursuing. A copy of this packet is attached to these minutes for reference. The options that involved this Board is Option D: Co-purchase New Land with Straban Township & Rt. 30 frontage and Option E: Co-Purchase new land with Straban Township @ Smith Road farm.

Mr. Mauser stated that funding is an issue for the Recreation Board at this time too. The Recreation Board is not presently in a position to recommend a land purchase to the Supervisors as sufficient development-generated recreation funds are not likely to be available. This Board is willing to review concepts and work to resolve issues. As this board is an advisory body, any decisions about land purchase and financing must be approved by the Supervisors. While the board recommends that the organization not expend significant resources developing a detailed plan now, it would be helpful if they would prepare a preliminary plan for presentation to and review by the Board of Supervisors and the Township Solicitor. It would be good to present examples of similar public-private arrangements and outline the relationship in terms of funding, liability, maintenance responsibilities, etc.

Ms. Arnold questioned the order of the options and Mr. Yingling stated that there is no real order to the options, the organization is just going to work through them and see what they come out with.

Old/New Business:

1. **Park Improvement Work Status** – C.E. Williams has started work. Drop boxes are in. The work should be done by the end of this month. Ms. Kammerer had sent an e-mail to the Board Members outlining the breakdown of the fees and what we might have to pay if we decide to do some more work later as follows:

1. The NPDES fee of \$500 to the state of Pa. is not assessed based on disturbed area and is mandatory for every permit. Since our permit is good for 2 years, until 2014, we will only have to pay this again if we want to extend the permit beyond 2014. If so, we'll have to pay \$500 again.
2. The other state fee of \$100/disturbed acre is a once only fee. We paid for 3.25 ac. of disturbance (\$300) which includes the soccer field, drainage improvements, and both of the proposed new parking areas. In other words, all the work we considered which involves earth disturbance.
3. The big fee of \$2200 was paid to the Adams County Conservation District also on a per acre basis. Our project fell into the category of 1-5 ac. and therefore was charged the \$2200. This fee may be assessed again if we need to renew/extend the permit, but the assessment is at the discretion of the ACCD board. We could appeal to them for a waiver or reduction. If the extent of the work we have left to do after 2014 involves less than 1 ac. of disturbance I'm not sure what happens. There may be a lower fee, or possibly none.

Park Improvement Plan Revision: Project Prioritization – The prioritized list that was produced at last month's meeting should be attached to the current plan so that it can be included at the next revision. Still need to determine what self-help projects the road crew would be able to do, i.e, horse shoe rings, volleyball courts, etc. The road crew should review the prioritized list, identify feasible projects and develop an execution plan, including a preliminary cost estimate of labor hours and materials. We are still waiting on further discussions with George Douglas of Adams County Aftershock Girls Fast pitch team regarding their preliminary offer to donate the construction of dugouts. Also Ms. Kammerer is working on pricing of equipment. Ms. Crushong will e-mail Ms. Kammerer to see how this is coming along.

Status Report: Park Operating Procedure – Ms. Arnold and Ms. Wentz are still working on this and not ready for presentation to the other Board members at this time. Ms. Arnold wanted to clarify that this could be a simple document and did not have to be many pages. As long as the rules and regulations, policy and procedures are included in the document it can be a simplified document. The Board would like to have a document to present to the organizations next spring.

Status Report: 2012 Annual Report to the Supervisors – This is still being worked on.

December Meeting – Mr. Mauser suggested that next month's meeting be cancelled since the park is closed and there are no significant decisions pending or currently scheduled activities. **Mr. Mauser moved, seconded by Mr. Adair to cancel the December 17, 2012 meeting of the Recreation Board. Motion carried unanimously.**

2013 Board Reorganization Discussion - Mr. Mauser stated that he has been asked to take on another responsibility and will not be able to do that task and maintain the Rec Board chairmanship. While he intends to remain on the board I will do so as a member rather than chairman. By January he will have held the position for 20 months. Recent progress has resulted in the development of necessary plans and procedures that will only require updating in the foreseeable future. The scheduling function will be transferred to the office for routine maintenance. Hence, Mr. Mauser requested that someone from the board step forward to assume the position of Chairman during the January Reorganization Meeting. He further stated that it is time to share responsibility and has full confidence in any present board member being more than capable of leading the board.

It was also noted that Joyce Wentz term expires on 12/31/12. She will need to be reappointed if interested. Mr. Mauser made a personal request that Ms. Wentz remain on the board as she is a valuable member of the team.

Public Comment:

None.

It was noted that the operating procedures need to capture no fund raising and possible park speed limits. This document is intended to be passed as a Resolution.

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Adair moved, seconded by Ms. Wentz to adjourn the Meeting at 7:45 p.m. this date.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin K. Crushong
Office Manager

NEXT MEETING: SUPERVISORS: December 3, 2012
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD: January 21, 2013