

## **STRABAN TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

*Tom Adair, Deb Kammerer, Peter Sontheimer, John Colgan, **Vacant***

### **MEETING OF: JULY 27, 2017**

The Straban Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Board met this date, as publicly advertised, at 10:00 a.m. in the meeting room of the Straban Township Municipal Building, 1745 Granite Station Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325 with Board Chair Tom Adair presiding. Others in attendance were; Vice Chair Deb Kammerer; Secretary/Treasurer Peter Sontheimer; Member John Colgan; and Office Manager Robin Crushong.

Others in attendance: None.

Board Chair Tom Adair brought the meeting to order.

#### **Minutes:**

Ms. Kammerer moved, seconded by Mr. Sontheimer, to approve the May 15, 2017 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Reports:**

##### **Treasurer:**

The beginning balance as of May 15, 2017 was \$24,706.47. There were expenses in the total amount of \$780.00 for engineering cost on North Gettysburg Trail. There was interest earned in the months of May and June 2017 in the amount of \$1.86. There was a recreation fee collected from Lincoln Commons in the amount of \$11,500.00. The balance in the Recreation Account is currently \$35,428.33. **Mr. Colgan moved, seconded by Ms. Kammerer to approve the Treasurer Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Appearances:**

None.

#### **Old Business:**

**Update on the North Gettysburg Trail Extension Study** – The Board of Supervisors voted to support the Pedestrian Needs Accommodation Study and North Gettysburg Trail Extension Evaluation prepared by Jodie Evans, McMahon Associates, Inc. A response from PennDOT indicated that they were reviewing the report and will respond within thirty (30) days.

The Gettysburg School District gravel project on the farm lane was discussed. Mr. Sontheimer received word that this project would be starting on Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Kammerer indicated that the Green Space Grant Program was going to open another round soon and would like to apply for the construction of the crosswalk. We would need to get a cost estimate to be included in the application. The due date would be September 30, 2017 with a decision to come in December. The Board agreed that we should try to apply for this round.

There was much discussion about Oak Lane, Hartman and Knox properties in way of purchasing an easement/lot to consider a trail to connect Twin Oaks and Hunters Crossing. There are deed restrictions within the Twin Oaks deeds, however, the solicitor will have to review to see if there are any issues that need to be considered. It was decided to put this on the agenda as a long term goal.

**Team Benches at Fields A and B** – Ms. Crushong informed the Board that the road crew has installed the team benches at Fields A and B.

**Recreational Questionnaire/Survey** – The Board reviewed the results of the survey and concluded that the majority of the people that answered the survey are interested in being able to move within the township not necessarily activities at the recreation park. Since the research has been done, it was suggested to tally the results and present to the Board of Supervisors. This information could be used as a future planning tool. It was suggested that a summary of the results of the survey be open to the public on the website. Mr. Sontheimer will work on this.

**Recreation Park Status and Scheduling** – Ms. Crushong stated that the fields are scheduled almost every evening and weekends.

**Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan** – Mr. Sontheimer indicated that there was a meeting held and it was decided that they would do a survey similar to the one that this Board did but with more focus on bikes. This is moving along slowly.

#### **New Business:**

**Future Park Improvements** – It was discussed that the next improvement at the recreation park should be an addition of a swing set at the play area. It was decided that (2) sections be installed with one section having a toddler swing and a standard swing and the other section to have two standard swings. The road crew could install this equipment. It was determined that the total cost would not be more than \$5,000.00. The Board tentatively scheduled a meeting at the park with the representative from Biting Recreation, road crew and Board members for Thursday, August 17, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. It is likely that this project will have to wait until next spring to be completed.

**Annual Picnic – September 2017** – The Board discussed scheduling the picnic for this year. Ms. Kammerer indicated that the attendance was going down each year. Last year there were a total of 19 people in attendance. This picnic was originally started to thank the various board members that have served and currently serve the township. Mr. Sontheimer suggested scheduling the picnic earlier in the spring when the park opened for the year. Ms. Kammerer questioned if we were looking to have an event for board members or an open house type “come see our park” that would be held when the park was in use by the organizations and opened to the public. It was decided that there would be no picnic this year. This matter was tabled and will be discussed more at the September meeting.

**Recreation Land in Lieu of Fee** – Ms. Crushong informed the Board that there may be a developer that is interested in donating land in lieu of paying the recreation fee of about \$70,000.00. The Board reviewed the location, which is right next to the existing Straban Township Recreation Park. There is some wetlands associated with this property, which is some concern. There were concerns about access, maintenance, how the three (3) year to spend money works with land, etc. The Board would rather see money in the bank than more land, however, they are willing to listen to a proposal from the developer.

#### **Public Comment:**

None.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Sontheimer moved, seconded by Ms. Kammerer to adjourn the meeting at 11:54 a.m. this date.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin K. Crushong  
Office Manager

**NEXT MEETING:**

SUPERVISORS: August 7, 2017

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD: September 18, 2017