



Willistown Township Parks and Recreation
Minutes of July 19, 2012

Members present: Dick McDonnell, Chairman; Ken Lehr, Vice Chairman; Judy Young; Bob Kacergis; George McHugh

Absent: Tracey Ramondo; Cole Walsh

Staff present: Dave Burman, Township Manager; Mary McLoughlin, Parks and Recreation Director

1. Administration

- a. Minutes for approval – Mr. Lehr motion to approve; Mr. McDonnell second.
- b. Mr. Burman led a Parks and Recreation Ordinance discussion:
Noted inconsistencies in Chapter 31 and Chapter 96
Permitting: Consider specific language to address organized sports which constitute a lesser amount of people in addition to the ordinance definition of groups of 25 or more
31-2 Powers and Duties: adjust to reflect the Board of Supervisors hire and release staff; regarding inter-municipal plans add: *Parks and Recreation Board recommends inter-municipal agreement to the Board of Supervisors who, upon approval, enter into the agreement.*
31-7 Funds for Expenses Incurred: add *all expenditures in accordance with second class township code*
96-1 J States: No person, other than Township active duty police officers employed in the execution of their duties, shall carry or possess or use firearms in a Township park. Mr. Lehr pointed out that licensed guns have been permitted on all public lands per the 2nd Amendment. He will provide documentation.
Mr. Burman stated that once the recommended changes to the ordinances were prepared, they would go to the township solicitor for review prior to going to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
- c. Director of Parks and Recreation to prepare budget and review with Parks and Recreation Board.
- d. Mr. Burman announced that the Township was in the process of interviewing for a Public Works Director.
- e. Mrs. Young had previously informed the Board that she was moving to central Pennsylvania and would no longer be able to serve on the board. Mr. McDonnell presented Mrs. Young with a personal thank you gift and Ms. McLoughlin provided her with a bouquet of flowers from her garden.
- f. Mr. Burman reported that the Supervisors gave no direction to Mr. McDonnell's inquiry about adding alternates to the Parks and Recreation Board. The Parks and Recreation Board is in transition with current members moving out of town, so the alternates inquiry has been tabled.

2. Programming

- a. Ms. McLoughlin summarized the 2012 programming. She reported that *GO WilMa!* garnered record sign up for the summer reading programs at Paoli and Malvern Libraries. She reported the positive attributes of the program as of this date:
 - i. Serving 550 children
 - ii. Families can go out on their own schedule throughout the summer
 - iii. Program is not dependent upon weather conditions
 - iv. People learn more about their community by visiting its special places

- v. Based upon the great success of the *GO WilMa!* program and low attendance due to heat and summer vacations of two of the Thrilling Third Thursdays (T3@GT), Ms. McLoughlin recommended discontinuing the repeat T3@GT series of events at Greentree Park and holding one or two events in 2013 along with the *GO WilMa!* program.
 - vi. The Board agreed with this programming recommendation agreeing that programming is dynamic and “things run their course”; that the recommendation “makes sense.” The Board noted the *GO WilMa!* program addresses an issue revealed by the 2009 Parks and Recreation Survey which identified a significant resident unawareness of a number of Township parks.
 - b. Ms. McLoughlin gave a Sugartown Community Garden update. Currently 18 families are participating, and the leadership including a project manager, site manager and secretary are made up of the participants.
3. New business
- a. Board vacancies were discussed. The Board will conduct outreach in the community to interested parties/groups whom have been involved in programming and events with the intention of finding active and enthusiastic Board candidates for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.
4. Mrs. Young moved to adjourn; Mr. Lehr seconded; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Mary H. McLoughlin, recording secretary.