



WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION
MINUTES 9-20-2012 7:30PM

Present: Dick McDonnell, Ken Lehr, Bob Kacergis, George McHugh, Tracey Ramondo
Staff: Mary McLoughlin

1. Administration

- a. Minutes for Approval: July 19th, 2012: Mr. Lehr moved; Mr. McHugh second; unanimously approved.
- b. Park Board Vacancies Discussion: The Board discussed outreach to potential candidates having shown interest in Willistown Parks and Recreation.
- c. Park Ordinance Amendment: Sub-committee meeting date set for October 19th at 9am to finalize changes for approval recommendation to the Board at their October 25th meeting and subsequent request for approval of the Board of Supervisors.
- d. Open Space Review Board (OSRB) Vacancy: Traditionally one seat is allotted to a representative of the Parks and Recreation Board. Cole Walsh, having retired from this board, has left an open seat on the OSRB. Mr. Lehr moved to recommend Bob Kacergis to the Board of Supervisors for appointment to the position, Mrs. Ramondo second; unanimously approved.
- e. The Parks and Recreation Board thanks Cole Walsh for his years of service and wishes him well.
- f. Budget Discussion: Ms. McLoughlin gave an overview of the 2012 budget and what would change in 2013. She will provide the draft 2013 Parks and Recreation Budget to the Board via email for comment.
- g. Safety Committee: Ms. McLoughlin told the Board about the Safety Committee, a committee of staff that reviews safety and safety related policies and staff accidents which, as mandated by law, provides the Township with a 5% discount on its insurance premiums. The Safety Committee performs annual checks of the Township's parks.

2. Park Management

- a. Proposal for grills at Greentree Park: After discussion of pros and cons, the Board decided not to install grills at Greentree Park at this time.
- b. Okehocking Preserve Event Policy: After discussion the Board established the following policy: No private special events may occur at Okehocking Preserve due to a lack of infrastructure.
- c. Public Works Director Coordination: Ms. McLoughlin reported that she was working with the new director on the installation of park signage, park street number identification and park safety and maintenance issues.

3. Recreation Program Management

- a. *GO WilMa!* Discussion of possible 2013 expansion into neighboring townships based upon the service area of the Malvern and Paoli Libraries. The Board is in favor of such an expansion. The topic of cross-promoting activities and events with neighboring townships arose out of this discussion, and the Board will further discuss at a future meeting.
- b. Ms. McLoughlin proposed that Willistown Parks and Recreation no longer fund the Okehocking Fall Fest for a number of reasons including:
 - i. An effort to tighten the budget,
 - ii. The cost of the event was high (the need for a valet service to park cars because of lack of infrastructure adds approximately \$600 to the event cost) versus the amount of people who attended; approximately \$2500 for 300 people, and

- iii. Willistown Parks has fully funded and co-hosted the event with the Okehocking Nature Center (ONC) for two years, and ONC provided event volunteer assistance the prior year; it seemed time that ONC host it on their own.

The Board agreed with this recommendation.

4. Planning – Trails Update

Ms. McLoughlin gave an update on the Malvern-Willistown Trail master planning process and the Paoli train station to Great Valley trail plan grant.

5. New Business

- a. Ms. McLoughlin informed the Board of the October 24th stop-in public input session from 4-9pm for the Paoli Plan, gave the paolionthemove.org website for further information, and mentioned that there will be further information in the Parks and Recreation e-news.
- b. Ms. McLoughlin reported that she spoke with Rita Reves, Planning Commission Chair, regarding the Malvern Borough development and seeing if bicycle and pedestrian access could be established along King Street in Willistown as part of the Willistown portion of the redevelopment. Mrs. Reves advised that it was too soon in the process to address these issues, but that she would keep Ms. McLoughlin in the loop as the development process progressed.

6. Next meeting October 25th, 7:30pm

7. Mr. McDonnell motioned to adjourn, Mr. McHugh second; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Mary H. McLoughlin, Recording Secretary