

EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
Park & Recreation Board Meeting
November 6, 2008

The regular meeting of the East Goshen Township Park and Recreation Board was held on Thursday, November 6, 2008 at the Township Building. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ann Marie Moore at 7:00 p.m. Other board members present were: Bob Huebner, Ruth Scadding, and Vicki Wooters.

Others present: Frank Vattilano, Director of Recreation
Mark Miller, Director of Public Works
Kathryn Yahraes, Ellen Carmody, Ben Rhorbeck – Historical Commission
Al Zuccarello – Planning Commission
Bryan Delmonte – Conservancy Board
Arthur Jones - Resident
Ruth Kiefer - Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Ann Marie Moore called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. STAFF REPORTS

Frank reported that the Fall programs are full and going well.

The Cape Cod trip went very well. They traveled about 1,000 miles. It was a very cooperative group.

Applebrook Golf September outing was the best attended since the first year we had one. The food was very good. Frank thanked Bob Huebner, Phyllis Marron and Elaine Blair for their help.

The Pumpkin Fest had no definite count but there were at least 600 and maybe as many as 1,000. There were 1200 pumpkins and only 10 were left. These were donated to Fugett Middle School dance committee for decorations. Commerce Bank donated \$500 to this event. One woman complained to Frank that she was confronted about taking pumpkins without having her children there. Her children were there so Frank apologized, but Ruth Scadding reported that some people have not been honest about this. There were lots of good comments about the hayride, which was longer this year.

Frank reported that \$10,000 was collected in permit and field fees this year.

Mark reported that the Tree House for the Tot Lot (for 2 to 4 year olds) is here and ready to be installed.

The soccer fields will be closed for the winter.

A camera will be installed to watch the restrooms for vandalism.

There was a car fire in Applebrook Park. However, the owner called in that it was in East Goshen Park. We need a sign.

In answer to Mr. Jones' concerns at last month's meeting, the crew cleaned vines and poison ivy from 50 trees so far.

YMCA trees – Mark has heard nothing. He assumes they will be planted in the Spring.

3. LIASION REPORTS

Conservancy Board – Bryan reported that the Board selected their trees for the YMCA and may get more than 110 if smaller trees are used. The Board will mark the areas where the trees should be planted. Recycling is up 30% since the Township started singlestream collection. The Board discussed the Hershey's Mill Dam.

Historical Commission – Ben reported that they also discussed the Hershey's Mill Dam. At their last meeting they saw a presentation by the engineer. Since historic sites are involved, the Commission has requested an Historic Impact study. They received a blue line draft of the book Linda Gordon and the Commission have been working on. It should be published in the spring.

Board of Supervisors – Ann Marie reported that the BOS discussed the 2009 budget. The sewer fee will be \$146/quarter next year. The BOS eliminated the following items from the Park & Recreation Board request:

1. 4th of July Fireworks, 2. Movie in the park, 3. 1 pond treatment device instead of 2, and 4. no Tot Lot or satellite park improvements.

The BOS must decide whether to repair the Hershey's Mill Dam (\$300,000) or breach it. Kathryn explained that naturalists are in favor of breaching dams and returning the stream to its original course, so there is grant money

available for breaching. However, at Hershey's Mill there is an historic area and there aren't grants for repairing dams. There is a right-of-way to get to the pond for fishing but it isn't marked or utilized. The Historic Commission is looking for any money that may be available to retain the historic viewscape district. Ellen commented that this is the last dam on the Ridley Creek.

Planning Commission – Al reported that Sullivan's Grove is at their last letter of extension. Judith Bauer request was approved. Chalfont Antiques is asking for a variance for his sign.

4. VETERANS MEMORIAL PAVILION

Kathryn thanked everyone on the Park and Recreation Board, Historic Commission, and the Township Staff for making this a successful event. She wanted to review the process. Everyone agreed that starting the planning 3 months in advance was good. Ellen said that re-enactors have to be reserved about a year in advance. Everyone appreciated how well organized Kathryn was. Kathryn would have liked to have more direction from the BOS as far as funding was concerned. She did notify several newspapers and TV stations several times about the event. She will have the history Jack gave, along with some comments and words from some of the songs, posted on the website. Everyone agreed the bagpiper and select groups were great. A member of the Chester County Band filled in at the last minute to play "Taps". Kathryn initially sent out thank you's via email. She will send an official thank you with a copy of the CD containing photos taken by Dave Kiefer. She will send some photos to the newspapers. Attendance was discussed. When the permanent marker is ready, there will be a small dedication ceremony probably around Memorial Day.

5. GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR 2009

The Board discussed the goals and objectives for 2009. Bob feels that since the Board has to give the BOS a quarterly report, the goals should be measurable. Each quarter the Board should review the programs to see what the cost per participant is and decide whether to keep it or not. Other items discussed were – investigate connectors between neighborhoods and/or commercial areas; an online program survey; and investigate Friends of the Park. Ann Marie will put these together to review next month.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Bob Huebner made a motion to adjourn and Ruth Scadding seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comments. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. At the next meeting the Board will discuss the Summer Program.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary

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