

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
Park & Recreation Board Meeting
July 7, 2011**

The regular meeting of the East Goshen Township Park and Recreation Board was held on Thursday, July 7, 2011 at the Township Building. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ruth Scadding at 7:00 p.m. Other board members present were: Phyllis Marron, Ann Marie Fletcher-Moore, Bob Huebner, and new members Erich Meyer and Heidi Karpa.

Others present were:

Mark Miller , Director of Public Works
Thom Clapper, Township Supervisor
Senya Isayeff, Chairman, Board of Supervisors

A. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

The Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence to remember our Armed Forces.

The Chairman asked if anyone would be recording the meeting. There was no response.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ann Marie moved to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2011 meeting as corrected. Bob seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed.

C. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Ruth reported that the Park Board met in executive session on Tuesday, July 5, 2011.

D. STAFF REPORTS

1. Frank's report follows:

a. Programs – The Fishing Clinic, which was lead by Thom Clapper and Chet Darlington and ably assisted by Mark Gordon and Bryan DelMonte, was the best ever. Thom reported that about 32 attended and most caught about 10 fish.

The New York trip was a success. Since the trip was scheduled for the day after Frank's surgery and he couldn't find anyone to lead it on such short notice, his daughter lead it for him and did a wonderful job.

The Applebrook Golf Outing went very well. Phyllis, Bob and Elaine Blair were wonderful volunteers as usual.

The general consensus was that the Community Day was a rousing success. Everything, which always starts with good weather, came off like clockwork. The police estimated the crowd to be between 4000 and 5000.

b. Progress – Frank is ready to go with the summer programs. Next year's Community Day date has been set – June 23, 2012. Fireworks have been arranged. The Community Day Committee has done their evaluation and is sending out a survey to get feedback. The Summer Camp is about to start and Frank is very excited and looking forward to it. He has a wonderful staff assembled that is trained and ready. Other programs and clinics will follow.

c. Personnel – Lots of communication to the summer staff, clinicians, and contractors.

d. Problems – Not enough time in a day.

e. Permits – They are coming in.

f. Ruth reported that the Summer Program had more late registrations this week than ever.

2. Mark's report follows:

The Public Works completed several maintenance projects for the month of June:

- a. All of the playground equipment has been inspected. They installed playground safety mulch around all of the equipment.
- b. The tactical geese swat team removed all the geese from township ponds on June 14th. Four escaped but two were recaptured. There were no injuries to report however there were some broken egos.
- c. They attempted to remove the algae from the Bow Tree and Pin Oaks ponds in order to have the Fishing Clinic. Frank and Mark decided to use the Pin Oaks pond. Heidi commented that they should wear face masks when working with algae. Thom reported that the area around the aerator in the Pin Oaks pond was clear for about 10 feet but after that there was algae everywhere. When Mark took Erich for a walk through the parks, Mark mentioned that they turn the aerator off in the winter so the pond will freeze over and the geese will go away. Erich did some research on the barley and found that March or April is the right time to put it in the pond. The bales should be pulled apart so the water gets through them and they should last about 6 months. Also there are special bags with holes that the barley can be put into. Mark said he knows about cages and will use them next year. He said there are 2 kinds of algae. The one kind is dying off now so he has someone who will come and haul it away.
- d. They removed some dead trees from both parks. Mark will contact the supplier for replacements.
- e. Hammond and McCloskey was utilized to install a new urinal (it was the original one) in the older restroom.
- f. There are some trees along the pathway that need to be replaced. Mark contacted the original supplier (Hamel), however, they will not be digging until the fall. Mark also contacted Sam Brown's Nursery but they won't be digging any trees until September.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Tag Recommendations Report – The Board reviewed the report and made some changes. Ruth will forward it to Rick Smith for the Board of Supervisors.

2. Farmers Market – Ruth reported that the Farmers Market is up and running. Last Thursday June 30, 2011 was the first week and they had 15 vendors. Many of them ran out of product. This week there are 18 vendors participating. Ann Marie is handling the children's activities. Ruth received several emails from residents. When she replies to emails, she always mentions that we need volunteers. Ruth contacted everyone who is involved in a civic association to get fliers out about the market. Senya mentioned that some senior citizens have difficulty walking on the grass. Heidi feels that the way it is set up now, with the musicians in the center, the stands facing inward and picnic tables around gives a feeling of inclusion. However, when you walk up to the market you see the backs of the vendors first. Ruth will pass these concerns on to Lisa O'Neil.

3. Community Day – We had an excellent turnout. There is a survey available on the Township website for people to fill out. Bob was helping at the entrance by the basketball courts and noticed that, around 8:00 pm there were as many people leaving as there were arriving. Ruth feels that some came for the food and fun, and then went home to watch the fireworks. Also Bob suggested that we contact Hershey's Mill, Bellingham and Wellington next year and offer VIP parking for their buses. Erich reported that a few people said the fire police were not friendly. Ruth reported that at the follow-up meeting, the YMCA reported that the food vendor was happy with the event. Next year they want to have something for the teenagers, perhaps a band on the soccer field. The date for next year is June 23, 2012.

4. Paoli Hospital - The hospital wants to partner with East Goshen on an event. Ruth will call to set up a meeting on Tuesday, July 26 at 9:30 am or Wednesday, July 27.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Tour of the Parks - The Board discussed taking a tour of the parks. However, they don't want to spend the money for a bus. Ann Marie would like to see the Bow Tree, Pin Oaks and Marydell ponds. It was decided to walk Applebrook Park and East Goshen Park. **Meet at the Chamber parking lot at 6:00 pm before the next meeting, Thursday, August 4, 2011.** The Board will tour other parks in September.

2. Born Learning Trail – Bob is concerned that there has been no follow up on this project which would be sponsored by CTDI. He made a motion to contact CTDI about having the Born Learning Trail put in the East Goshen Park with conditions as to where it will be put. Ann Marie seconded the motion. The motion passed. Thom mentioned that CTDI's President, Jerry Parsons, donated \$5,000 through the 501(c) 3 committee for this project. Heidi mentioned that she saw in their pamphlet that CTDI will coordinate special days for local schools to come and use the trail.

3. Mowing

a. Bob thought that last year it was decided that the pathway in Applebrook from the Chamber eastward would be mowed only 2 mower widths along the edge of the trail. He has noticed that they are mowing almost to the creek. Mark will check into this. Also, Mark reported that the Board of Supervisors instructed him to mow Applebrook, at his discretion, more than once a month.

b. Mark mentioned that the project at Line Road and Paoli Pike looks awful. This is the first thing people see when they enter East Goshen. It should be trimmed and mowed and a nice "welcome to East Goshen" sign would be nice. Thom said the Board of Supervisors doesn't like it either. Bob commented that, when the plan was being made to install the trees, he told Jane and Ginnie that it would be mowed. Jerry Hartel at West Chester University said it should be mowed in order to limit the growth of invasives. Senya mentioned that he remembers the Conservancy Board agreed to 2 to 3 cuttings. Erich feels it should be mowed at least from the path out to the road for safety reasons. Also, Erich pointed out that the black tubes on the older trees are getting too tight around the trees. Mark said they are removing them as they can.

c. Springhouse in Applebrook – Mark will mow around this area on a regular basis.

4. Paoli Pike Crossing – Ann Marie mentioned that she saw a young boy about 9 or 10 years old trying to cross Paoli Pike in the crosswalk between the two parks. He had a bike and was alone and almost got hit. The cars go too fast through there. She is concerned that someone will be hurt or killed. Senya feels the only thing the State will allow is a tunnel or a bridge. Mark reported that a person walking in the striped walking trail along Rt. 352 at the historic area was hit by a car and taken to the hospital today.

5. YMCA - Bob feels the Board needs a plan to increase relations with the YMCA as to use of the Township's ball fields. Thom mentioned that the YMCA wanted to use the ball fields and pavilions for 10 weeks from 7 am to 7 pm but the fees were about \$9,000.

6. Signage - Bob did some research on signs to use on the fences at the ball fields as advertising for sponsors. For a 5' x 8' canvas sign it costs \$150 to \$200. He hasn't received a call back from the contact he was given.

G. ANY OTHER MATTER

1. Erich mentioned that his step mother is a Willistown resident who uses the park. She belongs to the West Chester Garden Club and they may be interested in doing a project in the park. Ruth

will contact her. Mark suggested that they could help with the flower beds. Heidi would like to hear what they would like to do.

2. Website – Ruth asked if anyone was on the Park & Rec portion of the township website recently. Erich pointed out that the term end dates for him and Heidi are wrong. Ruth said there is a lot of out-of-date information still posted. She will contact Rick Smith.
3. Heidi commented that she would like to be involved in outreach communications. She will contact Frank.
4. Ruth reminded everyone that fees/budget for 2012 will be discussed at the August meeting.

H. LIASION REPORTS

1. Board of Supervisors – Thom reported that the Zoning Hearing Board denied the request from Liberty Towers for a cell tower. Next Tuesday, July 12, 2011, the BOS will discuss their plans with Liberty Towers regarding installation of a cell tower on township property.
2. Historical Commission – Their meetings this summer are being held at the Blacksmith Shop. Chester County Day will be held in this part of the county this fall.
3. Conservancy Board – Bob reported that they are working on a plan to control invasives. Mark Miller provided a large map of the parks for them.

I. CORRESPONDENCE

None

J. DATES OF IMPORTANCE

1. August 3 the article is due for the Newsletter. Some suggested items were: use caution when crossing Paoli Pike between the parks, success of the Community Day and the Farmer's Market, the Pumpkin Festival, and purchase of memorial benches (\$1,000) and trees (\$500) in the East Goshen Park. Heidi will write the article.

K. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Phyllis moved to adjourn the meeting. Ann Marie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. **The next meeting will be August 4, 2011. The 2012 Budget will be discussed. Also, meet at the Chamber parking lot before the meeting at 6:00 pm to tour Applebrook and East Goshen Parks.**

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary