

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
Park & Recreation Board Meeting
November 3, 2011**

The regular meeting of the East Goshen Township Park and Recreation Board was held on Thursday, November 3, 2011 at the Township Building. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Ann Marie Fletcher-Moore at 7:00 p.m. Other board members present were: Phyllis Marron, Bob Huebner, Heidi Karpa, Erich Meyer and Vicki Wooters.

Others present were:

Frank Vattilano, Director of Recreation
Thom Clapper, Township Supervisor
Ben Rohrbeck, Historical Commission

A. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Vice Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Vice Chairman asked for a moment of silence to remember our Armed Forces.

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

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Vice Chairman noted that the minutes of the October 6, 2011 meeting were approved as corrected.

The Vice Chairman noted that the minutes of the October 18, 2011 meeting were approved.

C. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

D. STAFF REPORTS

1. Frank's report follows:

a. Programs – The Boot Camp fitness contractor has paid \$150 for the month of October. Her camp seems to be running very well and her class numbers seem to have picked up. She does a great job. Frank commented that all of the instructors for township programs are very qualified; i.e. the Pilates instructor has 200 hours of certification time which makes her more qualified than most instructors anywhere.

The regular evening aerobics program, yoga, meditation, zumba and pilates classes continue.

The New York City trip has 2 full buses with over 100 registrants and a waiting list of about 20.

Frank is referring people who don't want to be on the wait list to West Goshen.

The Harvest Festival went very well. The Goshen Fire Co. estimated the number of cars they parked at about 500 which would be about 2,000 people. Lisa O'Neil feels there was more. Heidi commented that 2 of the major food vendors brought food for 3,000-4,000 people and sold out.

Frank reported that all expenses for the Festival were provided by sponsors through the 501c3, so there was no cost to the township. Frank reported that comments on Facebook are positive.

Frank reported that the Park & Rec Facebook account has 204 active users.

Frank mentioned that Vicki is going to lead a dog sniffer class in January. It will be a 5 week course and the dogs will be on a leash. The fee is \$150/person. The Board agreed to the 15% of gross fee that other contractors pay. Vicki will donate a portion of her fees to the 501c3.

Frank has asked the Historical Commission and the Conservancy Board for input about possible classes for the Summer Program.

Mark Miller and Public Works are busy clearing tree branches from the streets after last week's snow storm. Vicki mentioned that the toilet in the ladies restroom at the Veteran's Pavilion should be checked. It was running when she went into the building today.

Handicap signs – Vicki mentioned that every week Public Works sets up 5 handicapped parking signs for the Farmers Market then takes them away. She would like to have 4-5 permanent spaces installed. Frank will ask Mark to give the Board the code requirements for this.

Applebrook Restroom – Vicki feels the township is not in compliance and needs to install a restroom in the Applebrook Park. She did not state what law requires restrooms in parks. At this time there is no funding available.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. YMCA Partnership – Today the YMCA’s 2 page proposal was received. Ann Marie reported that a Memorandum of Understanding from the Y was reviewed at the October 18, 2011 workshop. Copies of the new proposal were distributed to the Board members. Ann Marie read each item. There was discussion about the items on page one. Many of them the Township already provides. Frank mentioned that fees from the fields bring in about \$15,000. On page two, the discussion covered the Y’s request for primary authority over the East Goshen Park athletic fields and facilities and placement of a trailer in the East Goshen Park to serve as an office for their day camp. Several Board members voiced concern about these requests and don’t feel the Township should give up any authority over use of the park. Erich feels the Board should offer the Y use of certain facilities for their summer camp at a discounted fee and also require from the Y certain programs that will benefit the township. Ann Marie asked the board members to present their thoughts to Ruth Scadding by next Tuesday, November 8 and be ready to discuss a counter proposal at the workshop meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 10:00 am.

Public Comment: Ben voiced his concern about what will happen to the groups that have used the park for many years.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Egg Hunt Expenses – The cost of the Egg Hunt in 2010 was \$1,803 and in 2011 was \$1,180. The expense for this event is for supplies only. There is no cost for Public Works at this event. Frank gave this information to Lisa O’Neil and estimates 2012 cost at \$1,500. He also told her that we fill 500 bags.

G. ANY OTHER MATTER

1. Vicki mentioned presenting a plaque to Lisa O’Neil for all the work she has done with the Farmers Market. The Board members agreed and would like to include the others working with Lisa. No date for this was discussed.
2. Vicki brought up the subject of making the East Goshen Parks smoke free. A motion was made and rescinded. Erich feels that this item should be on the Agenda in order to vote on it. It was tabled until the December meeting.
3. Erich mentioned that the Holiday Party for the ABCs will be on Friday, December 16, 2011 at Hershey’s Mill Golf Club.
4. Erich reminded everyone that the National Emergency Alert System will hold a nationwide test at 2:00 pm on Wednesday November 9, 2011.
5. Bob submitted an article for the Winter Newsletter.
6. Bob reminded everyone that the goals for 2012 have to be done for the January ABC meeting. He feels only 1 or 2 major items should be listed. Ann Marie suggested that members send their ideas to Ruth Scadding.

H. LIASION REPORTS

1. Conservancy Board – Bob reported that they discussed the reforested area and possible planting of additional trees. When it is staked, the Conservancy Board will notify Park & Rec so they can see it. The trees along Reservoir Road will be looked at again in the Spring.
2. Board of Supervisors – Thom reported that the BOS appointed a new committee. It is the Community Development Committee and will work with realtors to fill vacant properties.
FEMA extended the deadline to November 15, 2011 for damage from this summer’s storms
The HVAC in the township building is 20 years old. The BOS is considering renovation or replacement.
Liberty Towers – The BOS reviewed the proposed lease and made some suggestions.
There will be no tax increase in 2012. This is due to the increase in the Earned Income Tax collected and the resale of Waterview Apartments and other corporate buildings.

3. Historical Commission – Erich reported that the Commission wants to design a brochure about the Battle of the Clouds. Also, they are checking to see what they can do to make their signs more visible. Ben reported that Judy Schafer had a brochure made about the new garden at the Plank House.

I. CORRESPONDENCE

None

J. DATES OF IMPORTANCE

No discussion

K. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Heidi moved to adjourn the meeting. Phyllis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. **The next regular meeting will be Thursday, December 1, 2011. The next Workshop meeting will be on Tuesday, November 15th at 10am.**

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary