

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
Park & Recreation Board Meeting
September 6, 2012**

The regular meeting of the East Goshen Township Park and Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, September 6, 2012 at the Township Building. The Commission members took a tour of the Township parks and open spaces, so the meeting was called to order by Chairman Heidi Karpa at 7:20 pm.

Commission members present were:

Ann Marie Fletcher-Moore
John Jamgochian
PJ Viloski
Betsy Williams
Joseph Zulli

Others present were:

Frank Vattilano, Director of Recreation
Julieta Calmon, 1549 Tanglewood Dr
John Maglio, Athletic Director of the Delaware Valley Friends School, Paoli PA.

A. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PJ led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Heidi asked for a moment of silence to remember our Armed Forces.

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

B. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Heidi spoke about the tour of the parks and open space that the Commission took before the meeting. She apologized to those present for starting the meeting late.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The Chairman noted that the minutes of August 2, 2012 were approved.

D. STAFF REPORTS

1. Frank Vattilano, Director of Recreation, reported that yoga, pilates and zumba are ongoing. There are 3 organizations with permits to use the park in September and October. The Sts Simon and Jude football team and St Patrick soccer team will start using the large soccer/football field on Sept 10th. Great Valley Little League will use the softball and baseball fields.

The fall programs will include aerobics, yoga, meditation, pilates, zumba, Olympic power walking, and stroller fitness. The aerobics, yoga, meditation, pilates and zumba all accommodate seniors and stroller fitness is for moms and smaller tots.

Trips to the Hudson Valley and New York City are normally composed of about 60% seniors. The Township special events include an Applebrook Golf Outing on Sept. 25th, the township yard sale on Sept. 29th, and the Pumpkin Festival on Oct. 13th. The late fall special event is Help a Neighbor for the Holidays and will be held on Dec. 1st. (This was formerly Neighbor to Neighbor Day.)

Frank provided a summary sheet for East Goshen Recreation Activities, Special Events and Trips for 2012.

Today Frank visited 3 local farms and made arrangements to purchase the pumpkins for the Pumpkin Festival. He ordered 1200 small pumpkins and 1 large pumpkin for carving at a cost of \$2300. His budget for this event is \$3,000. Additional costs will be for the band, face painting, hay for the hayride, and possibly a balloon man. He will seek sponsors if necessary.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Delaware Valley Friends School, Paoli, PA - Mr. John Maglio, Athletic Director, was present to request the use of the East Goshen Township Park walking path and tennis courts. The Cross Country team would like to use the path from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm for practice only. Currently the Girls Tennis team goes to Phoenixville for practice and matches. They would also need the courts from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Their tennis matches are played for a set amount of time and do not go over that. Tennis will go from 9/10 to 10/24.

Frank commented that they could not have exclusive use of the path because it is used by the public. He also pointed out that some people walk their dogs on the path and there is the Farmers Market on Thursdays. They can't have a permit reservation for Applebrook because it is a passive park and can't be permitted. Mr. Maglio responded that there are about 11 students on the Cross Country team. He would stagger their use of the path. They will need this use about 19 times between 9/10 and 11/5. They will adjust their route on Thursdays because of the Farmers Market.

Frank mentioned that the fee is \$30 for each use. Mr. Maglio said they are willing to pay a fee and have \$1000. for that. If the fee doesn't total \$1,000, they will donate the remaining funds. Also, they have insurance.

Heidi made a motion to allow Frank to give the necessary non-exclusive permit to the Delaware Valley Friends School. PJ seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Subcommittee reports

a. Budget – Betsy reported that she and PJ met with Jon Altshul, Township CFO. Jon had already increased the budget for 2013 by the current CPI of 2.5%. He did have questions about the amphitheater. He was budgeting \$500/event for 10 events making a total for 2013 of \$5,000.

Discussion: Joe commented about what kind of events, what is the capacity, what time of day, and what about sound impact on the neighbors. Betsy read a description of the amphitheater provided by Mark Miller and mentioned that it will be small so the events will probably be small theater groups, magicians, puppet shows, etc. There will not be lighting so there will be no shows after dark. Also, since the "stage" will face Paoli Pike, sound may not be a problem. Betsy provided some photos she took of the West Goshen facility. John has a friend who runs the Rose Tree Park, so he will get some input from him. The Commission members were okay with this line item.

b. Events/Programs – PJ met with Frank. The overall median age in PA is 40. In East Goshen it is 50. Frank has included year-round programs for seniors and preschoolers, and has the summer program for kids 5-14. PJ feels all the demographics are covered with the diversity of programs for all ages. PJ reported that the fee for the summer camp was adjusted this year, so there was a profit for the first time. PJ mentioned Frank's concern about the loss of the paper newsletter and the impact it is having on some programs. PJ feels that, if a sponsor can be found, an events flyer could be mailed.

Frank pointed out that these programs help people who can't afford club memberships.

Betsy commented that the schools are no longer willing to send flyers home with the children. She is involved with the Girl Scouts and the participation has dropped significantly because no flyers were allowed. John and Ann Marie will work with Frank to get ideas and costs for a flyer. Communication was discussed. Joe feels the use of sandwich boards at intersections to announce events is a good idea. PJ suggested doing a poll. At the Pumpkin Festival, commission members should ask people where they are from and how they heard about the event. He will make up a questionnaire. Also, PJ suggested that a follow up email be sent to the Community Day volunteers thanking them and telling them about the Pumpkin Festival. PJ complimented Frank on the great job he has been doing.

2. Farmers Market – Ann Marie reported that the Farmers Market will run until the end of October. Lisa and Donna plan to incorporate and run a market in Malvern on Saturdays. They are willing to run the Farmers Market in East Goshen next year from April to October for a fee of \$1200. The Commission has not received anything from the Board of Supervisors on this. PJ will contact the BOS.

3. TAG Recommendations Review – Self-sustaining events – Betsy reported that in her meeting with Jon Altshul, he said it would be difficult to calculate the cost of the detail items of an event. Joe feels the Commission is already meeting some of the recommendations by getting sponsors. Ann Marie mentioned that the Board did look into ways to generate revenue to cover costs – concession stands, advertising, etc. Frank mentioned that there was a mobile food vendor coming to the park this year and he paid a fee, but he stopped coming. Joe feels this should be investigated for next summer.

G. LIASION REPORTS

1. Planning Commission – Joe reported that there was nothing discussed that would impact the Park and Rec Commission.

2. Board of Supervisors – John reported that the main discussion was the police contract.

3. Community Development Committee – PJ reported that the CDC is hosting a breakfast on Sept. 27th at Hersheys Mill for local businesses.

4. Conservancy Board – Betsy reported at they want more recycling bins in the park and want the Park & Rec Commission to share in the cost.

H. ANY OTHER MATTER

1. Ann Marie has a list of the vendors who participated in the Harvest Festival last year. They are calling about this year, so she will send an email thanking them for their interest and letting them know that the event is being evaluated for next year.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, PJ made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Betsy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 4, 2012 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary