

EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
Park & Recreation Commission Meeting
February 6, 2014

The regular meeting of the East Goshen Township Park and Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, February 6, 2014 at the Township Building. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Heidi Karpa at 7:00 pm. Commission members present were:

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

Others present were:

Jason Lang, Director of Recreation
Jon Altshul, Township CFO

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Heidi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Heidi asked for a moment of silence to remember our troops.

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

FRIENDS OF EAST GOSHEN

Jon reminded everyone that the deadline for the newsletter article is next Friday, February 14.

Jon spoke about the Friends of East Goshen which is a 501c3 not-for-profit group that will raise funds for the township. At their February meeting they will start to strategize about raising funds for events. They meet on the 4th Thursday of the month (2/27) at 7 pm. They request that a PRC member attend this meeting to discuss events. Jason will be attending and presented the PRC with a list of possible events and ideas for fund raising. Heidi will also attend this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Heidi noted that the minutes of the January 9, 2014 meeting were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Newsletter – Jason and Heidi will meet next week and write an article for the newsletter. It will include mention of the Egg Hunt, and Community Day and need for volunteers and donations. It will highlight some of the new programs Jason is starting; ie Legos and High School Entrepreneurial Academy. They will mention the 1 week pilot for a full day summer camp.
2. Hershey Mills Traveling Farmers Market – Jason explained this new program. On Thursday, April 3rd, about 10 of the Farmers Market vendors will set up a market in the Community Center at Hershey Mill. John Jam presented this idea to Jason. This market will be for Hershey Mills residents only. It will only be there once a month from 3 – 6 pm during the winter season. It will not be there in the summer. The summer market will start May 1st.
3. Amphitheater – Mark Miller feels it may be ready by mid-June. Jason thought of having the grand opening the same day as Community Day, but the commission members thought it should have its own grand opening. Betsy mentioned that she spoke to the Grease Band about performing at this event. Jason actually spoke with the Grease Band recently and they have June 28 and July 12 open. The cost would be about \$3,000. Jason mentioned that the budget for the amphitheater is \$8,500 for the year. PJ feels there should be a way for people to leave a donation if they want to.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Farmers Market – Jason reported that there were 7 vendors at the last market and the foot traffic was much better. The remaining dates for the winter market are 2/20, 3/20 and 4/17. The summer market will start on May 1st.

2. Open Space & Recreation Task Force – Joe reported that at the last meeting on January 23 the consultants gave an extensive presentation on our park system. The survey showed high grades on the importance of the parks to the residents. They also pointed out some areas that could be improved. Betsy pointed out that there are unkeyed tennis courts available outside the township, which are just as nice as East Goshen. Also, she would like to make a presentation to the Commission about other parks that she has visited which have themes that flow through the park. Joe noted that the NLT consultants' report mentions the need for more benches, trees and ground flow in the Tot Lot. Also, their report pointed out that the signs in the parks are all different instead of being uniform. The mention of signs brought up the topic of the electronic sign at the East Goshen Park. Why wasn't the PRC included in the selection process of this sign? Joe mentioned that the draft of the East Goshen plan will be ready in April and the final plan in June. Joe will ask the consultants to come to a PRC meeting. The PRC members will wait for the NLT recommendations, then set priorities and start to plan a theme for the parks.

RECREATION DIRECTOR

Jason provided a copy of his memo to the Board of Supervisors which contains information on the new programs he is planning for 2014. He gave a description of each of the 10 new programs. The PRC is very pleased that he is offering programs for all ages including high school students.

The Egg Hunt will be held April 12 or 13. There was discussion about how the eggs will be "hidden" for the children to find.

Stroller Striders is a fitness program for new moms. It will be held April thru Oct in the Park.

Summer Camp advertising will be ready by Feb. 10. March 1 will start the registration. The last week of camp will offer a half-day or full-day of camp. This one week will be a pilot of a full-day camp.

Jason provided an outline of his ideas for fund raising. He asked the PRC members to review it and give him their thoughts and any additional suggestions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Heidi moved to adjourn the meeting. John seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary