

EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
Park & Recreation Commission Meeting
September 4, 2014

The regular meeting of the East Goshen Township Park and Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, September 4, 2014 at the Township Building. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Heidi Karpa at 7:15 pm. Commission members present were:

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

Others present were:

Jason Lang, Director of Recreation
Russell Miller, Resident

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Heidi noted that the minutes of the August 7, 2014 meeting were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2015 Budget – Jason provided copy of the 2015 Budget Request which also included actuals for 2012 and 2013 and 2014TYD as of 6/30/14. He applied the 1.7% increase that the Township is using for the 2015 request. Going forward all new programs will include a cost for his salary.

He is proposing 3 new programs as follows:

- a. East Goshen Township Sports Camp – This is for ages 10-13 for kids who want to have fun playing sports. There will be teams and they will play a different sport each day.
- b. Full Day Camp – The pilot program this year had 18 participants. Jason wants to increase it to 2 weeks for 2015. He anticipates a full day camp all summer by 2017 when the school is scheduled to have air-conditioning.
- c. Recreation Community Services – These are revenue producing programs. Suggestions are stickers and magnets with East Goshen logo and tickets for Hershey and Dorney Parks. The tickets will be sold at a discount less than the online price. Any unsold tickets can be returned for a full refund.

Jason had 3 options for Community Day. The Commission members all agreed to have fireworks and a mid-level band (Grease Band) for 2015. Fundraising for this event was discussed. Heidi suggested sending the residents of the township a letter in January asking for donations and we can give them a sticker. Jason is selling water at the Farmers Market for the Friends. John will attend the next Friends meeting.

The 2015 Proposed Budget includes fee increases for trips from \$35 to \$40 and for ½ day camp to \$90.

2. Tennis Courts- Russell Miller, 1507 Wilson Lane – He moved here in 1975. He and his wife have used the tennis courts regularly. He is concerned about the lack of use of the tennis courts. There used to be tournaments, etc. At East High School people are waiting in line to use the courts. The EG courts #1, 2, & 3 are okay. There were a few things that needed repair. He got in touch with Jason and Public Works made those repairs. Courts #4, 5 & 6 however, are in need of major repair. There are tennis programs for women and children but not men.

Betsy wants to unlock the courts and stop selling the tennis tags. The cost is \$30 for each resident and \$50 for non-residents. People will go where it is free. Anne Marie mentioned that the board decided to lock the courts years ago because skateboarders and roller skaters were wrecking the surface of the courts. Mr. Miller commented that a few years ago he saw kids on the courts and asked how they got

there. They climbed the fence. He has noticed recently that the fence has been cut so the kids can slide under it. Russ volunteered to work with Jason to explore other options.

3. Park Special Events – Jason reported that there will be a total of 7 special events in the Park in 2014. The fee is \$200. He is proposing the following:
 - a. Applications for special events must be received 6 months in advance with 2 months for approval. This gives them 4 months to find another venue if we deny their request.
 - b. Change the fee to \$1.00 per person.

Betsy does not want too many special events in the park because they interfere with casual use by residents. Jason will only allow amplification at the Veterans Pavilion.

The Commission members all agreed to change the fee to \$1.00 per participant. Also, only non-competitive walks will be allowed in the park and they agreed to 6 months advance notice of applications.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Open Space Plan – Joe reported that the Township has requested an extension until June 2015 for the Comprehensive Plan adoption

RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT

1. Fall Festival - Jason mentioned that he will order 1200 pumpkins. He wants to have Turkey Bowling and Family Pumpkin Carving Contest. Anne Marie commented that in the past there was a live band. Last year Frank played music.
2. The Farmers Market will be held at Hershey's Mill on October 30.
3. Jason reminded the members that someone else will have to write an article for the next newsletter.

ANY OTHER MATTER

1. Joe reminded everyone that the Commission still has 1 open seat. Liaisons were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business PJ moved to adjourn the meeting. John seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary