

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION
JUNE 12, 2007 MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

A. Chairman Heisner called the Parks & Recreation meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

A. The following Parks & Recreation members were present: Mr. Baldassari, Mr. Dell Angelo, Mr. Donovan, and Mr. Heisner.

B. Mrs. Mazza and Mr. Brooke arrived late.

C. Mr. Gambone was absent.

D. Additional attendees included: Mr. Matthew Jones, Student Rep., Mr. Joseph Dunbar, Township Manager, and Ms. Kelly Donohue, Parks & Recreation Director.

3. Monthly Meeting:

A. Review/Approve meeting minutes of May 8, 2007:

1. Chairman Heisner noted that there were two corrections to the minutes:

a) Under New Business item B)4)b) "lights" should be changed to "scoreboard."

b) In the Comments section, item H)1) the word "lease" should be inserted after 20-30.

2. **MOTION** – Mr. Donovan made a motion to approve the May 8, 2007 meeting minutes. Mr. Baldassari seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0.

4. Old Business:

A. Wooded Glen Field:

1. Ms. Donohue noted that at the Board of Supervisors May 17, 2007 meeting, the land development plan for this field was approved. The Wolverines have one year to complete the project.

2. Conversations have occurred between Ms. Donohue, Mr. Dunbar and Methacton School District (MSD) regarding use of the field for the school. There is an opportunity for this to be a joint project, where the field surface would be turf and not grass. MSD would use the field for soccer, lacrosse, and football, and the Wolverines would use it for football. The design would not be affected by this change, other than the Wolverines would work closely with the turf installers to ensure the installation met their specifications.

3. Ms. Donohue noted that Fred Horrocks was no longer the President of the Wolverines, but is coordinating this project. Mick Delvecchio is now the President.

4. Mrs. Mazza arrived during this discussion.

B. Evansburg Point Park Master Plan:

1. Ms. Donohue noted that this item was on the Board of Supervisors (BOS) June 7th agenda for discussion. It has been moved to the next BOS business meeting to authorize advertisement of the public hearing for the second meeting in July.

2. Mr. Dunbar noted that the BOS would authorize the selective update to the Park & Recreation Plan and to advertise the hearing.

3. Mrs. Mazza requested that Ms. Donohue e-mail the Park Board to let them know when items go before the BOS so they can come out and support them.

5. New Business:

A. MUSC Discussion:

1. Mr. Harry DelBuono from the Methacton United Soccer Club was present to discuss their plans for adding a handicap-accessible ramp / path from the parking lot to their field. Once this is approved, MUSC will obtain bids from contractors to proceed, however they anticipate this project will cost \$25,000.
2. Mr. Baldassari questioned if the path could be black top, which it can.
3. Mr. Heisner noted that once the path exceeds a certain distance, they need to install a 5' x 5' landing before continuing the path. He also said that when the bleachers are installed they must be accessible to the path.
4. Mr. Dunbar stated that they would submit the plan to the Township Engineer for input. Perhaps more handicap parking spots should be added. There was a discussion regarding placement of these spots on the original plan versus this plan. He noted that perhaps the soccer club could tie into the Township's price for this year's road paving projects to save some additional funds.

B. 5-Year Capital Plan:

1. Ms. Donohue provided the Board with a grid to fill out for the 5-year plan, along with items for the 2008 budget. Discussions began regarding what was needed for the various parks; costs associated with play structures, and play surfacing. Ms. Donohue noted that several of the existing play structures do not meet current safety standards, and that when replacing these structures they should install the new rubber surfacing under the structures. She explained that they might spend approximately \$5,000 to place woodchips under these structures each year, and the cost for rubber surfacing is around \$15,000 but lasts at least 10 years.
2. Ms. Donohue noted that she received a \$6,000 grant from Rep. Rubely's office. Of this, \$3,000 is going toward the St. Gabe's master plan, and \$2,000 toward a new play structure at the ARA fields.
3. Mr. Dunbar suggested they lay out the capital needs, matching the Park Board recommendations to current standards. He asked what the projected balance from 2007 was? It was determined that there is a \$58,000 surplus. The Board reviewed the budgets for each of the parks. Mr. Dunbar requested that the Board determine what amenities the parks need and then make recommendations to the BOS. The Township will go after grants to fund the various projects.
4. Mrs. Mazza suggested they hold a special work session to determine items for the 5-year plan.
5. Mr. Dunbar will have staff work on a report with the history of the park plans for the last ten years and also the master plan for each park so they can see what needs to be done. Copies of this information will be provided to the Board.
6. The Board discussed several items for the various parks. It was decided that the best course of action would be to hold a park tour to assess the current amenities, see what is needed, and then lay out the elements of the 5-year plan.
7. It was determined that the Board would conduct a park tour on June 19, 2007 at 6 p.m.

6. Comments from Board:

A. Ms. Donohue provided updates on several items:

1. The lights at Redtail Park have been installed and aimed, and the glare shields have also been installed, so these are ready for use.
2. The bid opening for the Hoy Park boat ramp and related paving will be July 30.
3. The marquis should be installed by July 4th.

B. Mrs. Mazza asked if there were any upcoming events?

1. Ms. Donohue stated that the concerts would begin June 27th. She will send out an e-mail regarding July 4th, but the Park Board should arrive around 5 p.m.

7. Comments from Residents:

- A. Mr. Ray Martinez, Lewis Road, stated that he was concerned with the trees and bushes being removed from Evansburg Point Park and stated this at the BOS meeting. He asked who would pay for this replacement and where would they be replaced?
1. Mr. Dunbar stated this was a BOS decision. They could waive the tree replacement if they want, or replace the trees elsewhere.
 2. There was a discussion of how the tree replacement ordinance works. It was noted that for Evansburg Point Park, DCNR asked Ms. Donohue to reconfigure the plan so that less trees would be removed.
 3. Mr. Martinez asked about the approval of lighting at the park. Mr. Dunbar noted that DCNR approved lights for the park, and that approval is on hold for the next plan.
 4. Mr. Martinez asked if this Board makes a recommendation regarding the lights to the BOS? Ms. Donohue indicated that they do.
 5. Mr. Brooke arrived during this discussion.
- B. Mr. Dunbar noted that a meeting was held with the American Revolution Center. They can expect a public hearing July 16th or 18th. They have to allow the County 30 days to review the plan. He noted that there will be no commercialization of the site, and that it will not be readily visible from Pawlings Road.

8. Adjourn:

- A. **MOTION** – Mr. Donovan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Baldasari seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0. The meeting ended at 8:20 p.m.

Next Meeting: August 14, 2007