

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION
APRIL 14, 2009 MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

A. Mr. 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. Dell Angelo, Mr. Heisner, Mrs. Mandracchia, Mrs. Mazza, and Mr. Wurtz.

B. Mrs. Eckman and Mr. Gambone were absent.

C. Additional attendees included: Mr. Matthew Jones, Student Representative, Mr. Joseph Dunbar, Township Manager, and Mr. Karl Lukens, Parks & Recreation Director.

3. Monthly Meeting:

A. Review/Approve meeting minutes of March 10, 2009:

1. **MOTION** – Mr. Wurtz made a motion to approve the March 10, 2009 minutes and move them into the record. Mrs. Mandracchia seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.

4. Old Business:

A. Wooded Glen Field Update:

1. Mr. Tom Leahan, President of the Methacton Wolverines, was present to provide an update on the work his organization has completed on the field. Part of this work included the removal of the exposed shale to provide the safety distance from the rock required by Pop Warner. They wanted to put in the swale along the southeast side of the parking lot, however this will be done when the ground dries out. The water pit will be installed next week, and the American Water Co. installed a water valve.
2. Mr. Dunbar remarked that the Wolverines have completed more work in the last 22 days than the previous 22 months, and are working to the approved plan. At the last Board of Supervisor's (BOS) meeting, Mr. Leahan requested financial assistance from the Township toward the project. The Township is awaiting details on this request, which will supplement a requested DCED grant.
3. Mr. Leahan commented that Mr. Lukens has been a tremendous help in this process. The Wolverines have requested over half a million dollars in their grant, which will cover expenses such as lighting, plumbing, snack bar etc.
4. Chairman Heisner asked when they applied for the grant. Mr. Leahan indicated this was submitted on March 20, 2009.
5. Mrs. Mazza asked when the organization would hold their next Board meeting? Mr. Leahan noted it would be this coming Sunday at 7 p.m. at the Level Road Schoolhouse.
6. Mr. Dunbar asked if there had been any discussion regarding shifting the location of the snack bar and comfort station closer to the bocce courts? Mr. Lukens identified the location for these items at the top of the parking lot overlooking the field. This location is closer to the bocce courts.
7. Mr. Leahan noted he hopes to report that all work is completed at the next Park Board meeting.

B. Evansburg Point Park Plan Update:

1. Mr. Lukens relayed that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) authorized a public hearing on this plan at their March 19th meeting. The hearing is scheduled for this week's BOS meeting.

2. DCNR has provided comments on the site plans, which were reviewed with Mr. Dunbar and Mr. Chambers. Mr. Lukens noted that there is a stone path that DCNR requested go from a 9% to 5% grade, which required the addition of a zigzag shape. They need to follow-up on the corrections to lighting on the game field, and relocation of the older electrical panel. Mr. Lukens is working with DCNR to finalize the tree replacement plan.
3. Mr. Dunbar reviewed the remainder of the process for this plan prior to its' possible implementation. He commented that they should try to keep teams off of the game field as much as possible for this growing season.

C. 5-Year Capital Plan:

1. Mr. Lukens also presented the 5-Year Capital Plan to the BOS at their March 19th meeting. The BOS adopted the plan at that meeting.

5. New Business:

A. ARA – request to install scoreboard:

1. Mr. Lukens has received a request from Audubon Recreation Association (ARA) to install a new scoreboard on “C” field. This request was already approved by the County, and will need a recommendation from the Park Board as well.
2. The proposed scoreboard will be at the top of two 20’ steel beams, secured four feet below ground, for a total height of 16’. There will be no sponsors posted on the scoreboard, which is being purchased by ARA. No Township funding will be used for this project.
3. **MOTION** – Mrs. Mazza made a motion to approve the request to install the ARA scoreboard, and recommend that the BOS also approve this installation. Mr. Dell Angelo seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
4. Mr. Dunbar remarked that if they are forwarding this request for ARA to the BOS, perhaps they should also discuss the pavilion project at ARA. There is currently \$15,000 in the Township’s budget to go toward the installation of a pavilion at the ARA fields. ARA will have to cover the cost difference for the installation and concrete pad required for the pavilion. The proposed pavilion would be 20’ x 40’.
5. Mr. Lukens noted that an additional \$20,000 would be needed for the installation and concrete pad. He has not heard back from ARA’s president Mike D’Addazio.
6. Mr. Dunbar indicated a request could be made to the BOS to release the funds to ARA for the pavilion, or they could reallocate the money if ARA does not want to install it. The Park Board should make a recommendation in case ARA is ready to move ahead on this project.
7. Mr. Dell Angelo asked if ARA was dealing directly with the County on this? Mr. Lukens indicated they were working through the Township.
8. Mr. Dunbar noted they could make a recommendation contingent upon completing the installation by the end of this summer. Perhaps Public Works and the Parks Dept. could aid in clearing the area for the installation. Mr. Lukens indicated that there was not a lot to clear; only a small amount of leveling would be necessary.
9. **MOTION** – Mrs. Mazza made a motion to approve the release of \$15,000 to ARA for this project, contingent upon ARA’s agreement to purchase and complete the installation by the Fall 2009. Mrs. Mandracchia seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 5-0.
10. It was noted that the pavilion could be purchased quickly through the State contract.

B. Program Updates:

1. Mr. Lukens reviewed a list of programs being held by the Township this past March:
 - a) Guitar lessons were filled, with 6 students taking ½ hour lessons for the 6-week session.
 - b) The Live, Laugh & Love Club had 3 members. Contact Angela Johnson for more details regarding what this club entailed.

- c) An SAT workshop was held for parents.
 - d) The Easter Egg Hunt was a success, with approximately 1,000 people in attendance. They could have used a few extra helpers, however the Optimists and several BOS members were present to assist with the event.
2. Programs scheduled for April include:
- a) Earth Day Celebration on April 19th from Noon to 3 p.m. They will need help with this event. There will also be a shredding event held in conjunction with Earth Day. Mr. Lukens noted that the Perkiomen Watershed is looking for new sites to clean up, but none are confirmed for this event.
 - b) A student SAT workshop will be held April 18th.
- C. Parks Maintenance Updates:
- 1. The Parks crew has been busy preparing the fields and parks for use.
 - 2. At Eagleville Park, Gaughler Field was raked and rolled. Tennis nets were put up, the restrooms were cleaned and opened, a minor leak was fixed, and the bocce courts were lined and painted.
 - 3. Tree limbs extending over baseball fields in Eskie Park were trimmed.
 - 4. The restrooms at Evansburg Point Park were cleaned and opened. Some basin work and replacement of split rail fencing was also completed.
 - 5. Chairman Heisner asked about Port-o-Potty's at some of the fields. Mr. Lukens explained that these were put there by the school district prior to opening of the bathrooms. They are being left there by the school district so they do not have to worry about a key to open the restrooms.
- 6. Comments from Board:**
- A. Mr. Wurtz asked who put the Port-o-Potty at Gabriel's Field? Mr. Lukens indicated that the Township arranged for this because of the cricket league. They charged the league for this facility up front, and had it placed as close to the field as possible.
- 7. Comments from Residents:**
- A. There were no resident comments at this time.
- 8. Adjourn:**
- A. **MOTION** – Mr. Dell Angelo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wurtz seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 12, 2009