

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION
MAY 12, 2009 MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

A. Mr. Dell Angelo called the Parks & Recreation meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

A. The following Parks & Recreation members were present: Mr. Dell Angelo, Mrs. Eckman, Mrs. Mandracchia, and Mr. Wurtz.

B. Mr. Heisner, Mr. Gambone, and Mrs. Mazza were absent.

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

3. Monthly Meeting:

A. Review/Approve meeting minutes of April 14, 2009:

1. **MOTION** – Mr. Wurtz made a motion to approve the April 14, 2009. Mrs. Mandracchia seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 3-0-1. Mrs. Eckman abstained from the vote, as she was not present for the April 14th meeting.

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. Mr. Leahan noted that the excessive rain has delayed their progress with the field. There have been 19 days of rain since April. Once they have a few dry days, they will put the swale cut in and they can begin work on the punch list items.
2. Mr. Dell Angelo asked when the stones would be removed? Mr. Leahan explained that when they start the swale cut, the majority of the dirt would be placed on top of the stones. This will then be covered with 2-3” of topsoil.
3. Mr. Lukens noted that previously there was a vertical stone wall in this location, which has been dug out and graded back. Mr. Leahan noted this was done to comply with a request from Chambers Associates, to provide distance for safety. They have gone back to the original plan and removed a wall from the far side of the field. This is now ADA compliant.
4. Mr. Dell Angelo asked for an update on grants. Mr. Leahan has not received any news on their second grant. He contacted Senator Rafferty’s office regarding that grant, however that office has no way to determine when the grant will come through, and is unable to speed the process.

B. Evansburg Point Park Plan Update:

1. Mr. Lukens noted that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) held a public hearing on this plan at their April 16th meeting. After the hearing, the BOS adopted the plan.
2. Mr. Lukens will submit a package of related materials to DCNR for review. He was also given authorization to prepared specs for this project so that they can move forward quickly after receiving DCNR approval. He hopes to begin work in 2009 on this project.

C. ARA – Request to Install Scoreboard:

1. Mr. Lukens noted that this request from Audubon Recreation Association (ARA) to install a new scoreboard on “C” field was presented to the BOS at their workshop meeting. This is

scheduled for a vote at the next BOS meeting on May 21st. ARA is ready to move forward with this once approval is granted.

D. Pavilion at Audubon Recreation Fields:

1. Mr. Lukens also presented a request for partial funding of a pavilion at the ARA fields during the BOS workshop meeting. This is scheduled for a May 21st vote. The request is for \$15,000 to be released from the capital budget for use toward the pavilion. ARA is confident that they can complete the installation this year.
2. Mrs. Eckman asked if this would go where the swing sets are currently located? Mr. Lukens explained that the pavilion would be near the swing sets, between the snack bar and restrooms.
3. Mrs. Eckman asked if this would be 20' x 40'? Mr. Lukens indicated it would be approximately that size, however it could fluctuate up or down a little.
4. Mr. Wurtz asked if this would be on concrete? Mr. Lukens indicated that it would. He explained that first they prepare the ground, and then install the pavilion, and then the concrete is poured.

5. New Business:

A. Program Updates:

1. Mr. Lukens reviewed a list of recent Township activities:
 - a) Nine residents participated in the Washington D.C. and Odyssey Boat Cruise trip. These trips are held in partnership with neighboring townships.
 - b) UK Petite completed a soccer camp for 15 children aged 3-5.
 - c) Six residents participated in a trip to Ireland.
 - d) Two students signed-up for the SAT Workshop. Huntington Learning Center held free one-on-one sessions for the children who signed up.
 - e) Earth Day was celebrated with a variety of events on April 19th. Over 300 people attended this event, which was co-sponsored with the library. Some of the events included a puppet show, a DJ, bucket truck rides, Mascaro's Dumpo the Elephant, and a document-shredding event.
2. Mr. Lukens reviewed upcoming May events:
 - a) A trip to New York has already occurred.
 - b) A trip to Gettysburg is scheduled for the 16th.
 - c) The arthritis swimming program will begin on May 18th.
 - d) An Atlantic City bus trip will be held on May 19th.
 - e) A cake decorating program is being held at Brewsters.
 - f) A yoga for golfers program will be held on the 30th.
 - g) Free golf demonstrations will be held May 31st at The Club at Shannondell.

B. Parks Maintenance Updates:

1. At the ARA fields, timbers have been placed near the pitching warm-up area at one of the fields to prevent cars from parking there. The only cost for this project was labor, as they recycled materials from the playground for this area.
2. A chain has been installed across the entrance to a grass area used for overflow parking at the ARA Pawling's Road parking lot. This was done as a result of safety concerns. No cars will be permitted in this area during the week.
3. Mrs. Eckman asked if they would be installing the snow fencing at ARA again? Mr. Lukens noted that some people do not like this fencing because it is unattractive. He is awaiting direction from Chief Carroll with regard to how best to address the Audubon Road Parking area at ARA.

4. Mr. Lukens reviewed other maintenance items:
 - a) Curb stops in front of the Township Building were pinned down so they cannot move.
 - b) The Bocce Court was cleaned-up and had a few repairs.
 - c) Flowerbeds at the Township complex were cleaned up and planted.
 - d) Safety surfacing was added where needed at the playground.
 - e) Gaughler Field was rolled and prepped.
 - f) Eskie Park also had some safety surfacing installed, and the flowerbeds at that location were also cleaned up.
 - g) The boat ramp at Hoy Park has been cleaned to reduce slipping.

C. Possible ball fencing at Gaughler Field:

1. Mr. Lukens met with Pat Mascaro to discuss sponsorship funding for a project at Gaughler Field. The baseball teams are losing a lot of balls on the third base side of the field into the woods. Mr. Mascaro suggested installing telephone poles and netting to help alleviate this problem. Mr. Mascaro would run the project and split the costs of the materials.
2. Mr. Lukens is awaiting feedback on how long of an area is involved, as this will tie-in directly to the cost of the project. He is estimating the project cost at \$13,000, which would mean \$7,500 is incurred by the Township. They did save money by not installing the backstop this year, and perhaps that could be reallocated for this project. Mr. Lukens noted it could also be carried up to next year's capital budget. The Parks crew has already begun to clear away the thorny bushes in this area, which may help the situation.
3. Mr. Wurtz asked how much was allocated for the backstop? Mr. Lukens indicated this was \$15,000.
4. Mrs. Mandracchia commented that they would need to see the costs prior to making a decision.
5. Mrs. Eckman asked if there was a problem with balls hitting houses in this area? Mr. Lukens indicated there is not a problem.
6. The Park Board concurred that they would need to look at the field and have a final cost estimate prior to taking any action on this matter.

6. Comments from Board:

- A. Mrs. Eckman asked if the landscapers were supposed to weed-whack at the ARA fields? Mr. Lukens indicated that they are, but thinks the weather effected what work was completed this week. He keeps note of work performed so it can be matched to incoming invoices.
- B. Mrs. Eckman expressed concern with children using picnic tables as a boost to climb tall pine trees at the ARA Field. Mr. Lukens will see what can be done about this.

7. Comments from Residents:

- A. Mr. Tom Leahan provided an example of a sign the Wolverines intend to post for 30 days prior to registration. They have requested a waiver of the permit fee.
- B. The Wolverines would also like to bring a 53' long trailer to the field for equipment storage. The trailer will be repainted and properly landscaped. Mr. Lukens remarked that when they are ready to move on that, the Wolverines should contact him to be put on the agenda.

8. Adjourn:

- A. **MOTION** – Mrs. Eckman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Mandracchia seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting ended at 7:36 p.m.

Next Meeting: June 9, 2009