

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION
JUNE 9, 2009 MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

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

2. Roll Call:

A. The following Parks & Recreation members were present: Mrs. Eckman, Mr. Heisner, Mr. Gambone, Mrs. Mandracchia, Mrs. Mazza, and Mr. Wurtz.

B. Mr. Dell Angelo was absent.

C. Additional attendees included: Mr. Matthew Jones, Student Representative, Mr. Craig Dininny, Board of Supervisors Liaison, and Mr. Karl Lukens, Parks & Recreation Director.

3. Monthly Meeting:

A. Review/Approve meeting minutes of May 12, 2009:

1. **MOTION** – Mrs. Eckman made a motion to approve the May 12, 2009. Mr. Wurtz seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 6-0.

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.
2. Mr. Leahan discussed the placement of topsoil at various locations on the field. He noted that 9' had been added to the parking lot instead of the required 7'. Mr. Leahan discussed the placement of a 5' swale that is shaped like a golf club and located near the storm drain. The Parks Dept. cut the field and it looks good.

B. Evansburg Point Park Plan Update:

1. Mr. Lukens noted that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) has approved the plan changes, and an information packet was forwarded to John Gribbosh from DCNR. The plans are now in Harrisburg for review, and Mr. Lukens is preparing a bid packet so they are ready to move forward with the project once DCNR approves it.

C. ARA – Request to Install Scoreboard:

1. Mr. Lukens indicated that the BOS has approved the request for another scoreboard at the ARA Fields. Mr. Lukens has discussed the situation with ARA's President, Mike Daddazio, however they have not placed a timeframe on the installation.

D. Pavilion at Audubon Recreation Fields:

1. Mr. Lukens noted that the BOS has also approved an expenditure for the pavilion at the ARA Fields. Mr. Daddazio is trying to coordinate the delivery of the materials and the installation. ARA will be responsible for the concrete and the installation. They are currently pricing roofing materials to determine if they can save money by purchasing the roofing locally, or if the roof package from the manufacturer is best. ARA will most likely begin construction around August 1st.

5. New Business:

A. Program Updates:

1. Mr. Lukens reviewed a list of recent Township activities:
 - a) A bus trip to New York was run.

- b) A new program for Tots and Adults Tennis began, and included three teams of parents and children. This provides an introduction to tennis for the kids.
 - c) 12 spots for private swim lessons quickly filled up. These are presented by the same group that does aqua fitness, and the lessons are at the Variety Club pool.
 - d) Adult golf and mat Pilates sessions are underway.
 - e) Quick Start Tennis workshop was conducted. It was offered through the USTA, and was presented to camp counselors and local tennis professionals. By hosting the training session, Lower Providence received \$800 in start-up equipment for free. This equipment includes two portable nets, balls, lines, and 24 junior racquets, which can be used for Camp Perkiomy.
 - f) A bus trip to Gettysburg was run, with 21 people from the Township participating.
2. Mr. Heisner asked when the concerts in the park would begin? Mr. Lukens noted they will kick-off on July 4th at 6:30, followed by fireworks. An intern has created a bookmark type hand out with the remaining concert dates and other pertinent information on it to be handed out on the 4th.
- a) Mrs. Mazza asked if there would be Wednesday evening concerts? Mr. Lukens indicated they would run every other Wednesday evening at 7 p.m.
 - b) Mr. Wurtz asked if they would sell glow necklaces at the fireworks? Mr. Lukens has just ordered these, and they will sell them. There was some discussion regarding an appropriate price for the necklaces.
 - c) Mr. Lukens indicated that he would need as much help as possible for the July 4th festivities, so please let him know if you are available.
 - d) There will be VIP and handicapped parking at the Township building. These cars will be the last ones to leave.
 - e) Mr. Wurtz asked if there was a canopy for the band? Mr. Lukens has a stage with a roof lined up. This can be cancelled up to 48 hours in advance if they determine the weather will be good.
 - f) Mr. Gambone commented that there should be better signage at the top of Parklane Drive so people know it is handicap parking only.
 - g) Mrs. Mazza requested that the Fire Police be notified of the handicap parking so they do not direct other traffic to that location.

B. Parks Maintenance Updates:

- 1. Mr. Lukens noted that the flower beds in the Township complex have been planted and mulched. Invasive growth near the third base side of Gaugler Field has been removed. Repairs were made to the bathrooms, and volleyball nets have been set up.
- 2. Several safety list items were taken care of at Shoemaker House, including the addition of railings on the stairs and other minor items. Air conditioning was installed, however there was not adequate return air ductwork to accommodate it. The Parks crew was able to construct a wall to run the return duct to the second floor, which saved the Township at least \$1,000.
- 3. The pier at Hoy Park was missing about 12 nuts, and many others were loose. These have been repaired, had lock tight put on them, and had the threads of the bolts bent to deter removal.

C. Soap Box Derby:

- 1. Mr. Lukens met with Mr. Dunbar, Ms. Johnson, and Mr. William Donovan to discuss a soap box derby that occurs in the business park each year. Many people are unaware that this occurs in the Township.

2. Mr. Donovan was present to discuss soapbox derby's in general. He provided an 8-page handout from the All-American Soap Box Derby organization, which explained about the derby and types of divisions and cars.
3. Mr. Donovan noted this is typically for children ages 7-16 years. They start with the stock division and learn how to use tools to build their car, participate in a race, and all about how the competition works.
4. There are two types of races: a local one such as those held in Conshohocken each July 4th, or Rally races. Winners from the local race in each division get to participate in the national race in Akron, Ohio. Rally races are held all over the place, and allow winners to earn points that can lead them to the national competition. The race held in the corporate park is a rally race.
5. The Park Board members posed various questions with regard to how the races are run and how you get to the Akron competition, which Mr. Donovan answered.
6. Mr. Lukens explained that the Township is looking at this from the perspective of they want to bring additional publicity to the business park and Township. Mr. Donovan thinks that the local and state organizations will like the attention. He will first reach out to them to discuss the situation.
7. Mr. Donovan will try to obtain a promotional video for the Board to review so they have a better understanding of the races.
8. The Park Board was unanimous in expressing their interest in pursuing this matter further.

6. Comments from Board:

- A. Mr. Dininny noted that at the Municipal Authority meeting last night they voted to send \$100,000 from their budget to the Parks budget. This money is from the rental of the golf course.
- B. Mrs. Mazza asked if there was anything going on with Gabriel's Field? Mr. Lukens noted this was on hold until they know what is going to occur with the positioning of that roadway. The completion of a master site plan for this location is on the 5 year capital plan in year 2011.
- C. Mr. Wurtz asked if a silt fence that has been burred in weeds could be removed from Gabriel's Field? Mr. Lukens will look into this.

7. Comments from Residents:

- A. None

8. Adjourn:

- A. **MOTION** – Mr. Gambone made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Mandracchia seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0. The meeting ended at 7:58 p.m.

Next Meeting: August 11, 2009