



## **Minutes: Parks and Recreation Committee      April 6, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Parks and Recreation Committee was held on April 6, 2015 and began at 6:38pm at the Schoonover Municipal Building with Abigail Graham presiding.

In attendance were: Members of the Public – Eric Graham, Kelli Oney and Joyce Fenical; MST Liaison – Erin Groome; Board of Supervisors, Annette Atkinson and Mike Dwyer and Parks and Recreation Board Members – Abigail Graham, Raquel Barbera, Michele Dellavalle and Jeff Reichl (via speaker phone).

### **Correspondence**

Jeff Reichl made a motion to accept the resignation letter for Anne Marie Pohlman from the Parks and Recreation Committee, Raquel Barbera seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Abigail Graham made a motion to appoint Michelle Dellavalle to the Parks and Recreation Committee as a voting board member, Raquel Barbera seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Abigail Graham made a motion to appoint Raquel Barbera as the Park Lead for Resica Park, Jeff Reichl seconded the motion. Motion approved 4-0.

### **Minutes**

Raquel Barbera made a motion to accept the minutes from March 2, 2015, Abigail Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved 4-0.

### **Courtesy of Floor/Members of Public**

Joyce Fenical presented back to the Parks and Recreation Committee board a rain barrel that was given to her by Ron Clewell many years back. The rain barrel was originally donated to the township by Kettle Creek Conservation District. Mr. Clewell felt the barrel would be put to good use and not destroyed by giving it to Mrs. Fenical. Abigail Graham suggested painting the barrel and have it placed at the new Community Gardens Park.

### **Parks**

#### **Resica Park**

Raquel Barbera confirmed with the board of what the township maintains and what the school maintains at the park.

#### **Old Business**

Raquel Barbera updated the board on the Girl Scout project for the park trail. The Girl Scouts are working on developing a scavenger hunt that will include reusable trail cards that can be kept at the start of the trail path. It was suggested that the scouts contact Ed Regina or Seth Richards to help with identifying some of the vegetation along the path.

Flowerbeds – Mrs. Barbera noted that she has volunteers to help with the flowerbeds. What is needed is dirt for the beds. Mike Dwyer said that supplying dirt would not be a problem. It was suggested to use drought and deer resistant plants in the flowerbeds. Abigail Graham made a motion to approve the amount of \$100 to be spent on flowers that would be placed around the Resica Park Baseball Field, Michelle Dellavalle seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

A quick recap of the Egg Hunt was gone over. There were about 250 children that attended the event. Due to the cold weather and melting snow, the children were given bags of eggs along with a juice and snack. A suggestion was to have parents join the children around the field and the child would run grab an egg and bring it back to the parent and then the child would repeat the same step again.

There were some complaints and it was also suggested to have a rain date. Another suggestion was to have more for the children to do if holding another trunk or treat style hunt. Annette Atkinson suggested having a best designed bonnet competition. Kelli Oney noted that the Boy Scouts could help volunteer during the event. There was talk of changing the event to a spring festival due to Easter being so early in the season for 2016. Resica PTO will be contacted to see if they would like to help with the event. More advertising for the event was suggested too.

After more discussion, the board agreed to turn the Egg Hunt into a Spring Jamboree/Earth Day event. More will be discussed during the year.

#### **New Business**

Mrs. Barbera announced that the little league will be moving all their equipment from Middle Smithfield Elementary School to Resica Elementary. Mrs. Barbera announced that the shed that was given to the little league originally for use at Middle Smithfield Elementary School would need to be moved and that the Little League would like to donate the shed back to the township. A suggestion was made that the shed could be placed at the new Community Gardens as the new tool shed. Doing so would mean the current Eagle Scout project would need to be revised and the project cost would go down. The township will contact Middle Smithfield Elementary to arrange the removal of the shed.

The next Parks and Recreation meeting will be held on Monday, April 6, 2015 at 6:30pm. Jeff Reichl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09pm; Raquel Barbera seconded the motion. Motion approved 4-0.

#### **Community Gardens**

##### **Old Business**

There were two Organic Gardening classes held at the municipal building. Annette Atkinson felt they were very successful. Mrs. Atkinson informed everyone that there will be a Master Gardener who will have specified hours to help at the gardens with questions and answers during the season. Annette Atkinson will be attending the Monroe County Bee Keepers meeting to see if they would like a garden box at the gardens. The site work is underway and the boulders are being placed on Thursday. The Township Engineer will be on site to help with the placement of the boulders. The target open date is Memorial Weekend for the grand opening. Michele Dellavalle suggested planting milk weed and mixed flowers along the front of the park.

**New Business** – None

#### **Putek Park**

##### **Old Business**

Abigail Graham noted that she was there after the snow had melted and the park was a mess. Mrs. Graham helped by cleaning up the garbage that was lying around the park from winter. Mrs. Graham stressed that the residents need to help keep the park clean also. Abigail Graham noted that she has posted the new Question and Facts notice in the kiosk at the park. Once the changeover for the new dog park happens, Putek Park will be left alone and turned back into a nature park.

**New Business** – None

#### **Echo Lake Park**

##### **Old Business**

Danny Younger announced the Stage Coach event that was being planned has been canceled for 2015 and will try again in 2016. Mr. Younger said there were more permits needed than anticipated along with needing liability insurance.

Frisbee Golf – Mike Dwyer and Jeff Reichl will be meeting at Echo Lake Park on April 18, 2015 to lay out the new Frisbee Golf course.

**New Business** – None

#### **Dog Park**

##### **Old Business**

Abigail Graham was able to stop by the new dog park while construction was being done. Mrs. Graham is very happy with what she saw. A suggestion was made to place fencing around the water area so that dogs could get hosed off and owners would not have to worry about dogs getting loose. Mike Dwyer made a suggestion to place the water spicket in the penned area. Mr. Dwyer also noted that the fencing was scheduled to be installed on April 14, 2015.

**New Business** – None

##### **Litter and Beautification**

1,000 Feet of Street – The roadside cleanup is scheduled for April 25, 2015 and will start around 8am. Raquel Barbera will put the word out to the Little League parents that volunteers are needed. Volunteers will be placed into groups to clean different roads throughout the township. Four Public Works employees will be needed and five public works trucks will be used. Three hours of volunteer time seems to work the best, but any amount of time that a volunteer can give will be greatly appreciated. Michele Dellavalle will be volunteering to help, Abigail Graham is unsure if she is able to help, Raquel Barbera will not be available to help.

**Announcements** – None

##### **Individual Action Items**

Raquel Barbera – 1,000 Feet of Street Volunteers

Jeff Reichl – Frisbee Golf course layout with Mike Dwyer

Erin Groome – Park signs for New Dog Park and Community Gardens

Kelli Oney asked about an ice skating rink being built at Echo Lake Park. This was looked at in the past, but due to insurance never preceded. Mrs. Oney will talk with Sheely Insurance and check more into the possibility of having an ice skating rink at one of the township parks.

The next Parks and Recreation meeting will be held on Monday, May 4, 2015 at 6:30pm. Abigail Graham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23pm; Michele Dellavalle seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Erin Groome

Parks and Recreation Liaison