

Parks and Recreation Board
April 7, 2014

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Parks and Recreation Board was held on April 7, 2014 and began with a flag salute at 6:39p.m. at the Schoonover Municipal Building with Joyce Fenical, Chairman, presiding.

In attendance were: Members of the Public – Raquel Barbera, Joe Schnon, Doreen Santiago, Louis Santiago, Jonathan Santiago, Devin Santiago; MST Liaison – Erin Groome; Board of Supervisors – Michael Dwyer and Annette Atkinson; Parks Advisory Committee Members – Bill Bonser, Holly Halterman, Ed Regina and Eric Graham and Parks and Recreation Board Members – Patricia J Griffin, Anne Marie Pohlman, Jeff Reichl, Abigail Graham and Joyce Fenical.

Minutes

Jeff Reichl made a motion to accept the minutes from March 3, 2014; Abigail Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Correspondence – None

Echo Lake Park

Jeff Reichl reported that Debbie Kulick gave him the name of the vendor that did the brick sales at Pocono Medical Center. Mr. Reichl will contact them to find out more information. Bill Bonser said if the brick sales don't work, he has an alternative vendor that could do a different type of sale instead. Mr. Bonser said the vendor makes brass plates that get attached to walls.

Veterans Memorial – Joe Schnon made up a sketch plan of what the memorial would look like. Joe Schnon said he tried to contact Dave Manter, but did not get a call back. Mike Dwyer gave Joe Schnon a list of contact numbers for Dave Manter, an architect and a granite company.

There were two other scouts present that were looking to work on Eagle Scout projects to earn their badges. Devin Santiago is looking to work on a project this year and Jonathan Santiago will be looking to work on one next year.

The rededication of the flag pole & pavilion is scheduled for June 14, 2014 (Flag Day). Mike Dwyer will contact Gerard Patane about dedication since he built the garden around the flag pole.

Stroud Townships facility use sign can be used as a template if the township would want to change any wording on the current park facility use signs.

Jeff Reichl would like to hold a yard sale at Echo Lake Park. Date of sale will be May 31, 2014. The hours will be 9am – 4pm. The cost would be \$20.00 per spot under the pavilion and \$15.00 per spot outside the pavilion. Joyce Fenical said she will contact the Marshalls Square Shopping center to ask about using their parking lot for parking.

Resica Park

Mike Dwyer talked about Eagle Scout projects that could be done at the park. Devin Santiago could work on a project for the walking trail located at Resica Park. This project would entail putting up information signs to describe what is found along the trail. Ed Regina said he could help Devin Santiago understand what plants are found along the trail. Some material to be used to build the information stands would be 4x4 posts with a plaque describing the plants attached to the post.

Anne Marie Pohlman reported that the toddler swings need more mulch under them, a post by the trail had been knocked down and that some grills will need some upkeep soon.

Raquel Barbera talked to the Parks Committee Board about the work that is proposed for the little league field. Mrs. Barbera said the conduit has been installed by the township and is ready for the electric lines to be run for the scoreboards. Mrs. Barbera also said the little league would like to place planters with flowers in them around the concession stand and the storage shed. They would also like to put up some hanging planters, too.

Egg Hunt – Erin Groome reported the status of the egg hunt. Raquel Barbera said she has about 10-15 volunteers for that day to help with the event. Pat Griffin said she had about 6 volunteers for the morning (hiding eggs) and Abigail Graham also had volunteers from the dog park sub-committee. Jeff Reichl will work on simplifying the parks survey that will be used on the day of the egg hunt.

Community Day and the Trunk or Treat will be discussed more at the next parks meeting.

Putek Park

Abigail Graham reported that the dog fence gate had been fixed and thanked the public works department for doing this so quickly. Mrs. Graham also informed the committee that the volunteer basis has dropped due to the weather and expects it to pick up once the warmer weather rolls around.

Abigail Graham also noted that she mentioned to residents about naming the new dog park after a service dog and many liked the idea. Mrs. Graham also noted that the dog would not have to be a local service dog, could be from anywhere in Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Graham let the committee know that the property survived the winter weather pretty good, too.

Mike Dwyer said there was no update or change for the status of the new dog park.

Litter and Beautification

Ed Regina asked that someone else head the Litter and Beautification sub-committee due to scheduling constraints. Mr. Regina said he would help when he could.

Holly Halterman offered to head the Litter and Beautification sub-committee. Jeff Reichl made a motion to approve, Abigail Graham second the motion.

1,000 Feet of Street – The cleanup would run from 8am-12pm on April 26, 2014. Mike Dwyer explained that in order for the clean up to be a success, volunteers were needed.

A posting for the event will be put on the Parks and Recreation Facebook page along with postings at all the parks. An email will also be sent out requesting volunteers.

Mike Dwyer asked the committee to develop a list of all the local facilities that are available to the public for use. This would include parks, pools, pavilions to rent, sports groups, sports fields (e.g., baseball/softball fields, football fields, soccer fields, etc.) etc... Mr. Dwyer said to also include where the facilities are located and any other information such as when they are open to the public. Some of the spots to look at where: East Stroudsburg Youth Association, Lehman Township, Smithfield Township, Stroud Regional Open Space and Recreation along with the local school districts such as East Stroudsburg Area School District.

Community Gardens – Joyce Fenical talked about the new community garden planning committee, which would be a task force. Mrs. Fenical explained the concept to the parks committee. Annette Atkinson talked about the future location of the garden and informed the parks committee that there will be a site walk on April 19, 2014 at 10am. Mrs. Atkinson also explained some aspects of the gardens. The next Community Gardens Planning Meeting will be held on April 22, 2014 at 6:00pm.

Announcements

Joyce Fenical handed out sample books to all the committee members for brick sales. Members need to look through the books and pick out a design they like. Members will then contact Jeff Reichl to let him know what design they like. Mr. Reichl will then call to have the samples sent for viewing at the next parks meeting.

The next Parks and Recreation meeting will be held on May 5, 2014 at 6:30pm. Jeff Reichl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm., Abigail Graham seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Erin Groome
Parks and Recreation Liaison