



Minutes: Parks and Recreation Committee June 1, 2015

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Parks and Recreation Committee was held on June 1, 2015 and began at 6:30pm at the Schoonover Municipal Building with Abigail Graham presiding.

In attendance were: Members of the Public – Eric Graham, Bill Bonser, Laurel Bishow and Ruth Cahill; MST Liaison – Erin Groome; Board of Supervisors, Annette Atkinson and Mike Dwyer and Parks and Recreation Board Members – Abigail Graham, Raquel Barbera, Michelle Dellavalle, Jenna Componovo and Jeff Reichl.

Correspondence

An email was received from Joe Schoun confirming that he is still working on his Eagle Scout project and that he has finally raised the funds needed to complete the Veteran's Memorial that will be located at Echo Lake Park.

Minutes

Raquel Barbera made a motion to accept the minutes from May 4, 2015, Jenna Componovo seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

Parks

Resica

Raquel Barbera reported that flowers were planted around the ball field and could use more mulch to complete. Mrs. Barbera asked if she should mulch around the park sign by the pavilion. The board gave the go ahead since the help was there to get this job done.

Mrs. Barbera said the trash at the park needs to be emptied more and could the trash cans be emptied at least 3 times a week.

Erin Groome gave an update for the Girl Scout trail project. Ms. Groome said that the troop has received all the new signs and are working on how to post these signs. They also have completed the scavenger hunt flyer and will be getting them laminated. The troop is hoping to have this completed by the end of June.

Raquel Barbera reported that the pavilion is getting a lot of use with the end of school. Will need to watch the trash and empty more due to the extra use.

Mrs. Barbera inquired about the fencing that will be taken down at the old dog park for the back practice field located at Resica Park. Mrs. Barbera is concerned for the safety of the players due to the big drop off at the edge of the field. Mike Dwyer said that Coolbaugh Township wanted the old fencing. Mr. Dwyer said that he will check again and see what fencing he could get to help this problem.

Raquel Barbera talked about holding a yard sale to fundraise for the park, due to the poor turnout at Echo Lake's sales, this idea was turned down.

Raquel Barbera suggested holding a kid friendly Halloween Treat Trail instead of the Trunk or Treat. This could be an added event to the trunk or treat or change the event all together to a kid friendly treat trail. Date of the event could be October 17, 2015 with a rain date of October 24, 2015. The event could be held from 2:00 – 4:00pm. There could be added extra stations to the event that would include: face painting, dance party station, pumpkin decorating and more. Mike Dwyer suggested forming a subcommittee and to work on the event before the next meeting in July. At the July meeting a report could be given to the board. Bill Bonser noted that at the original treat trail that was held at Echo Lake Park each station had a sponsor and this was noted at each station. Group will report with more ideas at the July meeting.

Community Gardens

Annette Atkinson reported that a Pollinator Class was held on May 27, 2015. Mrs. Atkinson said that more classes will be held at the gardens once they open and are under way. One idea is to include being able to show off the swarm box that is located at the new gardens. Another compost class can be held along with bring in compost from the Multi-Municipal Compost Facility located on Oak Grove Road. Some other classes could include “Square foot gardening” and “High volume gardening classes”.

A soft opening is scheduled for Sunday, June 7, 2015. This would allow gardeners to prepare their plots for planting. A hard opening would be scheduled for a later date once everything is in place. The fencing is scheduled to start on Thursday, June 4, 2015 and should be completed within a week. Erin Groome will contact plot renters on Friday once more information is received for opening dates.

Dog Park at Leroy’s Lane/Putek

The fencing is completed and the gravel is down for the walking paths. The kiosk has been installed, along with trash cans, benches and mitt boxes. Swing gates will be added in the near future. Abigail Graham will post signs in new kiosk to notify user of the local rooster and that all dogs must be leashed till in the pen. An official open date of June 6, 2015 has been given. Township will give a couple of weeks for residents to adjust to the new park before the fencing at Putek Park gets taken down. Mr. Dwyer noted that the park will be closed when this occurs. A notice will be posted to inform visitors of the closing date.

Echo Lake

Jeff Reichl reported that the score cards have been received for the Frisbee Golf course. During summer Mr. Reichl will work on mapping out the field for a playground and new Ball Field. Jenna Componovo was able to find out some more information regarding a playground. Mrs. Componovo spoke with a friend who said their playground was funded by grants and donations which took about 4 years to raise. The cost of that park was about \$350,000. The company that the playground was purchased from was Play World and it was installed by Jeffery Associates who also helped with the grant process. It was noted that a decision will have to be made on how much the township would be will to spend on this help if the committee were to contact Jeffery Associates. Mrs. Componovo needs to get the square footage of the area where the playground would be placed so that

she can complete more of her research for the new playground. Jeff Reichl and Jenna Componovo will work together on mapping out a plan.

Jeff Reichl asked the Board of Supervisors if an ordinance could be developed to stop the political signs from being placed on Township Park properties. Mr. Reichl was very upset this past primary election by how many political signs was posted on the parks properties. Another option that was given if it could not be stopped all together was could spacing of signs be considered to help slow how many signs are posted by the candidates.

Litter and Beautification – None

Announcements – None

Individual Action Items

Jeff Reichl and Jenna Componovo – playground grant work and mapping out of park

Raquel Barbera – mulch for Resica Park

Michelle Dellavalle – classes that could be held at the new community gardens

Erin Groome – order new dog park signs, give Public Works a punch list for new dog park

Abigail Graham – New kiosk information signs

The next Parks and Recreation meeting will be held on Monday, July 6, 2015 at 6:30pm. Jenna Componovo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07pm; Abigail Graham seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Erin Groome
Parks and Recreation Liaison