



Minutes: Parks and Recreation Committee

October 5, 2015

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Parks and Recreation Committee was held on October 5, 2015 and began at 6:35pm at the Schoonover Municipal Building with Abigail Graham presiding.

In attendance were: Members of the Public – Eric Graham, Bill Bonser and Regina Ireland-Auer; MST Liaison – Erin Groome; Board of Supervisor, Mike Dwyer and Annette Atkinson and Parks and Recreation Board Members – Abigail Graham, Michelle Dellavalle and Jenna Componovo.

Board Member Michelle Dellavalle and Jenna Componovo informed the Parks and Recreation Committee board that they must leave by 7:15pm; the board agreed to adjourn at this time.

Correspondence - None

Minutes

Michelle Dellavalle made a motion to accept the minutes from September 9, 2015, Jenna Componovo seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

The Board of Supervisors is still accepting volunteer applications to fill the vacant spot on the Parks and Recreation Committee Board. Any interested parties should fill out the Volunteer Request Application and submit to the Board of Supervisors.

Parks

Resica

Trunk or treat – Erin Groome reported that all the school requests have been approved. Bill Bonser informed the board that he has extra games that are available for use. The games would just need volunteers to help run them. Volunteers are still needed for the event; games will depend on how many volunteers there are for the Trunk or Treat. Jenna Componovo will be helping with face painting during the Trunk or Treat. Michelle Dellavalle said she would be there to help during the event. Erin Groome will contact Father Reichlin to see if the youth group would be able to volunteer during the event. A generator will be needed during the event to run the spin art machine, Erin Groome will make sure the Public Works Department knows it is needed.

Erin Groome noted that she received a gift certificate from Elevations Health Club for the Trunk or Treat and a \$25.00 check donation from the Indian Museum. The Elevations Health Club gift certificate can be used as one of the best decorated cars awards. This year we can give the winners an option to choose from the available awards.

Community Gardens

Michelle Dellavalle reported that the Community Gardens Sub-committee had met on September 21, 2015 at 6:30pm. She noted that the main concern was the three (3) bed rental rule that was put in place at the last Parks and Recreation Committee meeting. It was asked that an exception be made for Mr. and Mrs. Younger due to all the hard work they have put in. The board agreed to allow Mr. and Mrs. Younger to retain all four (4) of their original raised beds. Mrs. Dellavalle also suggested that there should be others helping with the garden beds that are designated for the local charities.

It was suggested that the garden demonstration beds should be placed closer to the entrance gate so that visitors could see them and learn from them better. The 10x10 Master Gardener demonstration

box is still in the works as to its layout. A new scale diagram will have to be worked up before the spring so that new beds can be built and placed in the correct locations.

Mike Dwyer asked Bill Bonser if he could donate some of the left over bales of hay to the Community Gardens. Mr. Bonser said that he has no issue with donating some hay bales.

Erin Groome reported that she received a status update email from James Senholzi regarding the build status of the Community Gardens tool shed. The email stated that Mr. Senholzi has almost reached his fundraising goal and is expecting to break ground in a week or two. James will contact Mike Dwyer when he is ready to break ground.

Putek Park – No change in status at this time.

Echo

Grant update – the Board of Supervisors have submitted a grant request application that will include: A playground for Echo Lake Park and the Coolbaugh Community Gardens Park; Restrooms for Echo Lake Park, the Dog Park and the Coolbaugh Community Gardens; plus accessory items to add to each park (benches, tables, etc...). Jenna Componovo said that the playground company that she is working with will need a decision made by the end of November. The township would have to house the playground equipment or there is a small fee of around \$200 for the playground company to house the equipment for the winter. Mike Dwyer said the township will not know the status of the grant approval till spring of 2016. Mrs. Componovo asked if there was any room in the budget to afford the purchase of the playground equipment before the approval of the grant. Mr. Dwyer felt that it would be possible, but needs to speak with all three Township Supervisors to make a definite decision. Mr. Dwyer will discuss this at the next Supervisors meeting and report back at November's Parks meeting.

Regina Ireland-Auer asked Mike Dwyer to explain the breakdown of where the grant money would be used. Mr. Dwyer explained that the \$125,000 would be broke up between the three parks: Echo Lake Park - \$89,084; Dog Park - \$56,650; Coolbaugh Community Gardens - \$28, 875. The cost would be broke down by 75% grant money and 25% paid by the township.

Veterans Memorial – Erin Groome noted that she was still waiting for a status update from Eagle Scout, Joe Schuon. Ms. Groome expects to receive this update within the next couple of days and will notify the board once received.

Dog Park

Abigail Graham was approached by a couple while at the dog park one morning and was asked if the Township would allow a "Blessing of the dogs". The couple said they are not affiliated with any church and would like to hold a get together to bless the dogs at the park. Due to the Township policy, any type of religious events would not be permitted on township grounds.

Mrs. Graham commented that the water from the spigot is cloudy and has a lot of sediment in it; Erin Groome will inform the Public Works Foreman, Cory Lyon, about water issue. Ms. Groome will also speak with Mr. Lyon about a key for the waste disposal stations so that the bags can be replaced.

Litter and Beautification

1,000 Feet of Street will be discussed at the next Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.

Michelle Dellavalle agreed to attend the Regional Parks meetings that are held on the third Monday of each month at the Smithfield Township Municipal Building.

The Parks and Recreation agreed to still meet on the first Monday of every month at 6pm starting after the New Year (2016). It was also suggested that the Parks Committee could change that they meet in December and could have January and February off instead or not take off at all. Will discuss again at November Parks Committee meeting.

Announcements – None

Individual Action Items - None

The next Parks and Recreation meeting will be held on Monday, November 2, 2015 at 6:30pm.
Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Erin Groome
Parks and Recreation Liaison

Easter was discussed briefly after the meeting adjourned and will need to be discussed more at the November meeting. Mike Dwyer felt that we should not cancel event. Due to Easter being in March, weather will play a big roll on if the event will be able to commence or not.