

PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 27, 2017

Bedford Township Hall

8100 Jackman Road

7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Connie Velliquette, Chair, Sally Dunn, Lew Smith, Jerry Goodridge & Joan Dunton.

ALSO PRESENT: TC Clements, Nancy Crandell

EXCUSED: None.

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. by Chair Connie Velliquette, with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Dunn, seconded by Goodridge to approve the agenda of the March 27, 2017 Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Smith, seconded by Goodridge to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2017 Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
4. SECRETARY'S REPORT: Received in the mail: A first aid & safety catalog, and a government custom-made products catalog.
5. TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Smith, seconded by Dunn. Roll Call: all ayes. Motion Carried.
6. PRESENTATIONS:
  - a. Shawna- Volunteers for repairing skate park, she has carpenters and builders who have offered to volunteer their time, if the supplies would be provided. A go-fund-me account has been setup to help with expenses. Board would like to have meeting with builders at skate park to get their opinion on what structurally needs to be done. Volunteers must also be licensed and bonded so that work can be guaranteed. Charles Mahoney- Skate park was put in by Pearl Albert Green. He's seen unapproved equipment on the skate park, bmx bikes, and motor bikes.
  - b. Skate park renovation- Go-fund-me account was created to help offset costs of skate park repairs. The site keeps financial records, and keeps a percentage of funds raised. The owner Black Swamp Skateboards offered to do a skate contest, and donate proceeds to park for upkeep. He would donate his skateboards as prizes in the contest. Connie would like to have as many of the builders as possible at the already scheduled meeting on Wednesday at 9 am.
7. COMMUNITY EDUCATION: Volleyball and soccer start in the next two weeks, baseball starts next month, along with golf. A new catalog is coming soon. A new director of the youth leagues should be announced soon, and will hopefully be at next park commission meeting.
8. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Charles Mahoney- Is upset that park commission is asking for volunteers to help clean up the parks, when the township has employees that should be doing it.
9. OLD BUSINESS:

Bedford Township Park Board &date

- a. **Carr's Grove Park**: Good shape, had a few rentals over the past month.
- b. **Samaria Park**: Hasn't had much use over the winter. A woman has a pine tree that she'd like to donate to one of the parks.
- c. **White Park**: Pickleball schedule- Connie is trying to get Community Ed., Sylvania pickleball, and Toledo pickleball synchronized. She talked to Steve Salinski, and would like to post some schedules on the township site, and Sylvania site to get more traffic to the courts. She is meeting Racquet Sports, the company that renovated pickleball courts, about renovating tennis courts. Damaged fencing around the park, Connie has spoken with Bedford Fence about fixing the fence. A Toilet was overturned by the tennis court. Complaint- Dan Soda says there is brush on West side of ball diamond. Some part may need to be removed, because it interferes with parking.
- d. **Parmelee Park**: Skate park decision needs to be made soon about removing certain parts and patching others enough to get it open again. Stone and mulch for play areas needs to be replaced, Goodridge is hoping to get a donation from Stone Co for parking lots. Cameras aren't catching the people who are rutting up the parking lots. Fence around skate park has a point that kids can sneak into the park through, and some have been using the park, even though it's closed. Wednesday morning meeting at skate park, and Dennis Kohler should be there as well, because he's a township official.
- e. **Indian Creek Park**: Has had a few people with dogs, it looks clean. Two large trees are overgrowing with low hanging branches within 25 feet of the first bridge and need to be trimmed. First three bridges are park's responsibility, the other two are the school's. Moss issues need to be addressed, and some reconditioning on all bridges. The school had mentioned they may be willing to help cost-wise, depending on what needs to be done to bridges.
- f. **Ansted Park**: Proposed parking lot extension because fence is damaged. Goodridge will check into Stone Co donation, potentially for extension. Everyone should meet there to look at site, and see what parking lot options are. Tree down on far East part of path. Smith spoke to maintenance on Thursday, and they are looking into it. Northern part of Anstead could be a good location for a dog park. We would need a group to champion the project, because we can't staff it.
- g. Adopt a Park: Dunn hopes to get into Bedford High and Junior High within the next month for recruiting.
- h. 5-Year Parks & Recreation Master Plan survey already has 319 responses, and we should maybe leave it open for a few more weeks.
- i. Drinking Fountain Update: Lew Smith is working with maintenance, and they say Samaria is in the worst condition, followed by Parmelee, which has been shot by a shotgun. White and Carr are about the same condition. All fountains are still functional, and they could be used for another season. There are some replacement parts on hand to continue maintaining. Covers should be purchased for winter months, because it would help protect and extend the lives of the fountains, we'd need 8. We should plan to replace one per year. All dog bowls are disconnected, because the drains for them don't work. Overflow from main bowl fills the dog bowls. When new fountains are purchased, new drain lines would need to be installed, and would need to be more extensive. New fountains (same models) are about \$4000 each, which doesn't include installation. Current fountains are approximately 20 years old. There is a drinking fountain that's made for well water, and maybe we should consider that for Samaria, so it holds up better. Fountains will not be turned on for a few more weeks, after the threat of freezing is over.
- j. Trade Fair Update: Dunn, Dunton, and Smith worked in trade fair booth, and encouraged people to fill out surveys. Drawing for Pickleball sets and soccer balls. Four prizes, first come first choice of prizes. Four winners are Taylor 704-658-6883, Mike Nocella 734-807-1081, H Welch 419-699-3096, Honor Schrinier 419-290-0618.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Fireworks: Gloworks and Elephant Ear stand have been confirmed by Velliquette. Donation letters were mailed about two weeks ago, and we have received a few donations so far. Not everyone who donated last year received a letter, so Dunton will check last year's list to make sure more letters are mailed. Velliquette will take care of insurance forms this week.
- b. Pocket Parks: During an SAD discussion, a resident asked if their pocket park could be sold to offset costs of repaving roads. Because the pocket parks are owned by the park commission, money would go to the park commission. Pirrone suggested selling the pocket parks, and using the funding for other parks. Some of the pocket parks are detention ponds donated by builders, and aren't sellable. Many parks were donated by a developer to enrich the subdivision, or for drainage. There are 40 parks, including detention ponds. There could be significant backlash from residents who would be upset over losing their neighborhood park, but the township spends a good deal of money maintaining the pocket parks. Pirrone said before a park would be sold, a meeting would be had with subdivision residents.

11. INFORMATION: Public Playground Maintenance and Safety article, by MTPP.

12. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Marge Cousino has concerns over a pocket park that is only a grass lot at the end Seminole trail. Cars and construction trucks have been driving through Seminole over the pocket park to access back yard of 601 Dean.

13. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: Goodridge wants to look into pocket park issues at Seminole. Velliquette is glad to be back in town. Clements suggested a cemetery niche wall for cremation urns, because no other cemeteries in the area have available niche walls. The only one that has a wall, sold out all spaces in a week. He's also thankful for residents who have become active with skate park improvements.

14. ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn made by Dunn, seconded by Dunton, all ayes. Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. by Ms. Velliquette.

Respectfully submitted

Joan Dunton, Park Board Secretary