

PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Bedford Township Hall

8100 Jackman Road

December 18, 2017 7:00 P.M.

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

Also Present: Nancy Crandell, Jon Gutierrez

Excused: TC Clements

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. by Chair Velliquette, with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda: Velliquette removed the presentation that was on 7 and postponed to January. She added discussion of 5 Year Plan to 9f. Motion was made by Goodridge, seconded by Dunn to approve the revised agenda of the December 18, 2017 Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
3. Election of Officers: Velliquette opened floor to nominations. Goodridge was nominated for Chairman by Smith. Velliquette was nominated for Vice Chairman by Goodridge. Smith was nominated for Treasurer by Goodridge. Dunton was nominated for Secretary by Goodridge. Velliquette closed floor to nominations. Roll Call vote for Goodridge for Chairman: all ayes. Roll Call vote for Velliquette for Vice Chairman: all ayes. Roll Call vote for Smith for Treasurer: all ayes. Roll Call vote for Dunton for Secretary: all ayes.
4. Approval of Minutes: Goodridge submitted for change on line 7, community ed. brochure is actually for Winter, not Spring. Motion was made by Goodridge, seconded by Smith to approve the revised minutes of the November 27, 2017 Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
5. Secretary's Report: Nothing to report.
6. Treasurer's Report: Expenses for period \$4,760.75, a large portion is due to taxes, the final payment on the Five-Year Master Plan, and Wetttle Awnings. Remaining fund balance \$46,113.21. Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Smith, seconded by Goodridge. Roll Call vote: all ayes. Motion Carried.
7. Community Education: This is the biggest basketball league in 5-10 years with over 30 teams, and some may have to be turned away due to lack of space. A presentation for the budget request will be ready soon.
8. Comments from the Public: None.
9. Old / New Business:
 - a. Meeting Schedule: Velliquette said she discussed with the clerk's department, and they suggested having two meetings scheduled per month, with it being easier to cancel a meeting rather than schedule one. Motion to have two meetings per month on the second and fourth Monday made by Dunn, seconded by Goodridge. Roll Call vote: all ayes. Motion carried.
 - b. Discussion of Farm Lease: Velliquette received a request from Rob Claire for a five-year lease at Ansted property to be available, rather than three. Rob Claire 404 W Samaria said that hay is more profitable than other crops, but the cost of the seeding has to be recouped over several years, so a longer lease would be needed. Motion to change to a five-year lease on farm land made by Dunton, seconded by Goodridge. Roll Call vote: all ayes. Motion carried.
 - c. Discussion of obtaining legal advice on leases for Bedford Blast and 3B: Dunton suggested the township attorney should be given a list by the board showing the board's recommended terms and the teams' requested terms, and have the attorney create a general contract that can be used for any teams or fields. Goodridge suggested that the teams pay fees associated with board legal fees. Smith said he thinks the entire board should submit their ideas.
 - d. Portable toilets and dumpsters bid request: Bids are due December 28th. The board will be voting on them in January.
 - e. Approve invoice from Whettle for awnings at Samaria Park: This was already approved at a previous meeting.

- f. DNR: Fortin notified Velliquette that the DNR has questions about the cell tower at Carr's Grove, including when it was put up. It might have to be considered a conversion of park property, and could affect future grant eligibility. Velliquette said it was built around 2010. Fortin will be looking into this, to find out what other problems could come from it. It's also possible that the addition of the Wheeler Preserve Property could have positive impacts that cancel out the issues arising from the cell tower. Dunn asked if there are any other accessibility aspects that need to be addressed. Velliquette said that Fortin notified her that accessibility features that are included in the master plan at the parks right now have been accepted.

10. Comments from the Public: None.

11. Commissioner's Comments: Goodridge asked if Velliquette looked at the pocket parks with Pirrone. She said she did, and a few are deeded to the township, rather than the park commission. Velliquette said that when pocket parks are listed for sale, the parks owned by the township that the township board is interested in selling should be listed together.

12. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Goodridge, seconded by Smith, all ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. by Velliquette.

Respectfully submitted

Joan Dunton, Park Board Secretary