

RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

OCTOBER 26, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

This meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm. In attendance were: W. Thomas Badcock, Director; Isaac Crosson, Vice-Chairman; Joe Dunn, Denis Kilduff, Chairman; Laura Lovallo, Paul Porto, Tony Tannucilli, Robert Thompson, Councilman Alan Rosencranz and Councilwoman Mary Sohor. Carol Norberg was present to take the minutes. Absent from this meeting were: Lisa Valsera, Deputy Director; Jack Coccoziello (resigned), George Gough, Richard McGee, Ash Patel, Nicholas Rojewski, Frank Santoro and Councilman Brian Cahill.

New Member Paul Porto was welcomed to the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of April 2016 meeting were approved.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Laura discussed the trainer riding in the golf cart can't get around Geick fields easily in case of medical emergencies. The cart doesn't fit due to fencing, etc. Tom will look at size of cart. Also, Laura asked for more fencing to be added to bottom of wood fence. Tom said it's easier to mow without the extra fencing going down to the ground. Laura said players getting balls going into woods, are exposed to ticks and cuts due to the brush. Tom will look into it.

Mary brought up an anonymous letter that was received about Higgins Rd. Soccer. Upkeep needed. There are blind spots for drivers in the parking lot due to branches. Tom said he would look into pruning the branches.

Tony asked about early opening of bathrooms at fields. Tom explained that would mean more chance of frozen pipes. Bathrooms can't be opened until sure weather will hold. Board of Ed could rent port-a-potties.

Laura asked about operation of Geick concession. Tom said Township hasn't gotten bids to operate it. Vendors can't make enough money. Laura asked if the soccer leagues could bid on it. Tom said as long as they have insurance they can. No minimum bid. Bids are taken through Finance Dept.

RECREATION/CAMP ROBIN UPDATE:

Tom mentioned the Fall programs are up and running. At the Arena, the Jr. Knight Hockey Program and ice lessons have started. Camp Robin Building celebrated its 20th anniversary and 30th year of Special Projects for Special Children. The Halloween Event is this Saturday. Trunk or Treat for PTA's was added (limit 25 cars). Operation Beachhead began again at the Arena. This will be the third year of school ice skating trips.

Municipal Alliance had opiate and heroin abuse awareness programs this summer. The town lost three young people during the summer. Programs this year are planned for 7th and 11th grades. A billboard was put up on Rt. 9 South for drug awareness. There is a drop off box in Administration Building for old medications.

Tom will talk to Vicki regarding putting ads in the Suburban for events like these. Denis mentioned that there are a lot of residents who depend on the paper and do not go online to the Township website.

CAPITAL PROJECTS:

1. Installed 18,000 sq. ft. of synthetic ice this summer at the arena to be used for training. \$330,000 spent and it should last 20 years. Stored in trailer.
2. Handball backboards will be going to the Board of Ed but now legal issues regarding liability. The Township still has the backboards and the contractor is waiting to do work when legal issues are settled. Pickle ball lines will be added also.

3. Asked for in 2017 budget:

Mannino Park Phase II - \$4M

Driving Range - \$3.2M

Splash Pad & Competition Pool - three-way joint venture with Township, YMCA and Middlesex County - \$5M

Camp Robin Building Paving upgrade of entrance lane and parking areas

Cottrell Farm – DEP approval for soil remediation. Agreement to be finalized with Middlesex County. Planned uses: concerts, theatre, walking trails, community garden.

Vets park basketball sport court

Dog Park in Laurence Harbor

Showmobile (portable stage)

Vehicles and Equipment

OLD BUSINESS:

Joe Dunn talked about extra curricular trips such as hockey games, baseball games and plays. He feels more advertising (eg. OB facebook blast) will get the word out. Bus costs were discussed and possible venues.

ADJOURNMENT:

This meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm

APPROVED