

Manheim Township Parks & Recreation Board

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

- I. The meeting of the Manheim Township Parks and Recreation Board was held in the Stauffer Mansion Blue Room on Wednesday, October 2, 2013. Chairman Bohan called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. In addition to Chairman Bohan, board members present included Dumser, Keene, Lee, Miller and Walz. Mr. Hillard was absent. Also present was Recreation & Park Planning Director Earnest, Public Works Director Neff and Commissioner Heck. Guests attending included Linda Friend Carty, 23 Sunrise Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17601 Anita Friend Ratcliffe, 1125 Oakmont Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601, Peg Adams, 1960 Melody Lane, Lancaster, PA 17601, Larry Pulkrabek, 230 Eshleman Road, Lancaster, PA 17601, Jeff Grandner, 2859 Pebblebrook Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601 and Path Committee member John Furry.
- II. **Review and Approval of Parks & Recreation Board Meeting September 4, 2013 Minutes** – Mrs. Dumser (?) accepted the motion to approve the September 4, 2013 Minutes as written. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- III. **Treasurer's Report** – Mr. Walz had no report.
- IV. **Committee Reports:**
- A. Facilities** – No report.
- B. Program** – Mrs. Miller had no report.
- C. Youth Sports** – Chairman Bohan stated that Mr. Lee will present and call for action recommendation will be addressed under Item VII. Mr. Lee reported that he had sent out an overview of Manheim Township Soccer Club's current activities. Mr. Lee emphasized that the information that has been received is "random" and possibly that if there were an NCAA investigation it might be considered as "lack of institutional control". Mr. Lee will attend the Soccer Club's meeting to discuss (10/2-7:30 PM-Green Room). Through discussions with Commissioner Heck and Township Manager Rimer the Township has no part in this. Vice-Chairman Lee stated that he is looking at the situation as a "neutral party" outside of the MTPRD Board and not representing the Township.
- Mr. Lee distributed 5-Year Schedule for Youth Sports Organizations which was established in 2010. Mr. Lee stated that all clubs refer to fees (on their registration forms) as a per player fee. In a meeting with Commissioners (Heck and Martin) Commissioner Heck questioned what percentage of the actual rental rates of the fields do the youth sports groups pay with their user fees. 34% Lacrosse; Soccer 91% Mr. Lee continued by stating that he would like to recommend a "soft cap" total fees and using 2013 rates as payment for 2014. In addition user fees paid also charge youth groups 2/3 of the amount of field rental. Mrs. Miller asked if proposal was to the Youth Sports groups or to the Commissioners. Chairman Bohan stated that the Youth Sports groups have already been apprised of the proposal and that it is being directed to the Commissioners. Chairman Bohan explained the history of the fee schedule which was originally planned out for a three year process but then changed to a five year process. He further explained that it was the sports groups who referenced the fee as a per player fee. Chairman Bohan stated that he liked the recommendation because it is moving forward in a rational way of charging the fees. Mrs. Miller suggested that the groups be told what savings they are receiving when they utilize the field. Mr. Walz made the motion to recommend the proposed Youth Sports Groups Fee Schedule as presented. This motion was seconded by Mr. Keene. The motion was approved unanimously.
- V. **Director's Report** – In addition to the Director's Reports that were enclosed, Director Earnest reported on:
- A. Park Planning Update – Director Earnest reported that the first committee meeting was held on 10.2.13 and was a 2 hour duration meeting with good input. The committee was informed of processes and minutes will be sent out after each committee meeting. Chairman Bohan commented that each of the three parks that have been chosen for study are diversely unique and different.
- B. LASA Planting Update – Director Earnest reported that there was an on-site meeting. The contractor that planted incorrectly is going to correct according to the plan that was previously provided. Buchart/Horn will be on-site when the corrections are made. There is a possibility that trees that were planted can be moved to other areas and salvaged Director Earnest also reported.
- Director Earnest reported on the Community Park playground resurfacing project. Most of the pre-site work was accomplished by the Public Works Department and contractor will lay the rubber surface beginning 10.3.13. No updates on the Eagle Scout projects other than that they are ongoing. Chairman Bohan asked who the Pirahna football group was. Director Earnest explained that they are a semi-pro team that is utilizing MTAC.

(Continued)

- V. **Director's Report** (Cont'd.) – Mr. Lee asked why there were no trash cans within MTAC. Director Earnest explained the “Carry In, Carry Out” (trash) program to Mr. Lee. Mr. Lee also asked if dogs were permitted inside the fence area (at MTAC). Director Earnest explained that dogs are prohibited and the signage needs to be updated.

Chairman Bohan asked about the details for the Park in the Dark fall special event. Director Earnest shared that what is planned is a bonfire, MT Fire truck, Brecht PTO soft pretzels & hot cider, face painting, and a ¼ mi walk through the woods (illuminated path).

VI. **Liaison Reports**

A. Overlook Community Foundation Report – Chairman Bohan reported that the draft Minutes were enclosed within the package. No questions.

B. Commissioner's Report – Commissioner Heck reported that the Township is working on the 2014 budget. Commissioner review of the 2014 budget will be October 17 at the MT Public Library. Commissioner election coming up in November. Three (3) new commissioners will be elected.

C. School Board Report – Mrs. Miller reported on district transportation. MTSD transports students to 23 private schools which encompasses approximately 600 students.

D. Boettcher House Museum Board Report – Mr. Keene reported that The Herb Fest which was held Saturday, September 14 had an attendance of 300 and the Landis Woods Art Show held on Saturday, September 28th with an attendance between 1,200 and 1,300 people. Mr. Keene added that “gold stars” should be given to the following people: Clair Garman, Boettcher House Museum Board Chair and Landis Woods Art Show Committee Chair, Bonnie Hauser, Boettcher House Museum Board Member, John Beaumont, musical sound engineer and Guy Bunteman, Public Works Superintendent, for without them the event would not have been possible.

E. Pathway Committee – Mr. John Furry, guest, shared map detailing safe crossings within Manheim Township. Mr. Furry stated that a safe crossing is definitely needed at Lititz Pike. A path is needed (on Lititz Pike) in order to offer a safe crossing to the two (2) most popular parks in the Township, Mr. Furry stated. These two parks are Overlook Community Campus and Landis Woods Park. St. Peter's Lutheran Church is pursuing path access but nothing is finalized at this time. Mr. Furry shared possible areas along Lititz Pike that might be viable in the future. Guest, Ms. Ratcliffe explained to the group about the property along 23 Sunset Avenue that will be sold in early 2014 and could possibly be utilized for path access. Mr. Furry proposed that the Township purchase the property, rent it (for now), obtain the easement and then eventually sell the property. Chairman Bohan asked if the Path Committee could put together a proposal, bring back to the Board for recommendation to be then presented to the Commissioners. Discussion held regarding just purchasing the easement on the property vs. purchasing the property in whole. Chairman Bohan stated that the Board is very receptive to pursuing this path endeavor.

F. MT Dog – Mr. Walz stated that his report was enclosed (within the package). Mr. Jeff Grandner, President of the MT Dog Park Board, presented a map showing the Dog Park. Mr. Grandner stated that the board is interested in expanding the large dog area of the park and acquiring land adjacent to that area (which is owned by the Township). Chairman Bohan asked how much land this acquisition would encompass. Mr. Grandner stated that it was roughly 1/2 to 3/4 acres. Mr. Grandner is wondering if it is a possibility to explore. There are estimated to be 450 members, Director Earnest reported. Chairman Bohan stated that since it was not on the agenda (for this month) and not discussed w/ staff (prior to this meeting) he encouraged Mr. Grandner to do so in order that it be reviewed and discussed in the future.

G. Habitat MT – Meeting being moved to October 17. Mr. Keene reported that Habitat MT had a display table at the Landis Woods Art Show.

VII. **Action Items**

A. Youth Sport User Fee Recommendation - Motion made and accepted (see above ... IV. Committee Reports, Item D. Youth Sports).

VIII. **Discussion**

A. Old Business

(Continued)

VIII. Discussion (Cont'd.)

B. New Business

Director Earnest reported that the MT Historical Society (Stoner House) is interested in adding a patio. This proposal is currently with Planning and Zoning. Roy Baldwin will come to a future meeting to present Stoner House request, review and requirements to the board. This item will be included on a future meeting Agenda.

IX. Correspondence

X. Public Comments – Larry Pulkrabek recognized the residents of the Township for “making it what it is”. Commissioner Heck stated that the Commissioners recognize that sentiment.

XI. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorri Haney