PARK & RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

October 24, 2018

PRESENT: JOHN BURCH, JOHN WALTON, JEFF WILLIAMS, AMY COOK, RYAN BROWN, JASON SAPOSNEK, LAUREN SANKER – MEMBERS; Paul Rigney, Township Commissioner; Scott Fraser, Assistant Township Manager; Scott Shepler, Parks Maintenance Supervisor; Julie Roth, Recording Secretary.

VISITORS:
Doug Marsico - Upper Allen Mechanicsburg Baseball Association
Ken Mark - Upper Allen Mechanicsburg Baseball Association
Mike Fey - Upper Allen Mechanicsburg Baseball Association
Scott Steffan - Upper Allen Mechanicsburg Baseball Association
Todd Zino - Mechanicsburg Lacrosse
Sara Trimmer - American Cancer Society

CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Burch called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL
All present introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
A motion was made by Ms. Cook to approve the meeting minutes from the September 26, 2018 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Saposnek and passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS
None.
CHAIRMAN’S RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

1. Township Commissioner – Paul Rigney
   None.

2. Assistant Township Manager – Scott Fraser
   None.

3. Park Maintenance Supervisor – Scott Shepler
   Mr. Shepler mentioned that the company that is to remove the dead trees at Simpson Park is running behind. He said he is going to get another quote just in case it is going to be a lot longer until they can get in to remove the trees.

4. Mechanicsburg Recreation Department – Josh Green
   Mr. Green mentioned that the winter season brochure is currently at the printer and should be going out soon. He added that the after school program at Elmwood has roughly 50 kids enrolled and there is an open house for the parents next Friday. He said the travel basketball teams were just selected and the rec teams are being formed. He said the outdoor boxes that are used for the playground program at Fisher Park are in rough shape. He asked if the township would consider replacing them or switching over to a shed for the items to be stored in.

PARK ASSIGNMENTS
Mr. Burch mentioned that the playground at Center Square Park had uneven wood chips and Mr. Shepler said he can add more to the playground. Mr. Burch said Simpson Park looked really good and he walked the whole course for disc golf. Mr. Fraser stated that he has a sign to install at the park for the course. Mr. Burch said they did a good job and it looks really good.

Mr. Williams mentioned that McCormick Park looked fine and he saw people there enjoying the scenery.

Mr. Brown said Friendship Park looked nice but he asked about one spot on the parking lot that was not sealed. Mr. Shepler said it will be done next year when they seal the parking lot at Winding Hills West.

Mr. Brown said Rosegarden Park looked fine.

Mr. Walton mentioned that he noticed the parking lot at Mt. Allen Park is staked out but they haven’t started working on it yet. Mr. Fraser said he keeps asking the contractor when it will be done and they keep pushing it a week at a time, but hopefully they can do it soon.

Mr. Saposnek said both Fisher Park and Miller's Crest Park looked good.

Ms. Cook stated that both Winding Hills parks looked great.

Ms. Sanker mentioned that another tree at Grantham Park broke and fell into the pond. She added that the playground under the swings could use more tanbark.
PUBLIC INPUT
Todd Zino, from Mechanicsburg Lacrosse, mentioned that he is concerned about the allocation of the fields in the Township. He stated that last year they had two fields and then he was told that they would be able to use the additional field at Winding Hills East this coming year, but he heard that soccer will be using the field. Mr. Fraser asked Mr. Zino how many players they have and how many are from the Township, and Mr. Zino replied that they have 376 players and more than 51% are from the Township. Mr. Fraser stated that the fields were designed as multi-use fields and something will be worked out. Mr. Shepler added that soccer used the new field in the fall as lacrosse did not need it then; however, he said the field is in really bad shape now. Mr. Fraser mentioned that the use of the fields is based on need but a policy can be created if needed. He added that the decision needs to be made by January so that it’s decided by the time the planning for 2019 starts. Mr. Williams asked if the registration totals, along with resident versus nonresident numbers for 2017 and 2018, can be brought to the November meeting. Ms. Cook asked how many more fields lacrosse would need and Mr. Zino replied that he would be very happy with one more field. Mr. Saposnek asked Mr. Zino if he could go to soccer and ask them if they would be willing to work with him. Mr. Zino said he will try that, and Mr. Shepler said he would like to be involved in that meeting. Mr. Fraser said he will put this discussion on the agenda for the November meeting and he will also ask for rosters from baseball and soccer as well.

Sara Trimmer, from the American Cancer Society, stated that she mentioned to her committee the idea of having the Relay for Life at Winding Hills Park East, and they were all in favor. She said the date they would like to have it is June 8, 2019. Mr. Fraser mentioned that they will get together closer to the time to work on the logistics.

OLD BUSINESS
1. Off-Leash Dog Park Committee Update
Ms. Cook stated that at the quarterly meeting on October 10th the committee decided to amend the rule to prohibit balls at the park. She mentioned that benches are in the process of being installed and Mr. Shepler said 6 benches were installed today and the rest will be installed tomorrow. Ms. Cook said there was a report that the self-closing hinge was not closing and Mr. Shepler said he tried it several times and did not have any issues, but he will go back on a day that it is not windy and try it again. Ms. Cook mentioned that the park was promoted at the Benny’s Pet Depot event on October 13th. She also mentioned that there will be a stand at the Community Day on November 3rd that’s held at the middle school. She said since the meetings are now quarterly, the next meeting is January 9th.

2. Multi-tier fee schedule for field use discussion
Mr. Williams mentioned that for last month’s meeting, data was collected for the field use fees, and Commissioner Cochran presented an idea to generate revenue for the fields. He stated that Commissioner Cochran’s idea is for a three-tier system, with the first tier being the management tier, second tier being non-profits, and third tier being for-profit groups. Mr. Williams said a concept was mentioned where each organization would pay $10 per participant and that would go towards improvements to the fields. Scott Steffan, from Upper Allen Mechanicsburg Baseball Association, asked what the specific need is to create the fees. He said no local sports organizations are charged for the use of the fields. Doug Marsico, also from Upper Allen Mechanicsburg Baseball Association, said he is concerned with the suggestion to charge $10 per player to use the fields. Mr. Williams said he will pass along that they are not in favor of the fee. Mr. Burch mentioned that the discussion on this just started a few months ago, so different options
are being explored, but nothing is set in stone. Mr. Steffan asked what constitutes an outside organization, and Mr. Fraser replied that it is a group with over 50% non-residents. Mr. Williams mentioned that whatever is decided is must be easy to follow. Mr. Fraser stated that he will put together something showing a two-tier profit and non-profit, resident and non-resident for the next meeting. He said this will help figure out a structure before the fees are decided. He added that after that the type of usage, such as camps and tournaments, can be broken down. Mr. Shepler asked if the fees are going to be only for the usage of the fields or if there will be fees for people that have events using other parts of the parks such as running on the paths. Mr. Fraser said fees could be included for usage of the bathrooms as well. Mr. Marsico mentioned that UAMBA hosts recreational tournaments and would like to continue to do that; however, they do not make money on the tournaments.

3. Pickleball Striping at Fisher Park Tennis Court
Mr. Fraser stated that the striping at the tennis courts will not happen this year due to the rain and project load, but it will be done next year. He said the fencing will be removed and the surface milled. He mentioned that the court will receive new fencing and a concrete single play wall. He noted that the pathway will probably be destroyed from the construction, so hopefully that can be fixed when the front path is redone. He added that the striping on the court will include pickleball striping that will be in a different color than the tennis lines. He mentioned that there will be signage to show which color is which. He said he is hoping it can be done in early spring.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mt. Allen Playground Equipment Discussion
Mr. Fraser stated that the playground equipment is normally bought from Game Time; however, he also has been looking at Little Tikes equipment. He said both are commercial grade equipment and the only issue that has been with Game Time is it has taken a long time to come in after it’s ordered. He said this fall the equipment would be purchased and the current playground equipment at Mt. Allen Park would be removed. He added that a sign would be placed at the playground showing what is to come. He said the volcano toy would be the only equipment that would be staying. He mentioned that the playground would receive a new, large equipment piece as well as swings and a bouncy toy. He said the equipment from Game Time is $38,000, and $30,000 from Little Tikes. Ms. Cook asked how different this play equipment would be from other parks, and Mr. Fraser said the nice thing about this equipment is that since it is two levels, the tunnel connects everything to the tower which provides more play. He added that it is much nicer than what is at Mt. Allen Park now. The board decided that they like the Little Tikes design but they like the swing poles from Game Time. They asked Mr. Fraser to see if he can get those from Little Tikes as well.

2. 2019 Budget Overview
Mr. Fraser presented the board with a listing of the proposed 2019 budget overview for parks and recreation. He explained what will be paid for from the general fund, capital fund, park improvement fund, and park development fund. He also reviewed proposed projects that are not listed in the budget. He stated that the total proposed funding for Park and Recreation in 2019 is $1,413,237.
3. December Meeting
Mr. Fraser mentioned that the next meeting is scheduled for December 26\textsuperscript{th} and he asked if the board wanted to change the meeting date or cancel the meeting. The board decided to cancel the meeting for December.

ADJOURNMENT
The next meeting will be held November 28, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. With no further business to discuss, Chairman Burch adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Roth
Recording Secretary