

Unfinished Business Not Ready for Action

St. Pius X Update

Ms. Elliott reported that she has been in contact with a representative of St. Pius to provide more information to them about the materials required to restore the field, but has not yet received payment for the damages. The Board asked Ms. Elliott to continue to press St. Pius for full payment.

Mr. Wood noted that Mr. Fogel had already seeded the fields for the fall when the damage was done. Mr. Fogel used the remaining seed, four bags, on Field 3. They were rolled and seeded rather heavily because there was significant damage to the field.

New Business

Girl Scout Troop 7354

Ms. Elliott presented a letter from Girl Scout Troop 7354 with a proposal of work they would like to pursue at *Shaner's Grove* at Ringing Rocks Park. The Board said that the work would be welcome but thought some of it should not be done due to liability issues. They asked that the Troop be invited to attend the next Board meeting.

2009 Goals

Ms. Elliott requested the Board discuss their priorities for 2009 so she knows how to focus staff time this year.

Mr. Wood said his goal was to see the nature trail at Sprogels Run complete. He explained the interpretive sign concepts he was working on for the trail. Ms. Elliott talked about the trail design for the trail. She and Mr. Wood talked about the unique features of the park.

Mr. Troutman request that the Township consider creating entrances at Schuylkill River Park and Snell and Norton Park. Ms. Elliott said that the Board of Commissioners did not support these projects and did not budget for them. Ms. Elliott said that in the case of Schuylkill River Park, the Township does not own much of the access road and most of its land was on the other side of the creek. In the case of Snell and Norton Park, Ms. Elliott said the Township received grant money to master plan the site. The RFP for the plan is almost complete; however, it was put on hold while staff was focusing on the Sanatoga Interchange area.

Ms. Abdalla and Ms. Bleakley requested that the Board focus on creating a sponsorship process so the Township can expand the work it can do in the park system.

Comments by Board Members

Mr. Wood asked for updates on the Sanatoga Park ball fields and Pleasantview Park.

Ms. Elliott reported that the work at Sanatoga Park was mostly complete. She is planning to meet with John Fogel to discuss some remaining projects, such as some stormwater fixes and a

guiderail to separate the parking lot from a section of the trail. The Township has worked out a deal with Reading Site to seed and fertilize the fields so they would be ready to play Spring 2009. She said that staff will evaluate the conditions of the fields in early March to determine whether they are ready to play on. In order to ensure that the fields are in good shape, she said the Township is willing to hold off another season. They may consider allowing use of the baseball field in the spring and holding soccer off until the fall if conditions merit.

Ms. Elliott reported that the Township was unsuccessful in receiving a grant from DCNR to master plan the site; however, she intends to reapply in 2009.

Ms. Bleakley said she and Ms. Abdalla would like to have a park tour in the spring; however, they would like to focus on just the Sprogels Run/Bateman Trail so see the park first hand.

Comments by Visitors

Mr. Tony Doyle said he supported Mr. Troutman's position on the entrances at Schuylkill River Park and Snell and Norton Park. He also questioned why the Township was pursuing work at Snell and Norton Park when Pleasantview Park was a better site for development. Ms. Elliott reported that the Township did not own Pleasantview Park when it applied for the master site plan grant from DCNR. She also said that Snell and Norton, at the time, was the best park for potential development.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Ms. Abdalla, and unanimously approved by a 4-0 vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board is February 23, 2008, at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alyson Elliott
Assistant Manager