

Lower Pottsgrove Township
Parks and Recreation Meeting

October 26, 2009 7:00 PM

The regularly scheduled Parks & Recreation meeting was held on Monday, October 26, 2009, and was called to order at 7:02PM. The following were in attendance:

Patty Bleakley, Chair
Patty Abdalla, Vice Chair
Tom Troutman
Rich Wood

Alyson Elliott, Assistant Manager
Jennifer Corley

PARKS & RECREATION REPORT

Ms. Corley discussed the Verizon Fall Festival. This year attendance was considerably lower. All agreed the inability to distribute flyers at the elementary schools contributed to this fact. Approximately 43 children attended this year as opposed to 135 children that attended last year. Ms. Corley reported she was going to change the order of events next year and have the band and balloon artist perform at the beginning of the program and have the children play games and make crafts in the second hour.

A motion was made by Patty Abdalla, seconded by Tom Troutman to approve the October Park & Recreation Report. The motion carried with a 4 – 0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Baseball Field – Gerald Richards Park

Ms. Elliott discussed her communication with Pottsgrove Little League regarding the addition of one baseball field at Gerald Richards Park. At the September meeting the Parks & Recreation Board made recommendations on placement of the extra field. Pottsgrove Little League was not agreeable with the conclusion and would like to present a drawing of an alternate solution.

Snell & Norton Master Plan

Ms. Elliott reported the Snell and Norton Park Steering Committee meetings begin Tuesday, October 27, 2009.

NEW BUSINESS

2010 Budget

Ms. Elliott discussed the cuts that were being made for the 2010 budget year for Parks & Recreation. Due to the lack of funds in both Parks & Recreation and General Fund, Parks & Recreation is in a maintenance mode. The Township will not be able to pursue any additional projects or improvements for the park system until revenue sources, such as the “parks and

recreation fee-in-lieu” pick up. Ms. Elliott noted that the Snell & Norton Master Plan is being pursued because it was applied for and awarded before Pleasantview Park was purchased. She is waiting to hear about the grant for the Pleasantview Park master plan. At this point there is no indication of where the state stands on providing funding for new grant projects; however, the state is not prioritizing master planning grants like it had in the past due to other funding priorities.

Geocaching

Resident, Diane Vargo submitted three registration requests for placement of geocaches for approval by the Parks and Recreation Board. A motion was made by Tom Troutman to approve the geocache locations in Sprogel’s Run and the Keim Street Open Space and to decline the application for placement of a cache in the Schuylkill River Park. The motion was seconded by Patty Abdalla and carried with a vote of 4 – 0.

The Board discussed the undesirable conditions at Schuylkill River Park and determined for the safety of those participating in Geocaching in the area that location is unacceptable. Ms. Elliott also commented that the access road to the area is not owned by Lower Pottsgrove Township and is privately held.

New Hanover Township Recreation Plan

New Hanover Township forwarded an amendment to their Recreation Plan for review by this Park Board. Ms. Elliott summarized the report that was previously forwarded to all members. No members had comments.

COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Rich Wood – no comments

Tom Troutman – no comments

Patty Abdalla - Ms. Abdalla brought to the Board’s attention that Marilyn Eaton of Pottsgrove Middle School will be making a presentation on Nestle Go Play program at a Board of Commissioners meeting in November. Ms. Corley added that Mr. Hawthorne has extended that invitation and when the date is determined the Parks and Recreation Board will be notified.

Patty Bleakley - no comments

COMMENTS BY VISITORS

Tony Doyle- Mr. Doyle acknowledged the donations of seed and fertilizer that Pottsgrove Soccer makes to the Township and asked Mr. Wood what the approximate cost of the 2009 donation was. He is looking for additional funding for this for 2010.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Troutman at 7:27pm, seconded by Rich Wood. The motion carried with a vote of 4 – 0.

Next meeting is Monday, November 23, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer J. Corley