

Tri-Township Park Board Meeting
Park Board House
January 8, 2002

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Phil

Roll call: Phil Loethen, Terry Ball, Barb Wright, Todd Moore, and Randy Wiesemeyer

Absent: Norm Beck and Louie Simpson

Also in attendance; Park Superintendent Tim Greenfield and Dave Roady

Derek Crain (Times Tribune), Ira Burroughs (Troy Titans Select Baseball),
Steve West (TSC), Dale Fultz (Cub Scout Pack 38), Rich Miller (Boy Scout Troop 91),
Ron Goelich (Boy Scout Troop 91), Ron Schmitz (Boy Scout Troop 38),
Dan Miller (Boy Scout Troop 91), Glenn Gindler

Motion to approve Dec 20 minutes Barb/Terry Ayes: 4-0-1 Ayes Todd abstained

Motion to unseal June 12, June 22, July 10, Sep 11, and Oct 9 Executive session minutes Terry/Todd 5-0
Ayes

Correspondence –

Received a letter and a check from Norm Beck and the Troy Titans for \$360 for light usage last year.

Citizens on the Agenda –

Ron Schmitz – Wiesemeyer use discussion. Ron was not in attendance.

Thank-You notes – None.

Treasurer's Report -

Dave Roady gave the Treasurer report. **ATTACHED**

Motion to approve the Treasures Report Todd/Barb 5-0 Ayes

Norm Beck arrives 7:15

The bills were reviewed. **ATTACHED**

Randy questioned the bill for \$500 for Madison Service

Tim explained that this was propane to heat the Lee Leonard building.

Randy asked what timeframe this bill covered.

Tim said one month.

Randy stated that this was definitely an area that needs improvement because this bill is way too high.

Phil suggested that we could heat portions of the building and or shut the heat off when the employees are not there.

Todd asked what the \$5,316 bill for Hurst-Roche was for.

Dave pulled the bills and \$1,900 was for restrooms, \$2,740 was for dirt work, and \$676 was for work on the Wiesemeyer renovation.

Phil noted that we have also received a bill for \$138 from Highland Rural King for various miscellaneous items that should also be paid.

Motion: Pay the December bills as presented plus the Highland Rural King – Total of \$12,321.28

Todd/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Park Superintendent Report – Tim **ATTACHED**

Tim noted that in addition to his report, he also added a second page for the commissioners to read and review. He said that he was requesting no action on the page at this meeting.

Phil suggested to the board that we read and review the page and discuss under executive session at the next board meeting in February.

Motion: Accept Superintendent Report Randy/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Friends of the Park –

Barb spoke for FOP. Still working on picking a bandstand style.

TBSL Report – Terry Ball

Terry presented the list of 2003 board members **ATTACHED**.

Motion: Accept TBSL 2003 board as written. Terry/Norm 6-0 Ayes

Terry said that the TBSL sign-up dates have been established. The first is Jan 19th and will probably be in the park office given that the Wiesemeyer construction is under way.

The TBSL will enforce a \$10 late fee on all sign-ups that are taken after all of the scheduled sign-up dates or March 1st, whichever comes first.

Terry noted that the TBSL was still counting on Tim to have the electrical to diamond #2 fixed and the bricks placed under home plate by March 15th.

Tim acknowledged and said it would be complete.

Terry said that the TBSL had decided to go with head coaches only on the upcoming background checks.

TSC Report – Steve West

Steve thanked the park board for all of it's help and assistance during the last season acknowledging jobs performed by the park such as spraying for bugs, fixing locks, field prep, etc.

Steve presented the board with the TSC calendar of events for 2003 **ATTACHED** noting that it was preliminary and subject to change. Steve presented the minutes from the December TSC board meeting **ATTACHED**. Steve presented the end of year TSC financial report (**ATTACHED**) noting that there was \$26,000 + in the bank. Steve presented to the board the new TSC refund policy. 100% refund is available prior to the team draft. 80% refunds are available after the draft and this goes to no refund once we are four games into the season.

Steve raised a concern about the proposed lighting of the soccer fields and the usage by the Troy Titans football club. He is concerned about how well the fields will hold up if TSC and Titans football are both using the fields.

Norm said that the Titans would work with TSC to be sure to move practice areas around so as to preserve the grass.

Steve said that the TSC still needed dirt and grass added to the fields where the goals are set.

Tim said that this was on his list to get to in the spring and would be taken care of. Tim also mentioned that the placement of the CXT bathroom near the soccer fields was going to be within six feet of the field and that he would be moving the field locations approximately twelve feet to the south.

Steve presented the list of TSC board members for the 2003 season **ATTACHED**.

Motion: Accept TBSL 2003 board as written. Norm/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Financial – Phil

Phil said that the board gave Tim and Roger a \$100 clothing allowance last year and that we may want to consider doing that again in 2003.

Motion: \$100 clothing allowance for 2003 for Tim and Roger. Randy/Norm 6-0 Ayes

Phil said that we had requested three companies to bid on treating the termite problem in the Lee Leonard building and that we have received two bids back. There was a bid for over \$2,000 and a bid for \$1,028 from Allstate.

Motion: Accept Allstate termites treatment bid for \$1,028 **ATTACHED**. Todd/Norm 6-0 Ayes

IPARKS conference is in Chicago in January. Phil said that he plans on going and that Barb isn't sure yet.

Madison County Community Development Grant –

Southwest Construction started work on the project yesterday. The bathrooms are already torn up.

Randy asked that the bathroom partitions pulled out be set aside and saved for use in the #1 pavilion bathroom.

Tim noted that Southwest thinks the downstairs bathroom is not large enough to be ADA accessible.

Phil noted that it was on the blueprint that HR had drawn up and that Southwest had bid on, so this was an issue that needed to be worked out between those two entities and that they were already talking.

Tim also noted that when Southwest was tearing up the bathroom floors they had discovered that the particleboard flooring underneath was breaking up and in worse shape than anticipated.

Todd commented that this was an unforeseen problem that cannot be planned for or avoided and we would need to take steps to correct. Todd recommended that we remove all tile and particleboard in the bathrooms and replace with concrete board and but new tiles and replace them. He felt this would not exceed \$6,000 in additional expenses to the park. Todd thought we should get a price from Southwest to do this and vote to approve at the next meeting.

Madison County Criteria Grant –

Phil said that he had already submitted the parks grant request for \$50,000 to light two soccer fields. The original grant application was due in January, since then Phil has learned that the due date has been pushed back to February.

HR Dirt Work Bid Status –

Hurst-Roche has informed us that ten copies of the plans have already gone out and that they were making more to have available. The bid is to be opened at HR on Jan 22nd at 11 AM. Phil told the commissioners that a couple of days after opening the bids HR should be prepared to make a recommendation. Assuming the bids are not out of line the Phil told the commissioners he would call a special meeting to award the contract.

#1 Pavilion Doors –

Phil has talked to Southwest Construction about the issue with the bricks and the walls and they have agreed to have their bricklayer look into this issue and propose a plan.

Swing status – Phil talked to Jon Simms today and reported that the Gerstenecker swings are due to be installed on 1-9-03.

Construction signs for the park are in the park.

Dell Computer – the contract for the last one expires Feb 1st.

Steve West noted that the TSC might be interested in purchasing this PC. Phil agreed to work with Steve on this.

Background Checks – Phil said that he had received the disk from the State police and would install it on the park computer in the very near future.

Terry noted that the TBSL was planning on only doing background checks on the head coaches as each head coach picks assistants and the TBSL does not recognize the assistants and they are subject to change on an ongoing basis. Norm asked what our legal exposure would be on this.

Randy asked about shirts. He said that the TBSL provides team shirts to each head coach and to two assistants and that seemed to indicate that we had therefore authorized those folks as approved assistants.

Steve West noted that the TSC hands out two coach's shirts per team (coach and assistant).

Norm noted that the charge for background checks was \$7 per person and that the Troy Titans are paying \$15 per coach to perform the same check. He asked if it would be possible to do background checks on Troy Titans coaches using our \$7 per person agreement with the State police.

Motion: Background checks must be completed on any coach in the TBSL and TSC that is issued a team shirt. Norm/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Lighting grants – Tim said that it would take more work to pursue this grant than it would be worth if we were to get it. He is not planning on pursuing at this point.

Athletics – Terry

Terry, Tim, and Norm had discussion on the number of lights out on the big diamond. Tim stated that he would call around to boom truck providers and get a cost to rent one.

Terry said that he had faxed a letter of reply **ATTACHED** to Barry Storms on his November request to use the tennis courts to provide lessons.

Terry acknowledged that Phil had asked him to prepare and propose a contract to be signed by all select baseball teams wanting to use the park. Terry said that he was not prepared to do this tonight but would be ready at the February meeting with a proposal. The issue is that a flat fee for all select teams does not take into account number of games or usage of the lights. This perhaps should be a "pay as you use" arrangement. Terry said that we can give tentative approval to any and all select baseball team requests contingent upon the possibility of a change in fee and a contract to sign that would be voted on at the February meeting.

Select baseball coach Ira Burroughs was in the audience. Ira had a team play in the park during the 2002 season. Ira expressed displeasure with the maintenance of the fields for his games the prior season and said that he believed the park was unable to line fields for him because of their unwillingness to pay overtime.

Terry told Ira that there was only one date the fields were not lined for him and that was because the fields were deemed not playable after a rain. He reminded Ira that we the park had had a special meeting to discuss this topic with the select coaches and that the decision on field playability was a subjective one, but one that would be made by Tim Greenfield, and adhered to by all select coaches and the TBSL. Terry told Ira that the park has the select and

the TBSL game schedules and schedules personnel seven days a week. It was not then and is not now an overtime issue.

Ira said that he thought there were at least four other games when the fields were not lined but didn't have any specifics. He then said that the fields were too dry last summer and the dust was too heavy on the fields and the park should do something about that.

Randy suggested that perhaps we simply double the select baseball fee and see if that didn't solve Ira's problems.

Phil suggested a contract between the park and each select team. For a fee the park will guarantee a field for a certain number of times and use of the lights. We can't or shouldn't make any guarantee of the field being prepared. If weather permits and we will do our best, but there are no guarantees.

Terry said that he would work up a proposal to have ready to implement at the next meeting. Terry told Ira that the fee would be representative of the number of times his team used the fields and the lights. The fields would be lined for each game scheduled and if the park deemed them unplayable they would not be available – period.

Terry said that he and Phil had met with TSC President Steve West after the last park board meeting to discuss areas of concern in communication between the two organizations. Terry described the meeting as very productive and noted Steve's attendance at this meeting and the abundance of information.

Insurance - Norm

Norm said that he had been absent for several months and that Phil had done a very good job covering this area for him in his absence and had nothing else to add.

Grounds – Todd

Todd noted that the bunker toilet trim would arrive before spring.

Special Events – Barb

Barb will work with Sherry Brendel to plan a Wiesemeyer Center open house and possible ribbon cutting ceremony after the renovations are complete. Phil suggested that we invite the Madison County dignitaries and have a ceremony.

Personnel & Safety – Louie

No report.

Beautification – Randy

No report

Wiesemeyer Center Use –

Phil told the board that he added this topic to the end of the agenda to bring to the attention to the board the proliferation of free usage of the center. We budget \$12,000 of income in rentals each year for the center and April through December had income of \$6,250. Phil said that we need to look at the weekend usage of free rentals and who was using it. Phil said that many groups are using it all the time for free and that we don't always know who is using it for free and how they arranged to get it. Phil used the example of the Fraternal Order of Police. They are not on the free use list and tonight he learned that they use the Wiesemeyer Center for free the first Wednesday of every month.

Phil also commented on two different Boy Scout Troops, and questioned why there were two troops and perhaps they could be combined into one.

Randy said that it appeared to him that the main issue was too many free uses on weekends.

Ron Goehlich was in attendance representing the Boy Scouts. Ron explained why there are two different Boy Scout troops using the center. He also noted that they would meet outside whenever weather permits.

Phil presented the weekend free usage list for the last year. The largest single user was the Troy Chamber of Commerce at five times.

Terry said that we had added quite a few organizations to the free list in the last year and perhaps we are now feeling the financial impact of those actions.

Phil noted that there was a free usage by Craig Harris.

Tim said that the park had allowed employees a free use for years.

Phil said that he was confident that there was probably nothing in the previous minutes to support this policy.

Terry asked when Craig had received his free use.

The list showed it was in late June.

Terry asked when Craig had left the employment of the park.

Phil said that Craig left in April. Phil also said the Fraternal Order of Police, were not on the free use list but they still were getting free use. Phil supported giving full time employee one free use, but insisted we need to have a better accounting of who is getting signed up for free.

Motion: Full time employees get one free rental per year. Barb/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Phil said that the board should know who is using the Wiesemeyer Center, and how often, and "free use" organizations should be limited to use on Monday through Thursday.

Motion: Free Use policy is effective Monday through Thursday. Weekend usage by organizations on the list will need to be approved by the board. Free use groups will need to submit a yearly calendar by the end of January each year. Terry/Todd 6-0 Ayes

Phil agreed to contact the free use organizations and let them know about the changes to the policy.

Phil also mentioned that he was looking into the \$10 rentals of the pavilions. He felt that we weren't renting a \$10 pavilion more than 20 times a year and that this was a lot of work to go through for little or no gain. He said that he would report his findings back to the board at the February meeting.

The Fern Gindler family has requested to have an auction at the #1 pavilion. This was discussed and the park board recognizes that there will be a lot of cars using the adjacent parking lot and some smaller farm implements involved in the auction.

Motion: Authorize the Fern Gindler family to use the parking lot near the big pavilion and have various farm machinery when they hold their auction on March 8th. Norm/Barb 6-0 Ayes

Norm noted that we should be seriously considering fertilizing the baseball fields with some "weed and feed".

Motion: Adjourn the meeting. 8:55 Norn/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Respectfully submitted by
Terry Ball, Secretary