

Tri-Township Park Board Meeting
Park Board House
March 12, 2003

Approved
4/10/03
John L

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Phil

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Absent: Louie Simpson, Norm Beck, and Barb Wright

Also in attendance; Park Superintendent Tim Greenfield, Dave Roady, Sally Dempsey, Annie Ratliff, Laura Wise, Mary Kmetz, and Mary Ann Barkley.

Phil noted a change to the agenda. Need to add Bethel Baptist Church request after correspondence.

Motion: Add item to agenda as requested. Terry/Todd 4-0 Ayes

Motion to approve Feb 12 minutes Randy/Terry Ayes: 4-0 Ayes

Motion to approve Feb 12 Executive session minutes and remain sealed.
Randy/Terry 4-0 Ayes

Correspondence -

Received a letter of requests from Senior's - tabled until financial.

Received a thank you card from FOP for Web Page.

Received a request from the Troy Titans - tabled until Athletics.

Received \$98 from FOP for the bandstand account.

Received a letter from Mae Grapperhaus returning park photos loaned out for Troy Historical book.

Received a letter from the Fraternal Order of Police asking for the Wiesemeyer Center.

Bethel Baptist Church - Diane Stogsdill of Bethel Baptist Church contacted the park. They want to do a community service event on April 5th. They will bring 50 to 60 volunteers. Tim agreed to coordinate their activities.

Citizens on the Agenda - Laura Wise from FOP. Tabled until FOP.

Thank-You notes - Tim had a man (Steve) weld hooks on the bucket of the large tractor. The board wrote a generic thank you card. Tim will research Steve's last name.

Treasurer's Report - Dave Roady gave the Treasurer report. ATTACHED

Dave said that due to delays in sending out tax bills, tax revenues would not be coming in until the fall. Dave said that this would not hurt us because of our good financial shape.

Motion to approve the Treasures Report Todd/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Bills were reviewed. ATTACHED

Motion: Pay the January bills as presented. Todd/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Park Superintendent Report - Tim ATTACHED

Tim asked the board for approval to contact Mr. Peach about getting goats and lambs for the petting zoo.

Motion: Tim authorized to get two goats and two lambs for the petting zoo. Todd/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Tim said that he had trained a volunteer, Tom Lenzen, on using the tractor to drag and ready the ball diamonds.

Tim said that the estimated cost of repairs to the diamond machine is \$2,400. Phil agreed to seek out cheaper alternatives.

Motion: Accept Superintendent Report Todd/Terry 4-0 Ayes

Friends of the Park -

Laura Wise had filled out a request to be on the agenda. She read from a prepared statement.

Laura said that she wanted to clarify statements of the park board recorded in the meeting minutes relative to FOP. She said that FOP was formed in June of 1998. At that time, there was only one park in Troy.

Laura read the Mission Statement of the FOP.

Laura said that FOP was focusing on the bandstand project for 2003. She said that the FOP had secured their non-profit status and had obtained 501C3 status. This results in the FOP having a different Tax ID from the park. The FOP also has a P.O. Box for all mailings, but continues to use the park office address. She said that since the FOP has their own Tax ID donations are tax deductible. She said that the FOP use the park address because a P.O. Box was not a legal mailing address under the 501C3 rules.

Laura read Article IV and Article II from the FOP By-Laws. The bylaws state that the FOP

assumes responsibility after consultation with the Park Director and/or Park Board Commissioners for administering funds in accordance with the wishes expressed by donors/public/FOP. The funds of this organization will be used only to further the purpose of FOP as set out in Article II. In the event of dissolution, all remaining funds shall revert to the general fund of the Tri-Township Park of Troy.

Article II states that

the purpose of this organization shall be to enhance the usefulness of the Park to youth and adults...thus creating greater use of the Tri-Township Park.

Laura said that in early 2002, the FOP received a request from a citizen asking the FOP to raise money for other parks in the community. Laura said that FOP could not raise money for other parks without an amendment to the FOP by-laws.

Laura said that she felt there needed to be an amendment to alter the by-laws so the FOP could raise money for other parks. She said that she felt this would be better for the community. She gave an example of the log cabin. She said that if the FOP wanted to donate money to the log cabin, they couldn't now as the Historical Society has had it moved to the undeveloped East End Park.

Laura reviewed Park Minutes from June 2002, where the Park Board discussed that FOP was soliciting money from local business using the parks mailing

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D. Wise

address without having notified the board or asking for permission to use the mailing address.

Laura said that she was tired of reading these minutes discussing FOP. Laura said that she had reviewed park board minutes for the past 18 months and they always note that no one from FOP is in attendance at the meetings. She said she was tired of seeing that reported in the minutes.

Handwritten signature: Phil Wise

Laura read the Feb 12th Park board minutes. The minutes stated

"that Phil said that the park had received a check for \$400 from RP Lumber and discovered that this was meant as a donation to the FOP. Phil contacted FOP President Annie Ratliff to turn the check over. During this meeting, Annie told Phil that FOP treasurer Laura Wise was going to attend the next FOP meeting and suggest that FOP break their charter and begin to collect money from the public for parks other than the Tri-Township Park.

Phil said that the FOP charter clearly states that they collect donations solely for the Tri-Township Park. I personally believe that if Laura Wise is interested in collecting money for other parks then she should consider forming another organization. FOP currently has over \$5,000 in the bank. People donated these funds trying to contribute to the Tri-Township Park District. To permit those dollars to go to another park would be ethically and morally wrong. Ms. Wise needs to understand that this board will not support a change in the existing FOP Charter. Under the previous park administration, the current FOP Charter was never questioned. Phil reminded everyone that at a Park Board meeting last summer, Ms. MaryAnn Barkley informed the board that someone from the City of Troy had approached FOP about breaking their charter and donating to city parks. I do not understand why someone would be so devious he said.

Phil asked the board to have an informal discussion on this topic to get a feel for where everyone stood.

Randy said that he absolutely agreed that the FOP charter and money was only for our park.

Terry said he also agreed with this.

Louie said that he didn't care what the FOP did, but that their charter was clear.

Phil said that FOP President Annie was opposed to Laura's idea and was asking for support on her stance from our board. Phil asked for a vote on agreement with the current charter of only raising money for and donating to our park. Vote was 5-0 Ayes - In agreement with the charter."

Laura said that members of FOP have written proposed amendments to the FOP by-laws and will be discussing these at the March FOP meeting.

Laura finished by saying that she loves the Tri-Township Park. She said that the current park board has done a great job of managing the park and making it very nice for all the citizens. She complimented the park board commissioners for all of their work as volunteers.

Terry said that last summer at a park board meeting, Mary Ann Barkley stated that FOP had been approached by the City to raise funds for the City Parks.

Tonight, Laura again stated that someone wanting FOP to raise money for other parks had approached FOP. Terry asked Laura if she could tell the park board who had made this request.

Laura said that she would only say it was a citizen of Troy.

Phil said that he was always grateful for volunteer help in the park and that is exactly what both the FOP and the Park Board are - volunteers. Phil continued by saying "a lot of people say they love the Park, but the people that really demonstrate their love for the Park are the volunteers. A lot of people talk the talk but they don't walk the walk. The FOP are volunteers and real friends of the Park." Phil continued by saying that he wanted to clarify for Laura why the Feb 12th minutes contained the extensive discussion on FOP and raising money for other parks. He said that he had had a discussion with FOP President Annie Ratliff and she had expressed concern to him that certain members of FOP were going to try and change the FOP by-laws. Phil said that he did not personally care if FOP gave all of their money to the Park and then changed their charter. He said that he was only one of seven though and was tired of dealing with the relationship that seemed to be strained.

Mary Ann Barkley said that now that FOP has the 501C3 status, they can stop nickel and diming the fundraising and can go after major donations. Having a tax deductible status may allow FOP to solicit and receive larger donations.

Phil said that every dollar donated to FOP is for this park. If you decide you want to disband and start over with a different charter, that is up to you as long as all money donated by people intending to give to the Tri-Township Park goes to the Tri-Township Park.

Annie Ratliff, President of FOP, said that she was confused by this discussion as at the last park board meeting the commissioners unanimously voted to not let FOP change their by-laws.

Terry said that he believed Phil was saying that he personally would be open to consider any suggestions for change from FOP if it would help stop the arguing and end the ongoing adversarial relationship. Terry said that he attended the last FOP meeting in February. He asked Laura if she remembered saying at that meeting that there was no plan to change the by-laws and that there was no intention of raising money for any parks other than the Tri-Township Park.

Laura said yes.

Terry said that given there has been no FOP meeting since that time, he was confused on how, and by whom, there were now proposed amendments to the by-laws written and to be discussed at the March meeting.

FOP President Annie Ratliff told Laura that she was beating a dead horse by continuing to bring up a proposal that the park has already said we cant do.

Terry said that Laura stated she was tired of reading in the park minutes every month that no one from FOP was in attendance.

Laura said yes and asked why FOP was on the agenda.

Terry explained that when the new park board took office two years ago, the FOP was not on the agenda. At the second meeting of the new park board, Laura Wise requested the FOP to be on the agenda at each regularly scheduled park board meeting. The park board agreed to this and placed FOP on the agenda at

*H/O P
Annie*

every meeting. Terry told Laura that the park would not write in it's minutes that no one from FOP was in attendance if someone from FOP would show up and tell the park what FOP was doing.

7:40 PM Norm Beck arrives.

TBSL Report - Terry

Terry said that 680 kids had signed up to date. There are 58 teams in Troy and the teams are maxed at 12 per team in Tball, 13 per team in Baseball, and 14 per team in softball. TBSL will continue to take signups until all teams in all divisions are full. In addition to the 58 Troy and Marine teams, we will play with an additional 15 teams from St. Jacob.

4/19/03
Phil

TSC Report - No report

Financial - Phil

Phil said that we have one Dell computer already owned and it is time to make a decision on the second.

Motion: Buy out Dell Lease #001-9053481-002 effective 4/20/03 for \$265.85 Terry/Todd 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Sell John's old computer to the TSC for \$265.85. Todd/Norm 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Declare one computer surplus and accept sealed bids for a minimum purchase bid of \$415.09. Norm/Todd 5-0 Ayes

Madison County Community Development Grant - Phil said at the last meeting we had passed a motion to spend up to \$4,000 to buy toilets, urinals, and sinks for the bathroom at the Wiesemeyer center because we believed that the bid did not call for it. Since then, we have discovered that it did and that Southwest will be installing all ADA complaint bathroom fixtures.

Motion: Rescind last months motion to spend up to \$4,000 to purchase 5 new toilets (3 ADA), 1 urinal, 4 sinks (3 ADA), and all the miscellaneous hardware. Terry/Todd 3-2 Ayes Randy and Norm were the no votes.

Phil aid that he has received a request from the senior's to lock the new sunroom and asking for use of some surplus office items.

Norm said we are building a nice room that no one but the senior's will get to enjoy if we do this.

Tim reminded everyone that we were building the sunroom with a grant that we received only because it is a senior center. Otherwise, the park district is not allowed to receive community grants. So the sunroom is being provided to only the seniors via the grant.

Phil said that he felt we should make this room special for the senior's.

Motion: Lock the new sunroom and only let the senior's use the room unless use is requested for special occasions. Randy/Todd 4-1 Ayes Norm was the no vote.

Motion: Allow the senior's to use one or both of the unused desks from the office. Terry/Norm 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Allow the senior's to use one of the unused cabinets in the basement. This cabinet will be mounted in the senior's office.
Terry/Todd 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Give all colored paper that the park has on hand to the senior's. Norm/Todd 5-0 Ayes

Phil said that the senior's have a few pieces of exercise equipment. We had believed that they were planning on using these in the sunroom. It is apparent that none of the senior's will use the exercise equipment if they cannot do it in private. Phil suggested enclosing a small room extended off the closet in the senior center to place the exercise equipment and give the senior's a little privacy.

Motion: Enclose a small room on the south side of the building for the senior's to use their exercise bicycles. The expense to enclose this room is not to exceed \$1,000. Terry/Randy 4-1 Ayes Todd was the no vote.

Wall covering - Phil said that we have not received any bids on this to date. Phil said that the Fire Marshall has said we can put carpeting on the walls as soundproofing if it is the right rating of carpet.

Terry asked if the carpeting idea was significantly cheaper than sound proofing material.

Norm said that it was. He said that he was working with Mike Gould.

Todd said that he has worked with Mike Gould, and that he would contact Mike.

Randy reminded everyone that the carpeting must be Class 1 or Class 2.

Phil said that he would seek out another bid.

Madison County Equipment Grant - Phil said that we have not yet received a date on this.

Randy said that we should go ahead and build a playground while we are waiting on this grant.

Terry said that if nothing else, we could count the purchase of the playground against the OSLAD grant.

Tim said that if we were to start now, we would be installing in May or June.

Phil said that given all that is going on right now, he would prefer we wait.

Randy said that was OK as long as Phil agreed that we would target installation by October.

Madison County Criteria Grant - Phil said that we have not heard anything on this grant yet, but that we need to get moving with or without it. The three light configuration we have been reviewing provides an average 25.0 candle power for both fields.

Motion: Advertise for sealed bids for lighting the two existing soccer fields, based on a three pole configuration, the lights will be operated by a key system. Bids to include all materials and

*Also
check*

installation. Bid opening to be Friday April 4th. Terry/Randy
5-0 Ayes

8:10 PM Todd leaves.

Dirt Work Project. Phil said that given the enormity of this project, he would like to have a groundbreaking ceremony. He suggested Saturday 3/22 and said he would arrange and invite the local dignitaries. Phil talked about the water lines coming into the park and conversations he has had with Bud Klaustermeyer about water meters. Bud had suggested letting the City take ownership of the water lines. We would need to provide an easement and they would pay for the water meters. Phil suggested an alternative and moving the current two inch water meter back to the east side of the Wiesemeyer center and splitting the cost of the new 4 inch meter with the City.

*4/12
Phil*

Motion: Pay for half of a new 4-inch water meter. This meter will replace the existing 2-inch meter in the park and the meter to the Wiesemeyer Center. The City will pay for the other half. Total cost not to exceed \$2,700. Randy/Terry 4-0 Ayes

DCCA Grant (\$55,000) Tim has sent in environmental paperwork.

Number One Pavilion Doors and Heating Status. Waiting on engineering.

Swing/bench status - Ordered

Log Cabin status. Phil said that four City workers moved the log cabin to the EESP. Phil commented that the workers asked if Bud Klaustermeyer had seen the logs and if he was aware the poor condition of the logs. Phil said he told the workers that he didn't know if Bud had seen the logs.

Lee Leonard heat/keys. - Norm said that he was working with Bergmann Taylor, Martin Building, and Bilt Morr to get drawings of proposals for building a heated maintenance building. Norm said that he would steer the contractors to Tim for answers. Norm continued by saying that we would ask for bids for a completed building and for just a shell that we will have to finish.

Norm said that while we are doing this, we need to look at running natural gas lines into the building and getting off of propane.

Fraternal Order of Police Request. Phil shared a letter we have received from the Fraternal Order of Police ATTACHED requesting free usage of the Wiesemeyer Center. They want the first Wednesday of each month.

Motion: Permit the Fraternal Order of Police to have free use of the Wiesemeyer Center the first Wednesday of each month.
Randy/Norm 4-0 Ayes

Background Checks - Phil said that he had completed background checks on all of the TBSL coaches that he had a social security number for. He said that we needed to update the form to include phone number. He presented a form for the board to review and approve. ATTACHED

Motion: Approve change to volunteer background check form.
Terry/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Phil asked if we should approve the list of coaches who had passed the background checks.

Terry said that we have only done about half of the coaches.

Phil said that he would like to put this list of names out on the webpage to applaud and thank them for being volunteers.

Terry said that would be okay if there was also a disclaimer that said this was a partial list.

Norm said the Titans program is being charger \$35 per background check as compared to our \$7 fee and asked whether the park could include the Titans coaches in our background checks to help save money.

Phil said that by law, there are restrictions on who can perform background checks, and the results of the background checks can only be shared with the people involved in the employment decision. The results of the check have to be shared with the person as soon as possible. Phil continued that he would check with the State Police to see if there were any restrictions on whom we can do checks on.

Other business/Job Description - Phil informed the board that the board has approved a job description for the Park Superintendent, and for a Park District Clerk/Outside Assistant. We have been using an old job description from the filing cabinet for Maintenance & Grounds Personnel. Phil suspects that when this job description was established the board probably never voted to approve it. Phil presented the job description to the board.
ATTACHED

Motion: Accept the job description for outside grounds worker.
Terry/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Phil told the board that we purchased a golf cart for \$1,300 at the recent auction in the park. When it became known that the golf cart was available for bid, four commissioners were contacted and asked to quote a price they would be willing to pay. These numbers averaged out to \$1,500.

Alan Dunstan Fundraiser/BBQ - Phil said that Alan Dunstan was planning a fundraiser/BBQ for this summer and had inquired as to pavilions and costs. He anticipates up to 1,000 people attending and is targeting Labor Day weekend or the weekend after. Phil said that given all of the help Alan has provided the Park, he would be offering up one of his free commissioner rentals to Alan.

Illinois Power has agreed to supply the bucket to change the light bulbs on the big diamond. They will arrange to do this when the ground is dry and firm enough to support the crane.

Phil said that we have a road grader that the park purchased several years ago for \$5,000 and it has never been used. It has been declared surplus. We offered it up for sale by bid and did not receive any bids. Phil suggests taking out an ad in Dirt & Rock magazine.

Phil said Barb Wright has donated a big screen TV to the seniors for use in the new sunroom. Phil suggested buying an antenna for the senior center, installing it in the attic and running cable to the current TV in the center and the new TV in the sunroom.

Norm asked if free cable was available, as this was a public building. Phil agreed to investigate.

4/10
Phil

Motion: Purchase an antenna for the senior center not to exceed \$200 if free cable access is not available. Randy/Terry 4-0 Ayes

Phil said that we still have too many phone lines in the office.

Motion: Drop a phone line. Terry/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Athletics - Terry

Terry said that there are three select baseball teams utilizing the big diamond this spring and summer. None have paid the usage fee yet.

Terry said that a select soccer team who wanted to utilize the lights on Thursday nights in March had contacted him. They will pay the \$15 per hour fee.

The Troy Titans have sent a letter requesting usage of the fields again this fall.

Motion: Approve the Troy Titans request under the new fee of \$15 per hour for lights. Terry/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Insurance - Norm

Phil said that we insured the Wiesemeyer Center last year for \$240,000. With the improvements to the Wiesemeyer Center, we have added \$140,000 to it. Norm suggested changing the insurance coverage on the Wiesemeyer Center to \$350,000

Grounds - Todd

No report.

Special Events - Barb

No report.

Personnel & Safety - Louie

No report.

Beautification - Randy

Randy said that the old park pictures had been returned by Mae Grapperhaus and the Historical Society and are back in the files.

Randy asked about the dirt work bid and the new building to go up on the 32 acres.

Phil handed out a copy of a building designed by Ray Hicks. Phil asked the board for permission to shop this design around FOR contractors. Phil commented that the Wiesemeyer Center is home to the Senior Center and also used for rentals and large group meetings. The office building is now being used by numerous smaller civic groups. Phil suggested considering moving the park board office either to the Lee Leonard Building or to the new building on the 32 acres.

Norm said that we need to be looking at building a large meeting center that can be rented out for large gatherings and weddings. With the closure of the Troy Center, we don't want to miss this opportunity.

Phil said that the Troy Center was for sale.

Terry said that the Troy Center is for sale because no one is using it now.

4/10
Phil

Tim said that building a building like this would be a big expense when you factored in the labor that would be necessary to operate and maintain it.

Terry said that he did not want to have a rental hall in the middle of the park.

Tim suggested that if we were going to consider this idea that we look at locating it near the East entrance to the park that is currently the Tball diamond.

Motion: Go to contractors and seek the cost of Ray Hick's drawing.
Terry/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Motion: Adjourn to Executive Session. 9:25 PM Norm/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Meeting reconvened at 9:45.

Motion: Accept Tim's ranking and recommendations as is on applicants for part-time summer employment and hire up to five part-time employees at Tim's discretion pending phone interviews.
Norm/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Motion: Purchase 48 gray shirts with black lettering for summer employees. Not to exceed \$300. Terry/Norm 4-0 Ayes

Randy suggested that we look at weed and feed for the ball diamonds to avoid the dandelion problem in the spring.

Tim agreed to investigate weed and feed costs on diamonds #2, 3, 4, and 5 and around Wiesemeyer Center. Tim will contact up to four commissioners to get approval to proceed.

Motion: Adjourn the meeting. 9:55 Terry/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Respectfully submitted by

Terry Ball, Secretary

4/10
Terry Ball