

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

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Phil

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call: Phil Loethen, Doug Brendel, Randy Wiesemeyer, Kevin Woodring, Todd Moore, and Terry Ball
Absent: Norm Beck

Also in attendance: Park Superintendent Tim Greenfield, Bookkeeper Dave Roady, Mary Anne Barkley, Steve West, and Roger Tegmeyer.

Additions to the agenda –

Phil asked for the following additions to the agenda.

- Legislative action under correspondence
- Troop 38 camp-out under special events
- Recycling grant under financial

Motion: Make these additions to the agenda. Todd/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Approval of Minutes -

Motion: Approve minutes from Oct 8, 2003 meeting. Todd/Doug 6-0 Ayes

Citizens on the Agenda –

None.

Thank-You notes –

Mike Dacruz – Mike volunteered poured the concrete for the #4 pavilion.

Phil said that he had sent thank you notes to most of the people that helped on the volunteer weekend.

Correspondence –

Phil presented a legislative action bulletin that we have received from IPARKS. **ATTACHED** Senate Bill 1049 will be put to vote on Nov 18- 20. The bill permits territory with both a park district and a municipal recreation system to be disconnected from the park district. This bill would allow cities to claim a recreation system and to put a referendum on the ballot allowing all the citizens of Troy to vote on not supporting a park district. Phil said this could potentially erase 65% of the tax revenue of our district. Phil wrote a letter to Senator Watson encouraging him to vote NO on this bill. All commissioners present signed the letter.

We received a thank you card for flowers for Roger's mom's funeral.

We received a thank you card from Tanya Richter for Applefest.

Treasurer's Report -

Dave gave the Treasurer report. There is \$477,939 in the bank. **ATTACHED**

Motion: Accept Treasurers report. Kevin/Todd 6-0 Ayes

Bills were reviewed. **ATTACHED**

Phil said that we also have a bill for \$5,500 for Mike Dacruz for his work on the TBSL building. The bills were reviewed.

Randy noted that the sewer bill from the City was again very high.

Phil said that he assumed the increase is the sewer bill, and this would probably be an on going cost.

Motion: Pay all bills totaling \$41,709.30 Todd/Doug 6-0 Ayes

Wiesemeyer Center Discussion –

Sound system –

Tim said that he has been unable to contact Ben Keefe at the Triad School District. Triad uses a very simple portable sound system that would work very well in the community center and could be used at outdoor events. Tim said he would follow with Ben to find a supplier of the system and a price quote.

Locks on Cabinets –

Tim said that we have identified three locks that may need replaced on the kitchen cabinets.

Phil said that he has asked Sam Italiano to provide us a quote on new locks. Phil said that he hoped we would be able to expect the senior's to consolidate their kitchen utensils into specific cabinets and drawers and free up a minimal amount of each for public usage.

Sun Room –

Phil said that the park had adopted a policy at the March 12, 2003 meeting that states the sunroom will be locked and only the senior's will use it unless specifically requested for special occasions. That motion had passed 4-1. Norm was the no vote. Norm believed the sunroom should be opened to the public.

Phil said that since opening the sunroom, one person has requested, and received, use of the sunroom. Phil said that we have received two more requests for usage. Another wedding reception next fall by Joan Spencer and the other is from YMCA for a Senior Citizens Prom dance.

Doug commented that the prom dance is a senior citizens prom dance, not a high school senior's prom dance.

Kevin said that the building was built for the senior's and then turned over to the park that turned it into a community center. The building was built for the seniors and it should be a senior center first. The room should be for only the senior's and should stay locked.

Terry asked Kevin if he knew why a previous Park Board had turned it from a Senior Center to a Community Center.

Kevin said he was not a part of that decision and he did not know, but that we should straighten this out, return it to the original intention, and belong only to the seniors.

Terry said that he staunchly supported the senior's having first access to the center and continuing the pleasant arrangement that has existed between the senior's and the Park Board without problem for almost 25 years. Terry said that regardless of original intentions, the Community Center has been supported by the tax dollars of all the citizens. That means that all of the taxpayers of the district should have an opportunity to access to the sunroom that they are paying for.

Kevin asked Terry why do we rent out the Wiesemeyer Center? Why not just make it available free of charge to all the tax payers of the district.

Terry said that we are not discussing what renting the Wiesemeyer Center should cost. We are discussing whether the sunroom should be open to the public.

Kevin displayed a copy of the Grant request written by Phil and showed where it said on the grant request that this addition was on behalf of the seniors.

Terry said that Phil wrote the Grant to make the center ADA compliant. The Grant was on behalf on the senior's that are the primary users of the center. However, nowhere in the Grant does it say the sunroom would be exclusively available only to the senior's.

Kevin said it should be.

Phil presented a letter, written by Terry to Rollie Reiss and the senior's in response to Rollie's requests and comments made at the October Park Board meeting.

Terry said that the park had added over \$33,000 of general tax dollars to the Wiesemeyer remodeling and felt that it was important that the senior's know that we support not only their use of the center, but everyone's in the community.

Phil asked if the commissioners would like this letter to be the official response to Rollie Reiss and the seniors.

Motion: This letter is official response to Rollie Reiss and the senior's from the Park District. Randy/Doug 5-1 Ayes. Kevin was the no vote.

Park Superintendent Report – Tim **ATTACHED**

Tim reviewed his maintenance and administrative activities for the past month. He stated that he is considering bringing one or both of the recently laid off part time employees back for a few hours a week to feed and care for the animals on the weekends and possibly allow himself or Roger to have the weekend off.

Kevin asked why Mary was not getting these hours.

Phil said that Mary has a different job description.

Motion: Allow Tim to call in part time workers as needed at his discretion. Randy/Doug 5-1 Ayes Kevin was the no vote.

Tim said that the Lions Club had approved spending \$3,500 towards the cost of painting the Lee Leonard building.

Motion: Accept Park Superintendent report. Doug/Todd 6-0 Ayes

Friends of the Park –

Mary Ann Barkley said that this year's dollar donation campaign was their most successful ever. \$478 was raised. FOP is estimating the cost of the bandstand structure to be \$20,000 and then another \$10,000 for site work and a pad. Currently they are at about \$15,000 raised. Mary Ann presented Phil with a break down of where the \$15,000 had been raised. **ATTACHED.**

Phil asked Mary for a paver brick form. She complied.

Motion: Recognize this FOP document and accept into the minutes. Randy/Doug 6-0 Ayes

TBSL Report – Terry Ball

Terry said at the TBSL check for \$4,950 for the new lights would be at the park by the end of the week.

TSC Report – Steve West

Steve said that he would be retiring from the TSC and that this would be his last meeting. The TSC will pick a new president at their next meeting. Steve also said that John Simmering had resigned from the TSC board.

Phil presented Steve a plaque expressing appreciation for service for Dave Dintamin who had left the TSC board last month.

Phil reminded Steve that we have completed the purchase and installation of the lights on diamond #4 and that we will need the check for \$4,950 from the TSC. We are also waiting for payment on the background checks completed at the beginning of the season.

Steve suggested to the board that he believes the park needs a full time athletic director to oversee the athletic programs. He said that he realizes the position was tried before, that had not worked out, but that in the future, if the position will be needed.

Phil said that in his opinion it looked like this season operated a lot smoother than last year. Phil said he assumed the new lights, and restroom had a lot to do with the improved operation.

Steve said the TSC season had gone a lot better this year. Part of that was due to the fact that this was his second year as president. He also stated the changing of the refund policy, to be the same as TBSL's, was a great improvement.

Steve gave Phil a \$50 check and said it was for a Glen-Ed select team using the lights.

Financial – Phil

No action on the Dell computer, or the fire storage cabinet.

Tim said that he had seen a fire proof cabinet available and he would research it.

A baby changing station for the Wiesemeyer Center has been ordered, but is late.

Todd said he would check on it.

Phil said that he had completed the tax levy and it is for \$390,700. The tax increase will be less than 5%, and the tax rate will be another reduction.

Motion: Pass the tax levy for \$390,700 Terry/Todd 6-0 Ayes

Phil said that Shannon Meyer had rented the #8 pavilion on Saturday, October 1st and that someone who had not reserved it was using it when she arrived. Phil suggested the board should consider refunding her \$50.

Motion: Refund Shannon Meyer \$50 for pavilion rental. Todd/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Phil said that we have received approval from our lawyer Dick Cain to move ahead with the intergovernmental agreement with the City.

Motion: Approve intergovernmental agreement with the City of Troy to purchase two plots (302 and 303 Meadow Drive) for \$1. Randy/Todd 5-1 Ayes Kevin was the no vote.

Phil handed out an analysis of the where we are in the OSLAD grant. **ATTACHED** The grant was for \$367,000. To date we have requested reimbursement for \$215,000. This leaves a total of \$152,000 to go. As this is a matching grant, we have \$304,000 remaining to be spent. We currently have in progress \$260,500. This leaves approximately \$44,000 to be spent. The remaining OSLAD projects include streetlights, a playground, backstops, and a walking trail. Five water fountains, and a basketball court.

Phil suggested a few changes to the GL Warren concession stand building in an attempt to lower our total expenses on that project. Lowering lighting for the outside picnic area and adding cupola's.

Motion: Deduct \$900 for lighting reduction and add \$1,600 for two cupola's to/from original bid.
Randy/Todd 6-0 Ayes

7:50 Norm arrives

Phil updated the board on the progress of the new maintenance shed and the TBSL building facelift.

Phil said that he has sent thank you notes to many of the people that took part in the volunteer day activities. This list of names will be **ATTACHED** to the minutes.

Madison County Grant –

Phil said that Madison County is proposing a grant fund whereby instead of handing the taxes raised for park money out to the parks they will make the money available to parks in the form of 3% interest loans that can be used to seek matching grants.

Tim said that he had lobbied hard for the passage of this tax program that would benefit parks and he was very disappointed as a loan program was not want this tax was set up for. The money was to be raised to be handed out for parks to build infrastructure and add green space.

Terry said that a loan program would result in Madison County having even more money in their coffers that they would need to figure out how to get rid of.

Phil said that he had sent a letter to Madison County expressing a lack of support for this idea.

Dirt Work project –

Phil updated the board on the progress of the completion of punch list items. He also stated that we received notice of EPA termination on the \$500 annual fee.

Phil said that we should recognize some people who were true friends of the park and had made significant donations in the past year.

Pam and Everett Bohnenstiehl at Troy Grain have once again donated all the feed for the animals at the petting zoo.

Motion: Spend \$100 for a bandstand paver for the Bohnenstiehl's in recognition of their donations to the petting zoo. Terry/Randy 7-0 Ayes

Roger Tegmeyer has donated hay for the animals of the petting zoo for the past year.

Motion: Spend up to \$25 for an appreciation plaque for Roger Tegmeyer for donation of hay for the petting zoo. Norm/Doug 7-0 Ayes

Phil said that Kenny and Joe Lanahan family had originally donated the TBSL building. This was over ten years ago. He said that we should recognize this wonderful gift.

Terry said that he strongly agreed. He said he spends hundreds of hours in this building each year and it is too easy to lose track of who made it possible. This type of good deed and donation needs to be recognized.

Phil said he had talked to Kenny Lanahan and he was thrilled with the idea. Phil said it should have been done years ago, but now the building is now remodeled, and looks great. This would be a good time to put a plaque on the building and recognize their wonderful gift.

Motion: Spend up to \$500 for a plaque for appreciation to the Lanahan family for donation of the TBSL building. This plaque will be mounted on the building. Terry/Norm 6-0 Ayes

Phil has learned of a recycling grant through the county. It is a 25% matching grant. We can buy some more plastic picnic tables. We will need the tables for the new concession stand area. Phil said he would pursue.

Phil said he wanted to bring to the attention of the board that three Chinese geese that were supposed to be removed from the park are still there.

Tim said that he thinks the geese were aggressive towards a group of Karate people at the Wiesemeyer Center because they were hungry. They have not been aggressive since and he is watching them closely.

8:15 Todd leaves.

Athletics – Norm

Norm said that to date we have not received a check from Riverbend select soccer.

Phil said that Steve West just gave him a \$50 check for a Glen-Ed team, but he did not know from which team it came from.

With two members of the TSC resigning, Norm presented a new list of TSC and TBSL members to be recognized.

ATTACHED

Motion: Recognize TBSL and TSC boards as written. Norm/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Norm said that he is still working on writing a soccer lights usage policy. He said that we would have a difference in fees for in district groups and out of district groups.

Phil showed the board a combination lock box he has received from Sam Italiano. The box can contain the key to the lights and can only be opened by combination. The combination would only be given out to people who have paid to use the park and/or the lights. This would prevent calls during the evening from groups who have not picked up a key to turn on the lights.

Randy asked if this might not create more work in that we would need to ensure on a daily basis that the key was put back into the combination lock box.

Insurance - Kevin

Nothing to report.

Grounds - Todd (absent)

No report.

Special Events - Doug

Troop 38 request inserted here. They have requested to have a campout. Doug said we could not vote on this, as it was not on the agenda but that he had no problem with the request.

Norm agreed that he had no problem with the request.

Doug said he would tell the Troop to go ahead and plan for the event and that we could vote to approve at the next meeting.

Motion: Approve Troy Titans use of the Wiesemeyer Center for Friday, Nov 21 and Fri, Dec 5 Doug/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve free use of the Wiesemeyer Center for the YMCA Sr. Prom dance for Sat, May 8, with usage of the sunroom. Norm/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve Boy Scout Order of the Arrow for free usage of the upper level of The Wiesemeyer Center on Sunday Nov 16th. Norm/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve free use of the Wiesemeyer Center for a Chicken and Beer dance on Saturday March 6th, 2004. Doug/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Personnel & Safety - Terry

Nothing to report.

Beautification - Randy

Nothing to report.

Motion: Adjourn to Executive Session. 8:20 Terry/Doug 6-0 Ayes

8:35 Resume meeting

Motion: Give all full time employees who are veterans a day off with pay on a day of their choosing in recognition of Veterans Day. Randy/Doug 6-0 Ayes

Motion: Give any employee working in December a check for \$50 as a Christmas bonus. Terry/Doug 6-0 Ayes

Norm asked the commissioners how they felt about having a Christmas party for the commissioners.

Randy said that he felt we deserved it.

Norm agreed and said that the commissioners have done a lot of work in the past year.

Phil said that we couldn't act on this tonight, as it was not on the agenda.

Norm said that he felt we should have all of the commissioners and their wives have a dinner paid for by the park and requested that this be on the next agenda.

Kevin told Norm to be sure and remind Phil to put it on the agenda.

Kevin said he would not be interested in participating.

Norm suggested a steak fry at the Wiesemeyer Center with everybody bringing a dish.

Doug offered to grill the steaks.

Phil offered to buy the steaks.

Terry said that in the past he has disagreed with this idea because he was concerned about how it may be portrayed in the newspaper. He said he believes it is deserved and that he is no longer concerned with the paper because he believes there will never be accurate reporting regarding the park. He suggested that Norm develop some ideas on where he would like to go, find out who all would be interested in going, and possibly make reservations. Then we could vote to approve at the next meeting.

8:40 Motion to adjourn. Norm/Terry 6-0 Ayes

Respectfully submitted by

Terry Ball, Secretary