

Tri-Township Park Board Meeting
Budget Meeting
Park Office
May 11, 2005

5/20/05
Phil

7:00 PM Budget meeting called to order.

In Attendance: Phil Loethen, Terry Ball, Randy Wiesemeyer, Norm Beck, Jim Derby, Kevin Woodring, and Mary Kmetz

Also in Attendance: Tim Greenfield, Dave Roady, Pat Cox and Mae Grapperhaus from the Times-Tribune, Norma Mendoza from the Edwardsville Intelligencer, Stephanie Williams, Todd Plesko.

Swearing in of Commissioners –

Park Superintendent Tim Greenfield swore in the three newly elected commissioners, Jim Derby, Norm Beck, and Mary Kmetz.

Budget –

Phil presented the proposed budget for the coming year and asked for questions from the board or from the public.

There were none.

7:01PM Motion: Adjourn the meeting. Randy Kevin 7:02

Submitted by
Terry Ball, Secretary

Tri-Township Park Board Meeting
May Regular Meeting
Park Office

~~December 5, 2004~~

MAY 11, 2005

Phil Shropes

7:05 PM Meeting called to order.

In Attendance: Phil Loethen, Terry Ball, Randy Wiesemeyer, Norm Beck, Jim Derby, Kevin Woodring, and Mary Kmetz

Also in Attendance: Tim Greenfield, Dave Roady, Pat Cox and Mae Grapperhaus from the Times-Tribune, Norma Mendoza from the Edwardsville Intelligencer, Stephanie Williams, Todd Plesko.

Additions to the Agenda –

Motion: Discuss Titans football camp at the end of June under Athletics. Norm/Randy 7-0 Ayes

Election of Officers –

Phil opened the floor to nominations for officers.

President – Phil Loethen, nominated by Randy, seconded by Jim. No other nominations. Vote 7-0 Ayes

Vice President – Randy Wiesemeyer, nominated by Norm, seconded by Jim. No other nominations. Vote 7-0 Ayes

Secretary – Terry Ball, nominated by Randy, seconded by Jim. No other nominations. Vote 7-0 Ayes

Treasure – Norm Beck, nominated by Terry, seconded by Randy. No other nominations. Vote 7-0 Ayes

Assignment of Committees –

Phil said he was happy with the make up of the committees and asked if there were any requests for changes. He asked Kevin if he was still interested in keeping insurance. Kevin said that he was. Mary was assigned Special Events.

Approval of Minutes –

Motion: Approve April 24, 2005 minutes. Norm/Randy 5-0-2 Kevin and Mary abstained.

Motion: Approve April 24, 2005 Executive session Legal minutes to remain unsealed.
Terry/Randy 5-0-2 Kevin and Mary abstained.

Motion: Approve April 24, 2005 Executive session Personnel minutes to remain unsealed.
Randy/Terry 5-0-2 Kevin and Mary abstained.

Motion: Unseal all executive session minutes. Norm/Terry 5-0-2 Kevin and Mary abstained.

Citizens on the Agenda –

There were none.

Thank you notes/Get Well –

There were none.

Friends of the Park –

Mary Anne Barkley said that FOP has all of the paver bricks in the shed and will be scheduling the installation. She said that they have received a quotation on ADA handrails for the bandstand. It is for \$10,635. They are still waiting on a few more quotes.

Norm said that with the plan to put a lot of memorial benches in front of the bandstand, he wants to suggest that we pour multiple or extended pads for underneath the benches. Tim, Randy, and Norm will get together to discuss.

Correspondence –

Nothing to speak of.

Treasures Report –

\$462,614.74 in the bank.

Motion: Accept treasures report. Randy/Norm 7-0 Ayes

Phil noted that we have sent the finished paperwork on the skateboard park to the City and are waiting on their check for \$50,000.

Pay Bills –

Bills totaling \$121,019.97 were reviewed.

Motion: Pay all bills including Rosch for \$113,550, contingent upon completion of project, including seeding, strawing, and passing a final punch list by Jim Derby. Norm/Randy 7-0 Ayes

Park Superintendent Report –

Tim presented a copy of the “to do” list with notations of progress.

The Park Superintendent report also contained a copy of Tim’s resume to apply for the position of Park Director. Tim asked the board what the impact the new position would have on his current position and on his employment with the district.

TBSL –

Terry said that there are 783 kids signed up and playing ball. The season is now open.

TSC –

No one from TSC was in attendance.

Financial – Phil

The volunteer weekend is scheduled for May 19th-21st.

Phil said that he has received a suggestion on the south park entrance gate. The gate and entryway are very narrow. We rarely if ever close the gates. The suggestion was to remove the gate and move the fencing back so as to widen the entryway. Phil asked Jim to look into this and report his findings back to the board.

Communication with commissioners –

Phil said that we recently had some issues with commissioner Kevin Woodring getting notified about special meetings. Phil presented some facts relative to the issue.

Kevin was elected to the board in April of 2003 and he provided the board with an email address.

Several weeks after this, emails sent to Kevin started bouncing with the message, “mailbox full”.

Several weeks after this the emails stopped bouncing.

In early 2005, Kevin reported to the board that his computer had a virus and that he could not receive his emails. Emails sent to Kevin from the Park were not bouncing.

On April 7th, Kevin came into the office and states that he cannot get his emails. Phil asks him to use the computer at the police station to access his emails as he has a yahoo.com address that can be accessed from any computer hooked up to the Internet. Kevin said the Police Chief wouldn’t allow him to use the computer for personal use.

Phil calls the Police Chief and asks and the Chief says he doesn’t care. Kevin’s second email address at the police station is added to the commissioner email list.

Wednesday, April 20th, Kevin comes to the park office and tells Phil he isn’t working and can’t get emails at the police station. He asks to be called for special meetings. Phil tells Kevin that he has called a special meeting for Monday, April 25th.

Friday, April 22nd, Phil learns that his daughter in-law is scheduled to give birth on Monday the 25th and moves the special meeting up to Sunday the 24th.

All of the commissioners and local news media are notified of the change via email.

Tim Greenfield is on vacation.

The agenda is posted in the park office window.

Phil discovers that Kevin’s number is unlisted and asks all of the commissioners if they have the number. None do.

Phil checks Kevin’s file at the office and his election filings. No phone number is listed.

Phil sends an email to all of the commissioners and all of the local media asking if anyone has Kevin’s number.

4/28/05
Phil C

Phil mails a copy of the agenda to Kevin.

When Tim returns from vacation, Tim states that he does not have Kevin's phone number, and in the past when he has had top contact Kevin he has called his wife at work.

Kevin said that his number was in the Rolodex and Mary used to call him from the park office.

Terry said that a newspaper article was written to insinuate that the park staff has recently been in contact with Kevin. Phil has been to only person working in the office for the last four years and as such, it would have had to have been over five years since the last time anyone from the park office contacted him.

Kevin said that hadn't Phil talked to Dave Roady and didn't Dave suggest calling the police department to get Kevin.

Phil said he didn't remember talking to Dave.

Dave Roady said I did talk to you and suggested you call the police department.

Phil said he didn't remember that conversation.

Kevin said you didn't remember, imagine that.

Kevin reviewed his file and his election paperwork where he claimed his phone number was located and noted that it was not on there. Kevin supplied both his home phone number and his cell phone number to the board.

Sharing Passwords –

Phil said that newly elected commissioner Mary Kmetz has requested access to the password for the park computer.

Phil said that he opposes this for the following reasons:

All emails sent or received by the park computer may be read without the password.

When people send an email to the park they assume they are sending it to Phil. When people receive an email from the park they assume it is coming from Phil.

If someone has access to this password, they can intercept park email on a different computer and the email would never reach the intended person. Mail could also be sent from other locations with this password and it would be perceived as if it came from the park.

Phil said that passwords should be protected and rarely shared.

Terry said that all emails ever sent or received by the park are on the computer and are accessible to all commissioners at all times. The only thing gained by having the password is the ability to send an email from the park account.

Norm and Randy both said they didn't have the password for the computer.

Motion: Park email password to only be maintained by the President or his designate. Terry/Randy 5-2 Kevin and Mary were the no votes.

Phil discussed the Board Development Workshop and asked the board to select a date. Mondays seemed to work best for all parties.

Athletics – Norm

Norm said that the Titans would like to put on a football camp in the park during the last two weeks of June. He said that this would not interfere with the TSC.

Insurance – Kevin

Kevin said that the roller he has been trying to get donated for the park is still out and not available.

Grounds – Jim

Lake project is all but complete.

Special Events – Mary

Motion: Approve free use #1 pavilion for Cub Scout leader training Sat. July 9th (8AM to 1PM).
Mary/Randy 7-0 Ayes

5/28/05
Phil

Motion: Approve Knights hockey club family picnic Sat. June 4th, pavilion #8. Norm/Jim 7-0 Ayes

Phil asked Mary, as special events chair to coordinate getting food for the volunteer weekend. Norm said he would be glad to help.

Personnel & Safety – Terry

The plaque for the skateboard park is in and waiting to be installed.

Terry said that he has been approached by a young man named Mike Long about continuing the midnight baseball program. Last year, a group of high school aged kids and older played baseball on diamond #4 under the lights after the TBSL had concluded around 10 PM. Mr. Long is interested in continuing this. Terry said that last summer this group played baseball nearly every night and cleaned up around the diamonds when they were done. They also shut off the lights and locked the bathrooms for us.

Motion: Provide a key to the lights on diamond #4 to Mike Long and allow the use of the big diamond each night after TBSL is concluded. Terry/Norm 7-0 Ayes

Beautification – Randy

Randy said that he was working on the new bench locations.

Randy said that he and Norm are working on some landscaping plans for the park.

Randy said that he wants to look into building a deck behind the Wiesemeyer Center.

Tim said that the gutter guards are all on at the Wiesemeyer Center.

7:35 Jim leaves the meeting.

7:38 Motion: Adjourn to executive session personnel. Norm/Randy 6-0 Ayes

Norma Mendoza, reporter for the Edward Intelligencer asked what we would be discussing in closed session.

Phil said that we were in the process of hiring a Park Director.

Norma said that closed session couldn't be used to discuss the hiring process.

Terry said that we have received some resumes and that we wanted to review what we have received thus far.

Norma asked what law the board was following to exit into closed session.

Terry said that were following Illinois Park Law.

Norma asked what specific statute of the Illinois Open Meetings Act we were using to go into executive session.

Terry read from the Illinois Park Law handbook the law regarding going into executive session. Closed session is allowed to discuss personnel matters, real estate purchases, legal actions, and others.

Norma said that we were not allowed to have a closed session unless we could quote the statute that allowed us to do so and if we did not specifically state what we would be talking about in closed session.

Terry said that we were discussing personnel, as stated in the motion.

Norma said that this was too vague.

Norm asked Norma if she had a copy of the Illinois Open Meetings act with her.

She said that she did.

Norm asked if the Illinois Open Meetings act read the same as the law printed in the Park Law handbook.

She said that it did except for a few minor wording differences.

Norm asked why if they were basically the same, we were not doing this properly in her opinion. Norma said that we couldn't close the meeting to the public unless we told the public what we were specifically going to discuss while we were in closed session.

Terry said that he had never read that specific requirement in the Illinois Open Meetings act and said that it didn't seem to make much sense to go into closed session to discuss legally recognized private items if we had to disclose it all in an open meeting before closing the meeting to discuss it.

Norma and Pat Cox – reporter for the Troy Times-Tribune then stated that they would not leave until we told them what we were going to talk about.

Terry said that we should call the police and have them removed from the meeting and arrested. Whether we were following the letter of the law and doing it properly or not, although I believe that we are, has no bearing on the fact that they are required by law to leave the meeting when it goes into closed session and they were breaking the law.

Todd Plesko, husband of Pat Cox - reporter for the Times-Tribune, then approached the board from the audience and asked if he could be on the agenda at the next park board meeting to discuss the Illinois Open Meetings act. He told the board that he would send an email requesting to be on the agenda.

Terry said again that we are in the process of soliciting resumes for a new Park Director position and have received several resumes. We want to look at these and discuss them during closed session.

7:50 Go to closed session.

7:55 Return from executive session personnel

7:56 Randy leaves the meeting

7:56 Motion: Adjourn to executive session legal. Terry/Norm 5-0 Ayes

8:05 Motion: Adjourn the meeting. Norm/Terry 5-0 Ayes

Submitted by
Terry Ball, Secretary

5/24/05
Terry Ball