

**Tri-Township Park Board Meeting  
February Regular Meeting  
Park Office  
February 07, 2007**

7:00 PM Meeting called to order.

In Attendance: Norm Beck, Terry Ball, Joe Eader, Jim Derby, Mary Kmetz, and Randy Wiesemeyer  
Absent: Kevin Woodring

Additions to the Agenda –  
None

Approval of Minutes –

Motion: Approve January 10, 2007 Regular Meeting minutes. Randy/Jim 4-0-2 Ayes Roll Call vote. Mary and Joe abstained

Motion: Approve January 31, 2007 Special Meeting minutes. Mary/Jim 5-0-1 Ayes Roll Call vote. Joe abstained.

Thank you notes/Get Well –  
None

Treasures Report –  
\$485,238.

Motion: Accept treasures report. Terry/Randy 5-0-1 Ayes Roll Call vote. Joe abstained.

7:05 Kevin arrives

Pay Bills –

Bills totaling \$15,727.54 were reviewed.

Dave said that the water bill was very low this month as we were over billed last month and the credit was now showing.

Motion: Pay all bills for \$15,727.54. Terry/Jim 5-0-2 Ayes Roll Call vote. Kevin and Joe abstained.

Designation of Park Board Treasurer –

Norm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Board Treasurer. Norm said that he would like to nominate Terry Ball to be placed in that position.

Norm asked if there were any other nominations. There were none. Norm said that being no further nominations, the nominations for Board Treasurer is closed.

Motion: Appoint Terry Ball as Board Treasure. Randy/Joe 7-0 Ayes Roll Call vote

Norm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Board Secretary. Norm said that he would like to nominate George Bryant to be placed in that position.

Mary and Kevin asked if the Park Director could hold that position without being elected.

Randy read from the IPARKS law book that this position is typically held by the park Director.

Norm asked if there were any other nominations. There were none. Norm said that being no further nominations, the nominations for Board Treasurer is closed.

Motion: Appoint George Bryant as Board Secretary. Terry/Joe 7-0 Ayes Roll Call vote

Nomination concerning resignation of a Commissioner and appointment of a new Commissioner and officers to the Tri-Township Park District Board –

Motion: Approve Resolution 2007-1 Terry/Mary 6-0-1 Ayes Roll call vote. Joe abstained.  
Park Director Report – George Bryant

George said that we received a letter from Alan Dunstan confirming our receipt of the 2007 Madison County Solid Waste Recycled Content Park Grant. This grant totals \$5,562.32.  
George said that we will be hosting the Troy area Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours on May 10, 2007. This will be taking place at the #1 pavilion.

George detailed the sessions he attended at the IPRA/IAPD annual state conference  
George detailed the 2006 Annual Report and Projections for 2007-2008 –  
The Tri-Township Park District is looking forward to a blue sky forecast for their next fiscal year. The fiscal year 2007-2008 is projected to be a time of positive growth and enrichment of services for the residents of the park district.

Park Director George Bryant reported that over the last year a major emphasis by the park district has been on refreshing and enhancing existing relationships locally and state wide. "I believe the core of any public service agency should be centered on good quality relationships", said Bryant. Respect and trust is something that is earned over a period of time and I placed this as a top priority when I accepted the position as Director of the Park District a year and half ago. Last year joint efforts were seen across the board with Triad Community School, City of Troy, Madison County, Jarvis Township, area news media, Troy Chamber of Commerce, Tri-Township Library and numerous service organizations who became involved with the Park District. Areas of networking involved sharing equipment to aerate the athletic fields, purchasing and installing Christmas decorations, providing equipment and man power during the 3 major storm disasters, or providing financial, marketing and hands on supervision to kick off a series of new recreation programs such as Movie Night In The Park and Adventure Night.

The Park District is looking at a number of projects for 2007 with many of them still yet to be finalized during the budgeting process. One major recreation program, Tri-Township Baseball and Softball League, TBSL, is expected to present a proposal in February for a series of facility improvements. TBSL hopes to be able to offer financial assistance in the amount of \$20,000.00 if the Park Board so chooses to under takes these projects by matching this amount of money.

#### **Facility Improvements to Be Considered or Already Confirmed For Fiscal Year 2007-2008**

Baseball field #4- Batting cages, concrete exterior pathways under dugouts and around concession areas and the installation of batting cages.

Baseball field #8- Outfield foul line fencing

Outdoor P.A. System- National Anthem before games, emergency weather alerts and for other recreational programming.

Phase 2 of 32 acre road way landscaping- Ornamental grasses

East Entry Way Park Entrance Sign- Installation of donated sign

A 32 acre piece of property had recently been acquired by the District where a new skate board park, pavilion and athletic fields were constructed in the last 6 years. Presently, the existing fields are in need of regrading.

The development and improvement of the athletic fields has been designated a priority by the park board. The park district will address some of the concerns expressed by the coaches and parents associated with the drainage of the existing fields by preparing a well thought out renovation plan.

#### **Grant programs being considered involve the following:**

Madison County PEP -\$40,000

Madison County Solid Waste Recycled Content Park Equipment -\$5,500.00

Madison County Recycled Rubber Poured Solid Surface Playground\$16,000

Madison County Recycling and Landscape Waste Management Equipment - \$20,000.00

*MEB*  
*RW*

Comments by George Bryant, Park Director:

A current public survey and comprehensive plan for a community is invaluable. This management tool is one of the most important aspects in the operation and development of a park district. Many grant applications also require a park district to have a current plan on file. Planning becomes an even more important factor in a community that is aggressively growing. This is also an ongoing process as large numbers of people pour into a community it is very possible that the age distribution, economic status, race and many other factors can begin to swing in areas that the community has not experienced before. Many small growing communities find themselves all of a sudden trying to meet the needs of people who have interests in areas that the park district is not prepared to meet. Land that was once available is now not available at any price. One only has to look around the Troy area a few miles to see a sample of what is headed our way. Glen Carbon and O'Fallon are perfect examples. How do you plan for a population that may double within a short time period? There are specific steps and processes that have been successfully used throughout the various park districts. I believe that establishing a comprehensive plan during next fiscal year should be a serious consideration.

Team work and vision are two primary factors in long term planning. Team work reaches across the staff, park board, community and also county, state and federal funding agencies. The end results of long term planning may not always be seen quickly, but neither are the results of planting trees seen quickly.

The Tri-township Park Board's new fiscal year will begin in April with budget planning going on through out the next few months.

TBSL - Terry Ball

The TBSL is an organization ran by volunteers. We provide organized baseball/softball for upwards of 1,000 area kids in the Park District.

Over the past five years the TBSL has invested more than \$20,000 in the park purchasing dugouts for all diamonds.

The TBSL is ready to spend some more money on the park for overall improvements.

The TBSL would like to propose a "Matching Grant" to the Park Board.

By this, we mean that we have identified approximately \$40,000 worth of improvements that we want and are ready to act on and the TBSL has \$20,000 of the funds set aside and available. We are looking for the Park District to supply the other \$20,000.

While we have done some upfront work on specifications and pricing on various ideas, we would look to having the park Director oversee these projects and have the final say on all.

These improvements include the following -

1) \$15,000 - Foul line fencing on Diamond #8. We are estimating \$15,000. If it is substantially less, we would like to also fence diamond #7. Work with Ed Wilhite.

2) \$5,000 - Concrete. \$5,000 is the low end....concrete the floors of the dugouts on Diamond #4. Work with Jim Derby.

3) \$15,000 - Concrete. \$15,000 is the high end of the #2 project....dugout floors and extend the concrete around the concession stand area. Work with Jim Derby.

4) \$2,500 - Batting cages. Add batting cages for diamond #4. Work with Jamie Monroe.

5) \$6,800 - PA system. This PA system would allow for the playing of the national anthem before each game. It would also be available for weather alerts during games and for any other activity the park deemed useful. Work with James Long.

This is an excellent opportunity for the Park Board to quickly add \$40,000 worth of improvements to the Park for an expense to the park of only \$20,000. We would like to have these items completed by the first week in May.

As both a member of the TBSL and the Park Board, I think this is an excellent opportunity for both to work together for the overall improvement of the park. I ask that the other Park Board members consider this proposal.

*MJB*

Mary asked if this was in the budget.

Norm said that it was.

Joe asked what would happen if we went over the \$40,000.

Terry said that all of these estimates were on the high side. The TBSL is looking at spending up to a total of \$40,000. If we come in under we will not take all of the parks \$20,000. The projects are ranked in order of preference. If the projects cost more than \$40,000, we would fully expect the overage to drop off the list and not be purchased.

Motion: The Park authorizes up to \$20,000 to be spent in conjunction with the \$20,000 donated by the TBSL to purchase and install field fencing, field #4 concrete, batting cages, and a PA system. All individual projects to be managed and approved by the Park Director. Terry/Randy 7-0 Ayes Roll Call vote.

Motion: Authorize the Park Director to acquire project cost proposals for designated improvements. Terry/Mary 7-0 Ayes Roll Call vote.

#### TSC -

No one from the TSC was in attendance.

George presented an updated list of members.

Kevin asked if there were any new names on the list and if so they had passed background checks.

George stated that the TSC inquires to the Illinois Sex Offender list to check names but that he was not certain that this had been done on any new names.

Motion: Approve 2007 TSC Board Members list pending background checks. Terry/Randy 7-0 Ayes Roll Call vote.

#### Financial -

Satellite Park - Norm said that he has not yet heard anything from Norris Brase.

Randy asked Terry as new Treasurer to look into the existing budget and bring a recommendation to the next meeting about possibly paying some money down on the land loan balances.

#### Athletics - Norm

Norm said that the Troy Titans have been meeting with George. The Titans are looking at providing assistance with extending the parking lot on the 32 acres in exchange for a commitment on playing fields. Titan's president Dave Nonn is putting together a packet with all their suggestions of what they believe they can help with. This may include extending the walking path on the 32 acres.

#### Insurance - Kevin

Nothing to report.

#### Grounds - Jim

Jim said that we have an Eagle Scout project proposal for replacing a concrete base on pavilion #12.

George said that Pavilion #12 is not in the best of shape and may need to be replaced. George discussed a possible new structure alternative. He said that he would bring a recommendation and pricing back to the next meeting.

#### Special Events - Mary

Motion: Approve request to waive fees for -

Girl Scout Troop 551 for the upper level of the Wiesemeyer Center, March 4, 2007

Troy Titans Baseball fields #1, #2, #3 (8/4/2007 - 10/1/2007)

TSC/Touch on the Ball (Dave Fernandez) Soccer Camp - soccer fields; 7/17/2007 - 7/19/2007

Mary/Randy 7-0 Ayes Roll Call vote

#### Personnel & Safety - Terry

Nothing to report.

#### Beautification - Randy

Randy asked George if he could take a trip and look at historic LeClaire. They have some street signs that Randy is interested in.

Randy said that we should be planning some tree planting while the playgrounds are installed. He said we should also get some suggestions and pricing for some bigger trees to be placed on the 32 acres to provide some shade on the ball diamonds.

Randy asked where we stood on the installation of the donated Lions Club sign.

George said that the boring is completed and we will work on this when the temperatures are more conducive. We need to pull the wire and set the footings.

8:05 Motion: Adjourn the meeting. Terry/Mary 7-0 Ayes

Submitted by  
Terry Ball, Secretary

*Mary E. Seal*

*MES RW*