



DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

Meeting Notes: Tuesday, July 12th, 2016

The regular meeting of the Doylestown Township Park and Recreation Board was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12th, 2016 at the Doylestown Township Administrative office.

- In attendance: John Bray, Jan Suessenguth, Blythe Kelly, Robert Salanik, Susan Reichwein, Emily Rehmet, Youth Member, Karen Sweeney, Director of Parks and Recreation, and Shawn Touhill, BOS Liaison
- Absent: Paul DiNella, Barbara Kesselring
- Guests: Stephanie Mason, Township Director & Joe Salvati, Kids Castle

Meeting Notes – May, 2016

The meeting notes were unanimously approved on a motion by Susan Reichwein and a second by Mr. Salanik

Visitors: Vijay Balaji (Prospective Youth Member Appointment)

Correspondence:

*The Lions Club presented a \$10,000 check to the Board for the Sensory Trail. In response, a thank you note was sent to them.

*Vijay Balaji, a prospective Youth Appointment, was in attendance. Prior to this meeting, he had submitted his resume for P&R Board review. Mr. Balaji introduces himself to the P&R Board and requests consideration to be appointed as the new Youth Member of this Board. Mr. Bray makes a recommendation to appoint Mr. Balaji as the new Youth Member. This recommendation was unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Salanik and a second by Ms. Suessenguth. The P&R Board will now forward this recommendation, along with Mr. Balaji's resume and letter of consideration to the Board of Supervisors for approval. With approval, Mr. Balaji will replace Ms. Rehmet as this Board's new Youth Member. Ms. Rehmet will be vacating this position to attend college in the fall. Ms. Rehmet welcomes and further advises Mr. Balaji.

*This Board reviewed a letter from Ms. Mason to Fred Lubnow, Director of Aquatic Programs-Princeton Hydro, regarding water quality testing at Sauerman Park Pond. With consensus from the BOS Princeton Hydro was retained to collect and analyze water samples from this pond. Ms. Mason reports that from the initial findings, this said pond is alive and doing well. The initial testing results reported some active frogs and turtles. Ms. Mason is hopeful that after further testing we will be able to obtain Grant Funding to improve this area.

Updates:

The Performing Arts Concert Series : Ms. Sweeney informs this Board that the first movie night had poor attendance due to extreme heat.

She also informs this Board that she met with Covenant Bank to determine if they will be again moving forward with the Jazz Festival. They remain in discussion on this topic.

Additionally, Ms. Sweeney informs this Board that the new banners are in place on the Amphitheater.

In addition to the July 10th fireworks show was phenomenal. Attendance was enormous and the event was extremely well received by all. Both, Ms. Sweeney and Ms. Mason, received great feedback from the community.

Ms. Sweeney estimates that attendance was estimated at 1,000 cars and 7,500 people; raising \$5,930.75.

Ms. Suessenguth, who was one of the many of the volunteers that evening, recommends having a specific handicap station in the future to provide a better commute for those in need. Mr. Bray recommends that we keep the same Sunday after the July 4th date for our future Fireworks event. He expresses that this is a more suitable day for volunteers, as well as spectators, which will keep attendance high.

Sensory Enrichment Trail: Ms. Sweeney informs the board that there are no new updates.

Kids Castle: Mr. Salvati informs this Board that Kids Castle received great media coverage on Fox News 29 Block Party in Doylestown Boro. It was well received with some cash donations as well as an invitation from the United Way of Bucks County to place a free Kids Castle article in their magazine.

Additionally, Kids Castle also received great media coverage on CBS 3 “Dream Drives” news segment. A CBS 3 morning traffic reporter visited Kids Castle and did a news segment which was broadcasted and later viewed by our P&R Board.

Mr. Salvati also indicates that the Hamster sock campaign was successful with 72 sales.

Ms. Rehmet makes a recommendation to Mr. Salvati that a Kids Castle Logo be submitted to Snap Chat for additional social media promotion. Mr. Salvati will submit photos for approval.

Other Business:

June Golf Outing: Ms. Sweeney reports that \$14,000 was raised. Sponsorship was down from last year.

Activity Center: Ms. Sweeney reports that the Activity Center is moving along as planned. The outline showing placement for further expansion is on the drawing board. Location and placement is on the diagram for potential future expansion.

Pickle Ball: Ms. Sweeney informs this Board that a Pickle Ball program has been secured for the Fall.

Facebook: Mr. Bray reports that the P&R Board members are not permitted to maintain an official Township Facebook page therefore, we should develop an unofficial Facebook page on which we can collectively post. Ms. Mason respectively disagrees and expresses her concern. She further adds that the Township may add a Social Media .Mr. Bray is emphatic that we need to promote our park programs separate from the Township Facebook page. The P&R Board is in agreement with Mr. Bray.

P&R monthly Meetings: Ms. Suessenguth recommends that in the future, we meet in June. Summer is a busy season in the parks and needs our attention. Mr. Bray and Ms. Kelly agree and recommend that the August meeting be skipped to due summer vacations. The Board is in agreement.

***Adjournment:** Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm on a motion by Mr. Salanik, seconded by Ms. Reichwein

Respectfully submitted by:
Blythe Kelly
Doylestown Park and Recreation Board

Approved: _____