



Franklin Township
Advisory Recreation Council
Wednesday, March 11, 2015
Community / Senior Center
7:00pm
Minutes - DRAFT

In Attendance: Bill Gallagher, Bill Milligan, Eloise Taylor, John Moon, Keith Stewart, Nancy Sayre, Percy Sanders, Steve Wright, Susindran Thangarajo and Venkata Allaka

Excused: Carl Wright, Kurby Brown and Stanley Crougther

Staff: Alice Osipowitz and Dan Reeve

Guest: Bob Vornlocker

Call to order: Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:04pm

Public Comment: A motion was made by Mr. Gallagher and seconded by Mr. Moon to open the meeting to the public, all others in favor, motion carried. No public comments. A motion was made by Mr. Moon and seconded by Ms. Sayre to close the meeting to the public, all others in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Ms. Sayre and seconded by Mr. Moon to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2015 meeting, all others in favor, motion carried.

Catalpa Park Update

Mr. Vornlocker reviewed the first draft and revised conceptual plans for Catalpa Park upgrades. First draft was presented at public hearing which brought concerns forward from local residents. Revised plan was created based on those concerns. Proposed project has been scaled down to include the following elements: parking lot, pavilion, restrooms, cricket pitch, tennis courts, playscape and walking trail which will connect to other town parks.

Mr. Vornlocker requested written recommendations be provided from the Advisory Recreation Council as well as a speaker to present recommendations at the May public hearing meeting.

Discussion ensued. Basketball courts were eliminated from revised plan based on courts being added to future upgrades to DeLar Park. Tennis Courts are on revised plan based on need for courts in southern end of Franklin Township. Recreation Council members discussed the following recommendations; synthetic turf cricket pitch (possible dual use as soccer practice field), adding basketball courts back into plan, and walking trail with fitness stations. Mr. Vornlocker suggested including those ideas into the Recreation Advisory Council recommendations to be presented at the May public hearing.

Mr. Vornlocker shared a conceptual drawing of a potential "pocket park" located on Arlington Avenue. Discussion ensued. This project has not gone through a public hearing to date.

Superintendents Report

Mr. Reeve provided a written program report and discussed the following items:

- Winter session extended due to winter weather cancelations.
- February Job Fair, 25 applicants.
- Adult Aerobics demo, 30 participants.
- Spring & Summer newsletter projected to be mailed out to all township residents in early April.
- New programs; Sportspourri and Summer Basketball Camp.

- Bunny Jamboree, April 2
- Job Fair, March 21
- Memory Workshops; March 11 & March 19

Directors Report

Ms. Osipowitz reported on the following items:

- Parents Who Host the Most, Lose the Most Campaign
- Parties, Proms & Pitfalls – April 23
- Teen Summit – March 28

New Business

Ms. Osipowitz presented the soccer field use and needs analysis which was conducted in coordination with Mr. Gallagher. Discussion ensued. Ms. Osipowitz will continue to work with township DPW staff to create a year round field/turf management plan. Ms. Osipowitz will discuss options with DPW regarding the whether it makes more sense to develop an in-house turf management program or to contract out.

Mr. Thangarajo requested to review current scheduling of township cricket fields at Naaman Williams Park and Weston Canal Park. Mr. Thangarajo would like to increase the number of cricket teams who play on township fields and maximize field use by implementing additional playing days. Ms. Osipowitz reviewed the history of issues brought to attention by the local neighbors and explained why cricket is scheduled utilizing “off” days being scheduled around holidays. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Osipowitz will reach out to all current cricket teams for input on scheduling and increasing the number of teams and report back at the April meeting.

Old Business

Mr. Stewart reviewed the draft by-laws document and asked for suggested revisions. Discussion ensued. Mr. Reeve recommended minor formatting revisions. Mr. Gallagher recommends having the Township Attorney review the draft by-laws document before the Recreation Advisory Council votes to approve the final version.

Mr. Moon will set up a meeting with Mr. Sanders, Mr. Crougter and Mr. Brown to discuss the Coaches Corner and report back at the April meeting.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Sayre and seconded by Mr. Moon to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm , all others in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Reeve
Superintendent of Recreation