

MECHANICSBURG RECREATION BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

July 9, 2019

CALL TO ORDER The July 9, 2019 meeting of the Mechanicsburg Recreation Board was called to order at 7:19 PM by Vice Chairwoman Deeg Meck.

MEMBERS PRESENT Vice Chairwoman Deeg Meck, Kathleen Snyder, Lorrie Weber and Diane Nace.

MEMBERS ABSENT Chairwoman Ellen Wilson, Kathryn Johnston and Bart Miller.

OTHERS PRESENT Council Liaison Mark Stoner, Recreation Director Tonya Brown, Borough Manager Ciecierski, Administrative Assistant Sara Martin.

GUESTS None.

JUNE MINUTES

DISCUSSION None.

ACTION A **MOTION** was made by Lorrie Weber and seconded Diane Nace by to approve the June 11, 2019 meeting minutes. **MOTION** approved.

REPORTS

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

- Tonya Brown reported that they are in the middle of a busy, wet summer. There has only had to be one ambulance call to the park and the kid was released that day and back at camp the next day. Recreation Director Brown stated that the camps are full and have increased this year she will bring the numbers on program participation in September.
- Tonya Brown reported that she hired a “secret shopper” that has been calling and visiting the programs and pools, etc. who she has met twice with since the beginning of June and received very good comments from them on pool and programs staff. There were a few comments on cell phones, but they were immediately addressed and have made the camps better.
- Tonya Brown informed the Board that right now, they are registering for the Wildcat Care program which is for grades 4-5 and was well received last year. All employees will be returning.
- Tonya Brown commended Pool Manager Sue Canniff on doing great job at the pool as well as working on the fall brochure.
- Tonya Brown noted that the new gym facility is to be done by the end of August and will be available for use on Saturdays which will really help with the basketball program.
- Tonya Brown had four items from Pool Manager Sue Canniff that she needs answered.

- Discounted season passes, when will they begin and what will the prices be.
- When should patrons stop being let in without photos. *Manager Ciecierski answered that he told Sue yesterday the deadline is Friday July 12th. As of Friday, he will be suspending all memberships that have not gotten their pass.*
- There was an email from an MSC parent requesting special exceptions to the no children 12 and under allowed in the pool without an adult for MSC members. The Board discussed at length the safety issues this could cause, and legalities of the rule being posted properly for enforcement. Tonya Brown advised she will research the National standards and they can go from there.
- The clover in the grass area is causing a bee issue. *Manager Ciecierski noted that he already has someone on it.*
- Tonya Brown reported that she received an email from the National Parks and Recreation Association and Michelle Smith with American Water who wants Tonya to write a grant for the Borough for a splash pad. The grant would be for \$250,000 and is not a matching grant. Tonya Brown suggested it be for a splash pad at the pool complex. *Manager Ciecierski said go for it.* Lorrie Weber noted that this kind of stuff is what we should keep in mind going into Joint Recreation Agreement talks. *Tonya Brown clarified that the only thing that has changed for her for grant writing with the new agreement is that she cannot do bid specs.*
- Tonya Brown added that she spoke to DCNR about the Natural Playground project and reiterated that the only reason it is behind is because of the work on the Kindergarten Academy. *Manager Ciecierski noted that he is having an issue with his contact with DCNR not allowing any work to be done in-house. He added that they are requesting all the work be put out to bid.* Tonya advised him to forward her the name of whoever is requesting that, so she can speak to their superiors as that was not the attitude she got at her meeting.

**BOROUGH
COUNCIL
LIASON**

- No report.

**BOROUGH
MANAGER**

- Manager Ciecierski repeated Tonya's praise of Pool Manager Sue Canniff and Justin Lewis's work running the pool. He noted that the bacteria tests are coming back great.
- Manager Ciecierski noted that one of the original retractors went out on the Aqua Zip's Friday and Saturday he put it back in. Russell, the inventor of the Aqua Zip's will be sending new pieces. He also wants to rebuild the original Aqua Zip'n retractor, so we have a spare. He is coming along with Manager Ciecierski when he goes to the hearing with the Department of Agriculture.
- Manager Ciecierski reported that the repairs to the broken slide in Finkenbinder will be done this week or early next week.

- Manager Ciecierski informed the Board that two 12 & 13-year-old girls decorated the large pavilion with male anatomy everywhere even in the rafters. The police caught them.
- Manager Ciecierski noted that the lines will be repainted on the volleyball court.
- Manager Ciecierski informed everyone that the Northside Basin is completed, and the Borough can close that grant out.
- He added that the Borough received the grant check for the additions at the pool in the amount of \$14,393. The Borough was allowed to switch out a splash pad for the Aqua Zip'ns so that got covered under the grant.
- Manager Ciecierski noted that he wants to put artificial grass around the pavilion but it likely won't happen until the fall. The cost will be \$3,500.
- Councilman Stoner noted that at the Crimewatch Meeting last night Lt. Curtis reported about vandalism on the basketball court in Memorial Park and spray paint at Finkenbinder. *Manager Ciecierski stated that he had not been informed of these items.*
- Manager Ciecierski reviewed the budget numbers provided (attached) and noted that Phase 2 of Legacy Park has been recommended for approval to Council though this Phase is all commercial and Ordinance doesn't address non-residential properties so staff will try, to get the same amount as for residential, but it is unknown what we'll be able to get.
- Manager Ciecierski reported that he purchased Pool Manager Canniff and the lifeguard staff walkie talkies to use at the pool. He was able to purchase 20 for \$200, they get 16 channels, are small, light, water proof and have a flashlight on them. So far, they have been working very well.
- Manager Ciecierski noted that he turned the broken hand claim from the Aqua Zip'ns in to the insurance company.
- Manager Ciecierski added that pool staff handled the potential concussion at the pool the other day very well as well as the situation on Sunday with the flipped/broken picnic table.
- Manager Ciecierski added that the Board might want to look at adjusting the park rules as people out with metal detectors have been digging holes. He explained that this is currently not addressed in the park rules and even though they are re-filling them it is still doing serious damage.
- Manager Ciecierski noted that the benches are done, and he must get a plaque made in honor of Steve Diehl.

PARKS

MEMORIAL

KOSER

FINKENBINDER

- Lorrie Weber asked where the line between the park property and Norfolk Southern's property by the railroad tracks? *Manager Ciecierski answered that she believes it is the top edge of the hill.* Lorrie Weber noted that she thinks someone is illegally dumping there.
- Diane Nace reported that when she was out it was wet, but still looks good and that the fence is still rolling up.
- Deeg Meck reported that Finkenbinder looks great. The algae are and will hopefully stay gone. Deeg Meck asked about the light in the park. *Manager Ciecierski speculated that the LED might be going out and he*

will check. Deeg Meck asked about the cement pad to play 4-square on that the kids had requested. Manager Ciecierski answered that we don't have the supplies to put one in right now.

ACTION ITEMS

Manager Ciecierski reminded the Board that in Tonya's report she noted Sue needs an answer on half-price passes. *Tonya added that regular price passes would need to go until at least the 22nd of July.* Lorrie Weber moved to recommend to Council to approve half-price tickets beginning July 22nd. The motion was seconded by Diane Nace and passed with all in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

COMMENTS ON THE JOINT RECREATION AGREEMENT

Lorrie Weber asked about the scheduling of the meeting with the School District to discuss the Joint Recreation Agreement. *Manager Ciecierski answered that he has received no word since the original meeting was cancelled.* Tonya Brown clarified that there was a meeting scheduled with Roger, herself, Greg Longwell and Scott Frazier from Upper Allen but then Scott emailed the night before the meeting saying he would be bringing another person, so the meeting got cancelled because everyone had to be able to bring the same number of people. Also, if things were getting that formal Shiremanstown should be given the opportunity to attend with the same number of people. *Manager Ciecierski added that Greg Longwell asked for the Borough's delegation and he stated that he chose Ellen & Deeg as the Chair and Vice Chair of the Recreation Board, Councilman Weber as the School Board Liaison for Borough Council, and Councilman Stoner as the Recreation Board Liaison to Council as well himself.* Lorrie Weber asked if everyone in attendance has a voice or vote? *Manager Ciecierski answered that the meeting is just a discussion and he thought it would just be for clarification of what document's intent and wording means. So, he is currently waiting to hear back on a new meeting time.*

Councilman Stoner noted that he wants to get things set up for January's concert. He asked Tonya to find out if they can book Elmwood Elementary for January 25th, 2020. *Tonya answered that she will email Pam and cc Councilman Stoner.* Lorrie Weber will check to see if Pentagon is available and Councilman Stoner asked all members to begin looking for sponsorships.

Sara martin noted that the Community Day organizers would like to present their check at the next meeting.

Councilman Stoner asked if there was a new comp plan for parks in the works. *Manager Ciecierski suggested that everyone throw a bunch of ideas into a hat and he and Tonya will see what they can make work.*

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Lorrie Weber and seconded by Diane Nace. **MOTION** approved, and meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Martin
Administrative Assistant