

**MECHANICSBURG RECREATION BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

September 10, 2019

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**CALL TO ORDER**      The September 10, 2019 meeting of the Mechanicsburg Recreation Board was called to order at 7:08 PM by Chairwoman Ellen Wilson.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**      Chairwoman Ellen Wilson, Vice Chairwoman Deeg Meck, Kathryn Johnston, Bart Miller, Kathleen Snyder and Lorrie Weber.

**MEMBERS ABSENT**      Diane Nace.

**OTHERS PRESENT**      Borough Manager Ciecierski and Administrative Assistant Sara Martin.

**GUESTS**      None.

**AUGUST MINUTES**      None.

**DISCUSSION**

**ACTION**      A **MOTION** was made by Deeg Meck and seconded Bart Miller to approve the August 13, 2019 meeting minutes. **MOTION** approved.

**REPORTS**

**PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR**      • Absent/no report.

**BOROUGH COUNCIL LIASON**      • Councilman Stoner stated that he has not heard back from the Air Force Band so he will be checking in with them later.  
• He added that he would like to discuss the concert later in the meeting.

**BOROUGH MANAGER**      • Manager Ciecierski reported that the pool had a great season this year. The concession stand was in the black for the first time in eight years. There were no code browns at all this season. There was a fire on the last day the pool was open, but it has been handled.

• Manager Ciecierski noted that there was an issue with getting the pool employees clearances in and the Borough is looking at making it a requirement for all employees in any department of the Borough to hand them in with their application and enacting a policy that employees cannot be scheduled to work without those clearances being handed in.

***DISCUSSION ON PARKS PERSONNEL***      • Manager Ciecierski informed the Board that he is trying to budget to have a park superintendent as well as a full-time year-round park employee. Giving us at least two people in the parks all year round.

- Manager Ciecierski added that he is budgeting to get a pick-up truck specifically for the parks, one with a sliding dump bed that will allow park staff to bring mulch in to the parks as needed.
- Manager Ciecierski said that he wants to get a new tractor with a bucket on front as well but that may not be in the cards (i.e. budget) for this year.
- Manager Ciecierski brought up tightening up the park rules. He explained that staff has discussed closing Memorial Drive from November to April that way it won't require plowing during a snow event. *Councilman Stoner suggested putting a gate up at the end of the half circle.* Manager Ciecierski added that something regarding fireworks would not be remiss to add to the park rules since Pennsylvania made fire works legal the parks have seen quite a few amateur shows. He also cited rules on metal detectors to be included as this past summer there were issues with holes being dug and while filled back in not filled precisely enough to avoid damage.

### **PARKS**

### **MEMORIAL**

- Lorrie Weber requested spray fertilizer, clover and broad leaf spray be used in the parks next year.
- Chairwoman Ellen Wilson asked if there was any way to add stone around the water fountain because it's a mud-pit. She added that the one you open for dogs is leaking all the time.
- Kathryn Johnston reported that the pavilion and bathrooms looked great when they used it with a large group.
- Lorrie Weber noted that the benches and tables are worse for wear. *Manager Ciecierski answered that they are taking a very hard wear from the SAC and he needs volunteers to help replace them.*

### **KOSER**

- Kathryn Johnston requested more mulch for the playground and a pickle ball court in the macadam area. *Manager Ciecierski stated that he will work up specs and get prices for the pickleball courts.*

### **FINKENBINDER**

- Deeg Meck reported that Finkenbinder is good.

### **ACTION ITEMS** **2020 BUDGET** **REQUESTS**

Manager Ciecierski asked for any items that the Board would like to have put in the budget. He did note that they can think about it and bring ideas to the October meeting, but any requests they have now would be appreciated. He asked the Board to decided if they would like to raise the pool employee pay rates for next year. *Lorrie Weber stated that spray fertilizer, clover and broad leaf spray are all something she would like to see budgeted for. She also asked if the board can bring requests for pool repairs next time.* Manager Ciecierski clarified they could and noted that he is thinking about possibly piggy backing on the feasibility study Hampden is having done to plan for the pool this or next year. *Councilman Stoner brought up the replacement of the Small Pavilion roof.* Manager Ciecierski answered that he is looking to use Capital Funds from the General Fund for that and explained that the tin of the roof is in good shape paint is just not staying on it so they might pressure wash and scrape it then re-paint.

Kathryn Johnston made a motion to request budgeting for spray fertilizer, clover and broad leaf spray and for pool repairs. Lorrie Weber seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **2019 POOL SEASON REPORT**

Already discussed.

### **COMMENTS ON THE JOINT RECREATION AGREEMENT**

Manager Ciecierski reported that he had a good meeting with Greg Longwell, Tonya Brown and Councilman Weber where they cleared the air and clarified a lot regarding the Joint Recreation Agreement. Manager Ciecierski relayed the Tonya Brown's only reasoning behind not wanting to do the field coordination was because the leases and fields are owned by the Borough, so she is comfortable to do them now. Manager Ciecierski stated that he requested a meeting date be set ahead of time and suggesting the Board meet in February, May and October, dates still need to be decided. Manager Ciecierski relayed that it was clarified to him the Joint Recreation Board is not a voting body so the Board structure of the school having three members and each municipality having one doesn't matter. Manager Ciecierski informed the Recreation Board that he asked for the use of the Borough park for SAC to be considered as part of the Borough's contribution to the Joint Recreation and the School District agreed to consider it. *Chairlady Wilson asked if the percentage the Borough is to contribute is accurate.* Manager Ciecierski answered that the monetary split isn't too far off from the actual number of residents/residents participating so they let it be. Manager Ciecierski stated that the school district has plans to meet with Upper Allen and Shiremanstown to see if they have any requests and he will bring any updates from that meeting to the Board when he hears from them.

### **DISCUSSION ON PARKS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Manager Ciecierski stated that there has not been a comprehensive plan for the parks in a long time. He asked the Board to think about where they see recreation going. Where do they see parkland come into play or if any green space from Legacy Park gets donated what do we want there. Do we want to continue leases with high school and to grow that relationship or curb it. He elaborated that this would line things out for the future Board even as current members leave and that it probably should be Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan. *Lorrie Weber suggested looking at the last plan and going from there to come up with some ideas.* Manager Ciecierski added that Legacy Park took a lot of inventory of our park lands approximately three years ago so we have all that data utilize so it won't be as costly as it was last time. He asked the board to come up with some ideas. *The Board discussed replacing some of the lesser used baseball fields in Memorial Park with a multipurpose football, lacrosse, soccer, rugby field.* Bart Miller also suggested a multipurpose field in Koser Park. *Chairlady Wilson asked if staff could pull the boundaries for every park, Lorrie Weber suggested going on a park tour.*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Deeg Meck and seconded by Kathryn Johnson. **MOTION** approved, and meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sara Martin  
Administrative Assistant