

PALMER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD
FEBRUARY 18, 2014 7:30 PM.

The regular monthly meeting of the Palmer Township Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. with the following in attendance: Bill Webb, Cheryl Nielsen, Rick Bulette and new members Tom Lee, Jeff Vincent and Liam Brohan. Also present was Parks & Recreation Director Dan McKinney and Supervisor Liaison Bob Smith.

Minutes of the September Meeting – Approval was held until next month.

McKinney stated the Board has to reorganize and went through the names of the members that were officers last year. Webb stated that usually the offices are held for two years and 2014 would be the second year. McKinney stated this was good that we didn't have to get new officers so they stand as – Bill Webb, Chairman; Cheryl Nielsen Vice Chairperson and since we don't need a treasurer anymore Rick Bulette was switched to Secretary and the treasurer position was terminated. At this time each Board member introduced him/herself to the new members and the new members explained how they are involved in any type of recreation.

Public Comment – Ann Whelan was present ask permission to use the bike path and Riverview Park for a walk as they had done last year. They would like to start registration at 9 a.m. and have the run start at 10. On motion by Bulette, seconded by Nielsen, and agreed by all, the Board approved the request to use Riverview Park on Saturday, May 17 starting at 9 a.m. conditioned that all insurances are provided to the township.

McKinney then showed the Board the power point presentation he and other township officials did for Northampton County and explained what this addition to the community would consist of. He also explained the reasoning of the grant that was approved was being re-directed to the Community Center. There were some questions and comments by the Board members. Asked if there was going to be lights, what the width of walking path was going to be; was there going to be water to handle watering the fields; there should be a gate between parking lot and walking path. Board members thought this was a very good idea and asked if the

basketball courts were open to the public or if it was scheduled only and McKinney stated he felt they should be open to the public, they will be township courts.

Smith highlighted the process of the recreation fees and how the money is received and noted that with the north end of the township starting to develop there should be a significant amount of fees coming in which will help with updating and renovating some of our parks.

Smith also informed the Board that there was a build-out deadline for the community center which is ten years and we are starting on our eighth. McKinney to email all members a copy of the land around the center and they should visit and get some ideas for the next meeting.

McKinney reported on the Pool stating it is in very bad shape. This is something that definitely needs to be discussed and figure out what to do with this pool. This year the snack bar will be rented out by having another entity run it. This will help save money and not have the problems that we have every year. He is in the process of getting proposals.

Webb asked if any of the leagues were coming to the Board for approvals to use our fields/courts. McKinney noted he has met with some of them as they were all directed to go through him from now on. He noted these leagues are running tournaments and making money. The Palmer Softball Association uses Riverview Park fields and will pay \$5,000 per year to use them and pay \$200 for each tournament that they run. He also noted that they take care of all the maintenance on the fields.

Ordinance – McKinney distributed a draft ordinance that needs to be reviewed by this Board and recommended to the Board of Supervisors for action. This ordinance is to establish the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the duties of said Board. It is also to develop planning for future parks and grounds. He will email this to everyone to review and forward any additions, changes or comments to him by the next meeting, March 18. Board members felt it was a good time to get together and do a township park inspection of what may be needed. The last

report from two years ago will be forwarded to everyone to refresh what took place. This time we will only go to a few parks and only have a top five items that will need to be worked on. Road trip will be on Sunday March 16th at 4:00 p.m. and meet at the Community Center.

Recreation plan – Smith stated this definitely needs to be revised one it is slated for this year. There will be a committee and feels there should be members of this board on that committee.

Development – have plans for next month.

AA budgets – Smith stated the sports received the same as the previous year with no deductions. McKinney stated the purchase order process is running smooth and he will have monthly reports for this Board of expenses. AA has to be reminded that all budgets are to be done earlier than they were in the past because by the time they re-convened it was too late for the budgets to be submitted.

AA report – Jeff Vincent informed everyone that the AA has implemented a new registration system and it has been well received. Residents can link from AA web site and there are many features that they can use. He also stated that the background checks are almost complete. One thing that needs to be discussed or straightened out is uniform/equipment distribution. The Township should not be going after people to return uniforms, there has to be leverage for this type of problem. Need a solution for this.

Nazareth Soccer Club – McKinney handed out a form that was from the Nazareth Soccer Club which showed what they do as far as handing out uniforms and getting them returned. All uniforms are Palmer property and the policy we have now is extremely disorganized. There should be a deposit and a time limit to return or the township keeps the deposits. Webb asked what about charging a fee and letting the players keep their shirts. They would only be the t-shirts not football shirts.

Egg Hunt – Nielsen stated the candy has not been ordered yet but the inserts for the plastic eggs are getting purchased. Cheryl explained to the new members what the egg hunt is and that there are 2000 for each age group and we have four groups. It will be held on Good Friday, April 18, 2014 at 10 a.m. at Palmer Elementary School with a rain place to be at the community center.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned on motion by Bulette, seconded by Nielsen and agreed by all.

Diane Grube, Corr. Secretary