

PALMER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD  
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Palmer Township Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, March 19, 2013 with all members in attendance. Supervisor Liaison Bob Smith was also in attendance. Chairman Webb opened the meeting.

Approval of February Minutes – on motion by Johnson, seconded by Knox, and agreed by all, the minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report – Bulette informed the Board that he has put the report on an excel spreadsheet and asked everyone to look it over and see if there was anything else they wanted to have put on the report. He will then finalize and email it to everyone. He was asked to put the actual expenses on each month of the vendor and amount. Bulette asked for the Recreation Capital Improvements figure to add to the bottom of the report each month. Diane will get this info to him before each meeting for his report. On motion by Nielsen, seconded by Johnson, and agreed by all, the new report was approved as distributed.

Family Y – The Board received the annual request from the Family Y to hold their 4<sup>th</sup> of July race starting at Fairview Park. This has been an event that they have done for years. They will get in touch with the police department and Suburban EMS as well as submit their insurance certificate. On motion by Knox, seconded by Nielsen, and agreed by all, the Board approved this race and the use of the bike path and pavilion at Fairview Park and waived any fees.

Palmer Softball Association – Eric Boncher was present seeking approval of field use at Riverview Park for their season. He distributed information to the Board and stated they have 43 teams in their league and the majority are co-ed teams. The men's teams play Monday thru Wednesday with the remaining days bring used by the Co-Ed teams. He stated they are very interested in getting involved with community. Their insurance certificate will be coming in shortly. Their fees have been waived in the past due to the work that they do on the fields. Webb stated they need a schedule for weekends. Boncher noted they play

Saturday and Sundays probably from 10 to 2. He would try to work with any other league/team that needed a field but it was going to be difficult since they do use their fields every day. On motion by Young, seconded by Knox, and agreed by all, the Board voted to allow the Palmer Softball Association the use of the fields at Riverview Park for their season from April through November with all fees waived.

Palmer Veteran's Softball League - John Dinunzi was present with an application for using the Veteran's and Tracy fields for their season starting April 1 through August 31, Monday through Friday. They have practice for the month of April and start their games in May. They always accommodate the soccer tournament that is held in August. For the past years they have paid \$50 per team and stated their insurance has already been submitted. On motion by Knox, seconded by Nielsen, and agreed by all, the Board approved the use of the two fields for the Veteran's Softball League and to keep the fee of \$50 per team.

Summer Volleyball League - Donna Meyers was present with their application to use the volleyball courts starting June 1 through August 21. Webb informed her that the volleyball courts will be re-done this year as soon as weather break. Meyers thanked the township because they are in dire need of resurfacing. The league plays Mon thru Wednesday with the possibility of the men's league playing on Thursdays like last year. There are 20 teams. McKinney asked if they would be interested in sand courts. Meyers stated she would discuss this with the league and did note that the indoor games would be good except for the hours. If the hours ever change McKinney should get in touch with her. On motion by Johnson, second Nielsen, and agreed by all, the Board approved the request to use the Volleyball Courts at Keystone Park and to keep the fee at \$40 per team.

Dan Willis – was present seeking fields for men's softball. He represents the LVMSBL and would like to play in Palmer as it would be centrally located or his teams. They play from April 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of August. The only 90 foot field in Palmer is Fairview and when it is not being used by our teams the Easton Extreme has received permission to use it. There was discussion on this and the Board told Willis that there just aren't enough fields to go around. They would like to work with them and maybe in late July they may have something, but not Sundays.

Willis stated he may be able to work with another field but really needs a place at the end of season. Especially when they are trying to get their make-up games in. If the Easton Extreme doesn't use the field in August there are three Sundays that would be available. Willis is in contact with the Easton Extreme and will talk to them but in the meantime he should keep in touch with the Recreation Board in July to see if anything becomes available.

Anne Whelan – was present asking permission to use a portion of the bike path and the pavilion at Riverview Park for a 5k walk. She would like to have this event start at the pavilion and walk west to Hope Road and turn around, without crossing any roadways. She plans on arriving early and get registration underway and start the walk by 11 a.m. Cheryl from the Cancer Society will forward insurance. Nielsen asked how she was going to advertise and Whelan stated just word of mouth and a facebook page as well as the Cancer Society helping. An Activity Permit from the police department will be forwarded to her. Young asked if she was affiliated with any organization and she stated no she just wanted to do this for her husband. On motion by Young, seconded by McKinney, and agreed by all, the Board approved the use of the Palmer Township portion of the bike path as well as the pavilion but stated she would need to contact Bethlehem Township for their portion of the bike path and also to contact Suburban EMS for their input and to see if they would need to stand by with the number of people she is anticipating.

St. Jane's CYO – there was a request to use our fields by the CYO at St. Jane's for the age group 13 and 14 year olds. Board stated we are having problems trying to get our own team scheduled. Knox motion and Johnson seconded to deny this request. After discussion, Knox and Johnson amended their motion and second to table action on this until later to see if there would be any availability at a later date.

Rectify Action by Board – Webb stated there was approval given to Lafayette Girls Intermural to use Fairview Park for March 10. This had to be done outside of a meeting due to the fact that they needed approval prior to the regular meeting. On motion by Knox, seconded by Young and agreed by all, the Board rectified the action for the Lafayette Girls use at Fairview Park. They are also asking for May 4<sup>th</sup> and another date. Young will let the Board know of that other date. Board

approved this use also. Young stated the reason they are using Fairview is because they wanted to use field 6 and Palmer has approval by the school district to use field six. He was trying to work with Lafayette. Smith stated he thought we have a lease for that field and that we wouldn't have to go to the School District for approval. He will check on this.

ECTB, LLC – Webb noted he had an email from Terry Schadler of the ECTB Organization asking for facilities in Palmer. They would like four 90' fields and two 70' fields on Memorial Day Weekend; Father's Day Weekend; July 20, 21, 27 and 28; August 2, 4, 9 and 11 and all weekends in September and October. This is a very good organization to get involved with. They will pay good fees to use our fields as well as bring in clinics; coaching staff for Palmer teams; could possibly pay to install lights on any fields needing lighting, whatever we may need. They are a traveling tournament team from Virginia. This is for 9 year olds on up. Webb stated this is why he asked Boncher when the fields at Riverview would be available after hours. If they were to play at Riverview at night they would have to pay the lighting which wouldn't be a problem. Maybe get them some dates and work with them for a year and see how it goes. More information is needed so Board agreed to table this until later.

Baseball – Young reported that registrations have started. He is working with two new commissioners and he explained the budgets to them. They are having a good start so far. He also reported that there will not be a Connie Mack team this year. Numbers are really down for these other teams.

Bob Johnson reported that he received a reimbursement from baseball league fees for over expenses of \$872. All communities that are in the league received refunds. On motion by Young, seconded by Johnson, and agreed by all, the Board recommended this reimbursement get deposited into the Capital Recreation Fund account.

Basketball – McKinney stated it is still going on. They had two undefeated teams that unfortunately lost last night.

Egg Hunt - Ready for Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at Palmer School. Permit received from the School District. Help is needed starting at 8 a.m.

Maintenance – Bob Smith stated he asked Scott to have the L-screens taken to garage and see if they can be refurbished. Need to find a place to put them inside when the season over. It was suggested the new garage near the refreshment stand. Will ask Scott to check there.

Bob Johnson – He has been in touch with a Lime Company in Bethlehem Township and noted the prices are very good. He sent info to Scott and the township is getting some from them to try out this year.

Softball – Webb reported that sign ups going on now and evaluations were this past weekend. Next year league is changing their format. He will get more information on this at a later date.

Soccer – Knox reported that spring soccer sign ups are going on now. They would like to use Fox Run fields for practice. Their games are played at Moore Township. Their numbers are very high for this spring. The registration money is being forwarded to the community center and if there is any money left over the Board would like to see it go to the Capital Recreation Improvements fund. Knox motioned that they be given approval to use the fields. There was much discussion on sign up fees, registration fees, who is responsible for off season sports, etc.

Smith stated this is all going to be decided by the Board of Supervisors. Township officials and Community Center personnel are getting all the problems/phone calls from parents who have no idea what is going on. There is going to be a solution shortly.

Discussion then centered on the fees for in season and out of season. There is nothing in writing; no checks or balances. Everything is too loose and needs to be regulated better. Lack of policy is a large problem.

Webb then stated there is a motion on the table. Board members questioned if any township equipment is going to be used and Knox stated no just the field and thre

goals which are permanent goals. Nielsen seconded the motion and it was approved by six, Johnson abstaining. He stated he still wasn't clear as to what is going on with out of season sports and he was assured this was going to be taken care of soon.

Young then discussed the purchase order situation and noted that everything is okay for them to be processed except for soccer. Smith was the one that instructed Webb to stop purchase order since no money was going to the community center. This will be cleared up soon but noted that there are no purchase orders every processed for out of season sports.

Knox motioned that all out of season soccer monies get run thru the community center and all fees generated from this league itself be paid by community enter through the registration fees and any excess be put into the Capital Recreation Fund. Motion was seconded by McKinney and agreed by all.

Lacrosse – Nielsen stated the sport has started but she would like a detailed budget so she knows what they requested. Diane will get this forwarded to her as well as all the other sports budgets.

Community Center – McKinney stated the Palmer dodge ball league has started and there will be other indoor activities. Nielsen asked how this was advertised; how would someone know about this. He stated it is all advertised in the next newsletter that is coming out. He also had someone demonstrate floor ball sport. Something else to consider adding. Camp Palmer is almost full. This is an incredible program for the kids in the summer. An 8 weeks program and lots of fun and the instructors and directors are fantastic.

Miracle league – McKinney reported they have 140 signed up already. He met with palmer baseball coaches and it was a great meeting. They have adopted teams already. Opening day is April 27. They are having open house this Saturday.

Pool – McKinney noted they are looking for maintenance workers. Responsibility would be to clean up the pool and get it ready to be opened as well as regular daily maintenance such as grass cutting, etc. If anyone knows of anyone interested in

about 30 hours a week please refer them to him. He also informed the Board that there is an Elite Swim Team that is using the pool mornings for the summer.

Budgets – Webb reminded all liaisons that they need to get their commissioner's budgets in August. He knows it's early but they should get accustomed to doing this.

New business – Young noted that there was a problem last year with an out of Palmer team playing on one of our fields. Our police can't do anything because there is no ordinance/permitting to address people being on our fields with no approval. This needs to be addressed as well as fee structure and there needs to be signage posted at all fields. This is something that should be discussed at another meeting for a full night. There are various fees for the various leagues; who pays; who doesn't; what price, etc.

On motion by Young, seconded by Johnson, and agreed by all, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Diane Grube, Corr. Secretary