

PALMER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD

SEPTEMBER 19TH, 2017 7:00 PM

The regular monthly meeting of the Palmer Township Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, September 19th, at 7:00 pm with the following in attendance: Chair Cheryl Nielsen, Vice Chair Thomas Lee, Treasurer Richard Bulette, Michael Weaver. Also in attendance was the Director of Parks and Recreation Dan McKinney, Thomas Grube, Robert Smith, Jeffrey Young, Caroline Yagle, Environmental Planning, AJ Schwartz, Environmental Planning.

Nielsen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of minutes – Nielsen makes a motion to approve the August 2017 minutes, Bulette motioned and Lee second to approve motion. Motion carried.

Public comment: N/A

Directors Report: N/A

New Business: **Comprehensive Plan Review and Discussion**

Schwartz explained the Township's 2017 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, walked through the table of contents and explained he was looking for recommendations (1 or 2 things) and the urgency of them. Schwartz outlined each park.

Briarcliff

- Paving
- Overflow parking
- Storm water drainage
- Second paving

Thom – asked if there was any kind of order according to safety?

AJ – explained the order they were put in was Critical, Urgent, Severe and Necessary, ADA does not always fall in Critical. Explained Civil Liberties are people who look to challenge Municipalities.

Smith – addressing issues and completing a plan and future costs.

Nielsen – questioned the storm drainage problem.

Yagle – answered that once paving starts, could cause storm water problem.

Board – paving, ADA

Fairview

- Pedestrian connection

Young – does it really need to be connected from one parking area to another?

AJ – as long as I have a parking space to get to one facility, if an able body can get there so can a wheelchair.

- Park as a Trailhead, creating rest stop, bike station, etc.

Yagle – Route improvement or Amenities?

Board – explore ideas

Keystone

- Accessibility plan
- Safety issues, higher outfield fence

Young – Not our play area, but we take care of the ballfield

Smith – Shed area? Bathrooms?

Lee – Shed houses lawnmower and equipment

Board: Safety Issues

LaBarre

- Safety issues – crosswalk between park and main parking area

Smith – suggested lights with the crosswalk and new backstops and benches

Young – move fence in, expand parking, and install fencing at top of slope between basketball court and Greenway

AJ – signage about sled riding and move swing set

Board: Smith – crosswalk and safety

Lee – appropriate signage

Smith – repurpose the grass and trim the trees

Newburg

- ADA
- park boundaries with fence
- need and function of lights – remove
- incorporate into one play area
- repair fixtures

Nielsen – how much is it used?

Smith – used for strollers and walking

AJ – if building a park, this would not be a park

Young – lights for security?

Board: Nielsen – should be replaced because of safety

AJ – needs to be moved around

Old Orchard

- ADA pathways

Smith – handicapped parking space down by the ballfield

Nielsen and Smith – field hockey

- Update landscaping and fencing
- Evaluate tennis court and a basketball court

Board: parking spaces and address field

Penn Pump

- Management plan – parking, erosion, redefine how to access stream
- Safety – tree cover

AJ – Do I need to provide ADA pathway through the whole park or only to the Bocci Court? Do not need all connections accessible. Baseball fields – both teams (home and away) must have accessible route.

McKinny – there are no sites with two pavilions

Young – Fairview?

AJ – Not really, must add accessible tables

Smith – In budget, bathrooms, pavilion is rotting out so needs to be preserved

Board: ADA and pathways, bathrooms, pavilions, access to ballfield

Lee – asked Young and Smith if these had been discussed in Supervisors meeting?

Smith – In pre-budget meetings

Grube left at 8:03 pm

Riverview

McKinny – being paved, debating who owns the bank? Need to define?

- Storm water
- Reduce mowing
- Safer crossing – ballfields and fence

Young – suggested taking original fence out

Smith – eliminate it – outfield trail. Need dog park – somewhere?

Board: Ballfield and Fences

Stephens Street

- Consolidate play area
- ADA

Board: Safety

Wolfs Run

- master plan of what it could be

Smith – fields never built

Board: Master plan

Fox Run

- develop a playground
- reduce mowing
- needs to see how it fits

McKinny – Palmer soccer will not need due to fields at CCCC

Smith – dog park?

- Pedestrian connection

Smith – DCR Trails – connect residential areas to trails we already have

Discussion between Smith and Schwartz – Funding – grant form – wider sidewalks – with a neighborhood already built – is there a grant without putting it on the resident? Deferred – falls back on resident

Board: Master Plan

Mill Race

- Signage – directing people
- Designate as a trailhead

Board: Signage

Villages at Mill Race

- ADA
- Park boundaries
- Benches at tot lot

McKinny – asphalt pad at Mill Race?

Young – Street hockey, pickle ball?

Board: Premises

Hay Terrace

- ADA
- Park boundaries
- Benches, tot lot

Lee – can we relocate playground structures?

Smith – most were contributions

AJ asked for the Top 5 Recommendations:

- Penn Pump - bathrooms
- LaBarre – crosswalk safety
- Briarcliff – paving and ADA
- Old Orchard – paving
- Fox Run – dog park?

Smith – asked about handicap spots at the Pool? If doing a master plan, dog park?

McKinny – dog park at Mill Race?

Smith – park signs in every park

Young – bike trails – very important

Smith – never addressed the fieldhouse

AJ – what gets bumped for the fieldhouse?

Overall: Signage System, Field House, Trail Network knocks out Fox Run

Lee – motion that the top 5 recommended to be implemented into long range plan, **Bulette** second, **Nielsen**, motion carried.

Lee – Is critical plan in the budget?

Young and Smith – No, need to look at AJ spreadsheet, maybe things can be moved around to determine biggest challenge and where money is coming from? Can't just look at this number, also need to look at maintenance numbers, percentage of millage goes to recreation.

Lee – Are you looking for a formal recommendation to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors?

AJ and Smith – Absolutely the top five

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 17th, 2017 at 7:00 pm

Lee motions to adjourn, **Bulette** and **Weaver** second motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm

Brenda Lazarus: Corresponding Secretary