

Palmer Township Recreation Board  
October 18, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.

The regular monthly meeting of the Palmer Township Recreation Board was held at on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. with the following in attendance: Chairman Jeff Young, Vice Chairman Bill Webb, Treasurer Bob Johnson, members Rick Bulette and Dan McKinney. Absent were members Marc Knox and Cheryl Nielsen. Young called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER** - On motion by Johnson, seconded by McKinney, and agreed four, Young abstained, the minutes were approved as written.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Johnson discussed the township report and there were no changes or corrections. On motion by Webb, seconded by Bulette, and agreed by all, the Board approved the treasurer's report as submitted.

Webb asked if the stipend issue got straightened. The striping of the baseball/football fields get taken out of two different accounts. Young noted the township manager should decide where he wants this to be taken from.

**ADULT RECREATION** - Johnson stated there is a sink hole at Riverview field and that the township needs to check this out. Softball Association tried but it is too much for them. Diane will let Scott Kistler know about this.

**BASKETBALL** – sign ups are done.

**MAINTENANCE** – Johnson noted that they are done on the legion field and it should be filled in as soon as possible so it has time to rest with no one playing on it. This is along the third base line to home. The area needs to be dropped so water can get off of field. Young stated that all fields will need field mix for 2012. Hopes this is still in budget.

Board also noted they want to make sure that the volleyball courts get re-done for 2012 season.

Johnson informed the Board that next spring they will need 2 additional fields for 6-8 yr olds and reminded the Board that when they did their tour they felt the entrance to Palmer Pool was a good place to make a small field. They would only need one if they can use Penn Pump Park field. Young stated they could use Fairview before the season starts there.

**WRESTLING** – Webb stated everything is wrapping up and discussed that sports flyers are not allowed to be distributed in our schools anymore. Felt the AA should go to school district about this. These flyers are a big help with the numbers for our sports.

FOOTBALL – Webb stated the last game is this weekend.

PLAYGROUND – Board discussed the summer recreation program. Last month it was decided that they should keep this program and have it 2 days a week at 2 parks. With the budget cuts the Board has to decide if this program is feasible or not. Webb stated the counts are way down and are decreasing every year and we have this discussion every year. Johnson stated the alternative is Camp Palmer that is more popular but the prices could be an issue for some. McKinney felt it was something we continued because it was something we always did but does not feel it is feasible. He understands that some residents could not afford Camp Palmer and he will have to think about this; maybe there could be something to help these people. Bulette noted looking at the history and the dwindling numbers every year there could be a savings that could be used elsewhere. He also does not feel it is feasible. Young stated he feels bad but he feels the same. He commented that if we cut this program and there are any residents that have a problem with this, and the numbers would be higher, than this board should revisit this issue. On motion by Young, seconded by Bulette, and agreed by all the Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors to terminate the summer recreation program and to have the township report back to them if there is any interest or concerns from residents in the future.

SOCCER – Young reported that soccer will be using Fairview for the next week or two under the lights. He asked if Keystone field could be aerated, fertilized and re-seeded. Diane will check on this. (FYI – Keystone, Mill Race and Fox Run fields will be aerated, fertilized and re-seeded at the end of the soccer season)

FIELD HOCKEY – Johnson noted this Board approval to use of Upper Briarcliffe field but they used the lower field. They will have to use the upper field next fall as approved for their use. This could be a problem with baseball if they were to use this upper field.

Young noted he needs a request to the School District for the use of Field #6 from April 1<sup>st</sup> until July 31<sup>st</sup> for softball. Also request the use of the Kunkle field from the conclusion of freshman baseball through the end of July. Diane to get these requests in.

NEW BUSINESS –

Young stated Bob Smith suggested a thank you get sent to the school district for the great job they did on striping fields at the Kunkle Tract for our use. Diane will send this.

2-2-2 committee will get together next week.

We need to pick a date to finish up the township park tour. Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 – meet at the Municipal Building. There are only a few parks we have to look at. This is a tentative date until Webb gets in touch with Diane.

**BUDGET** – Young reviewed what he did for all budgets. There was discussion on certain sports as follows –

Football practice gear is taken home to get washed; why can't game uniforms be done too? Take this request out of the budget and have the players take their uniforms home for cleaning. There is no other sport that the uniforms get sent out for cleaning. Also discussed was taking the new equipment request out or reduce it in half. After discussion it was decided to keep the new equipment request and take out the uniform cleaning.

Cheering – There is a charge of between \$300 and \$400 to get signs made up that they put out at the football players homes. This is something that we definitely will not cover. Asked what is covered under the miscellaneous request. Young stated the different cheering accessories i.e., pom-poms, megaphones when needed. Board agreed to keep this budget as is.

Wrestling – The mat rack was taken out of the request.

Young stated that he took 5% off of what was requested for 2012 not what was their 2011 budget plus whatever the Recreation Board feels could be eliminated.

Discussed again about having the sports commissioners come to this Board earlier in the year with their new budgets for the following year. May would be a good meeting since school is still in and the AA doesn't meet in July or August so their budgets could be done by then. September would be too late for the budget committee to get the sports budgets and have a meeting and get the figures to the township manager. Timing is very important with these budgets.

**FIELD HOCKEY** – Young stated the socks need to be taken off this request; the AA pays for them not the Township.

**LACROSSE** – Young stated there is one line item for this sport so he combined the boys and girls. This year there were 60-65 that signed up. Last year we had 75. Numbers are going down and yet commissioner requested money for two more teams and equipment. Young took out one team. There was also discussion on the reconditioning of the helmets. Young is getting information on this and will forward it to the township manager for his decision.

**BASEBALL** – Johnson reported that fall ball over and all equipment has been turned in.

McKinney felt the Pool should be a line on the agenda from now on. It will be placed after the Community Center report so he can report on this also. Board felt this as a good idea.

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

Diane Grube, Corresponding Secretary