

PALMER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD

October 21st, 2014 7:30 PM

The regular monthly meeting of the Palmer Township Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, October 21st, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. with the following in attendance: Vice Chairperson Cheryl Nielsen, Members Rick Bulette, Mike Weaver, Thom Lee, and Liam Brohan. Also present was Parks & Recreation Director Dan McKinney.

Cheryl Nielsen called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Cheryl Nielsen makes a motion to amend minutes; Brohan and Bulette second to approve September minutes.

Public Comment & Correspondence – n/a

Dog Park Review – Is there public demand? Liam – we can start to look at another place. If there is a blighted piece of land somewhere in the township, we could put a dog park there. BOS seemed pleased with the effort put into the research for the recommendation of the dog park. Brohan – let's keep the dog park on the radar, and mention any potential locations. There is an area that could be developed into a dog park or a park, Berks street, near the compost area. Used to be community gardens. Bulette, didn't we have grant money for the dog park?

Ordinance & Signage Recommendations – Lee states that Webb made great recommendations. McKinney encourages the board to stay on it.

Uniform Policy Review – McKinney, last month there was a discussion about a policy on handling uniforms; encourage the Rec Board to make a recommendation with the best interest of the taxpayers. Brohan– what is the next step? McKinney, some of our group should come together and go to the board to make a recommendation. There is not a basketball uniform that isn't more than 3 years old. Nielsen – tell them that they need to use them; there were other commissioners who buy good uniforms, and then don't have to replace them for so many years. McKinney, I currently call Freiler when people ask for new uniforms, and find out if they need them or not. Lee- would it be possible for our board to make the recommendations on whether uniforms are needed or not. Brohan – The policy's is for how can we manage distribution and collection of uniforms. Bulette – we can bring it up to the 2-2-2 committee? Brohan – Webb will want to be a part of this. Nielsen- Lets have Vincent, Bulette, and Webb for uniforms. McKinney –

we should set up hours that people have to comply with, not when they need Rich Freiler. Need a system for people to adapt to.

Pride of the Diamond proposal – no new information, haven't heard back.

Turf Field and lighting update – McKinney – everything was set to build the small turf field, the lighting guy came and met with Tom Adams, Jeff Young, and Chris Chrisman; he said lights can't be put there properly without spillage onto the neighboring homes. It would be acceptable for practices and not games. It turned into a discussion about a full size, lit soccer field on the west field. Bethlehem Township needs to be involved. People are on board. Chris Chrisman needs approval from Bethlehem Township, we need to work backwards, lighting in the main concern. Then we have to take it to Northampton County to see about the grant, then to water remediation issues, and then we'll decide what to do with it. Brohan – wasn't it always intended to be developed?

There are turf alternatives for the field. It is significantly more expensive. Lee – after all of that, and it doesn't go through, would we still be able to build a field without lights. McKinney-was interested in still building the field with partial lighting, for practices, and they could do games all day Saturday and Sundays. However no one else agreed with the concept. On the east end of the CCCC there is an option to build a field. Only have to get Northampton County's approval for this. Brohan – is there a way to accelerate the process?

Football Field Rental Possibility – McKinney; Just talked to a gentleman who is interested in renting the field for a showcase next May for one day, 3 hours. What is a fair price to rent the football field? Lee – They make good money for things like that. Nielsen – If it rains then it's cancelled, they would get their money back. Find out what the projected number of people would be. McKinney, it's nice to have these events here.

AA Report – Nielsen - They donate to everything at the high school, they gave \$300 to boy's soccer and \$200 to girl's soccer. They have a sign at the Easton baseball field. Lee – Is there a policy on donating? And does it go in the budget? Nielsen – I don't think there is a policy on donations.

Directors Report – McKinney -

a. Recreation Development Fund – \$834,756 and more to come. Some of that money gets allocated for certain things, like a parking lot at a park, re-stripe basketball/tennis courts.

b. 2-2-2-Fund - \$38,650

c. 2-2-2 Meeting – The Rec board should take the lead and set a date. Nielsen – Rick Bulette, call the supervisors and see if/when they are available to attend.

New Business – n/a

Old Business – Lee – would like to schedule a day to go look at Nazareth fields. They keep supplies at each field; rakes and rollers. McKinney – we should have tools at each field for people to use.

Nielsen motions to adjourn. Bulette & Lee second, Meeting adjourned 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting Tuesday November 18th at 7:30pm.

Ariel Shulman, Corresponding Secretary