

PALMER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD

April 16, 2019

7:00 PM

GENERAL MEETING

The Palmer Township Recreation Board held a General meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Charles Chrin Community Center. The following were in attendance: Chairman Thom Lee, Vice-Chairman Liam Brohan, Members Richard Bulette, Cheryl Nielsen, Kelly Higgins and Dan McKinney. Also, in attendance were Palmer Township Board of Supervisor Robert Smith, Carolyn Yagle, EPD, Cyndie Carman-Kramer, Palmer Township Planning Committee, and Palmer Township Athletic Association President Chuck Romfo and Gator Conner.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Minutes - March 19, 2019.

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the minutes of March 19, 2019.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Liam Brohan, Seconded by Kelly Higgins.
Passed. 6-0.

Board Members voting Ayes: Lee, Brohan, Bulette, Nielsen, Higgins,
McKinney

2. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Parks and Recreation Open Plan

INFORMATION

Carolyn Yagle of EPD stated that the last few weeks she has been working with Palmer Township to talk about the latter part of 2018 and an update on our 2018 motion. In 2017, it stated the priorities for each of the different facilities and second, the Comprehensive Plan Update and Trail Plan, both coincide. Third is the financing piece, capital improvements, no specific dollar amount.

DISCUSSION

McKinney opened up the discussion asking if these documents had changed and to explain priority projects. Yagle answered that recommendations have not changed and with Health and Safety aside, all items are still there. Lee questioned whether or not they are putting together a priority project list to go to the Board. Yagle answered, that the recommended projects are the ones from Fall of 2018, starring significant items to keep things moving. The final piece is the notion of looking at the financial piece. She continued reading from a handout and made copies to distribute to the Board. Lee asked what are you exactly looking for from this Board, is it safe to say you are not looking for a formal recommendation today because the recommendation has to be reviewed. Yagle proceeded with the recommendation on the handout and explained the text underneath. She went on further to explain some bullet points ~

- A. What are the measurements of performance?
- B. How will we identify how we met our goal?
- C. How will we monitor checks and balances?

Brohan asked if there were other recommendations in the plan and Yagle responded that everything has been kept the same which gives the Board the change to balance out, start with a few, translating the stars and the stripes. Lee stated suggested a motion to review, prioritize and prepare those priorities and then formally recommend to move forward to get finances to move ahead. Carmen-Kramer, Director of the Palm suggested we change the opening pages listing Daniel McKinney as the Director of Parks and Recreation in which McKinney responded, is this a 10-15-20 plan? Yagle responded with that she thinks it had to do with the build out comprehensive 15-25-year development. Things outlined here go with that build out, some are immediate needs and then some are longer term, this incremented into the financial strategy and some things can't wait that long. Smith commented that choosing as we go along in the future and taking a look at what needs to be done, sometimes is too broad, so we can figure it out financially.

8. **Bike Trial Connections**

INFORMATION

Cyndi Carman Kramer, Palmer Township's Planning Commissioner talked About the proposed trials and bikeways development plan. On the north side of Newlins Road, they are trying to get the developer to load into the plan to connect Newlins Road to the 33 Interchange and also widen the

path through the Industrial Park and this developer has agreed to do this and pay for it.

DISCUSSION

Kramer showed the plan and how it changed, getting a path in there is difficult and explained the change. Brohan explained that the gentlemen that attended last month's meeting was concerned about it not being a nature walk, now. Kramer stated that this is a proposed plan and looking for concurrence that they are looking at options. Higgins questioned on whether it was going to be lit? Smith and Kramer both commented no. Kramer continued explaining that the trail would end right at Tatamy and Tatamy would like to extend it with a bike path bridge. Brohan stated that it would be good for businesses in that park, is it in the budget? Smith explained when it was extended it caused some real problems, like storm drain issues, etc. Higgins reiterated that the developer was paying all fees and Kramer responded with who will up fees. Smith stated paying in lieu of recreation fees. Kramer explained that a private developer can do it cheaper than the township and explained the bid process. Lee asked if they were seeking a motion to adopt what they are proposing. Kramer stated they are seeking a motion that the Recreation Board is okay with the plan. There will be a lot of public transportation so a sidewalk would be needed and would like to tie that into recreation.

Lee made a motion to adopt the proposed revision as documented. Nielsen also made a motion that we adopt the Chrin Commerce extensions as proposed by the township.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Cheryl Nielsen, Seconded by Liam Brohan.
Passed 6-0.

Board Members voting Ayes: Lee, Brohan, Bulette, Nielsen, Higgins,
McKinney

C. Palmer Township Athletic Association Agreement

INFORMATION

Lee went over our formal recommendation to the Board and two months ago, Chuck Romfo, President of the Palmer Township Athletic Association, put together their recommendations and then together we can make a recommendation for an ordinance.

DISCUSSION

Discussions have to take place to come to an agreement. McKinney reminded everyone that budgets happen in August. Romfo stated that they run three tournaments, one basketball and two wrestling and discussed the potential of them. Lee asked for numbers and asked if a percentage was feasible, maybe 10 percent of the tournament. Brohan asked about maybe flat fees and in turn Romfo stated \$250 per event? Higgins questioned whether these fees will cover costs? McKinney explained no cost for Keystone or the turf field, cost is part of what we do. Nielsen stated that we do not want to take more than we deserve. Lee stated before we discuss any further, what about 50% of the tournament goes to the township? Romfo responded, if that's the case then the township can run the tournament, that would disincentive the PTAA from running the tournament. Lee asked if asking more than 10%, this will not work? Romfo responded that generally speaking Basketball Tournaments do not pan out and Higgins questioned per sport basis? Romfo explained field lining, baseball and softball, township pays for material to line. McKinney explained that we buy the paint for soccer and can use what they want, but the township does not have enough man power or hours to line for football and soccer. Romfo questioned what agreed upon means with Higgins replying that things need to be more specific. Smith stated that can't be done. Higgins other question was on scheduling priority and that a reasonable priority needed to be established. Brohan stated that we must be able to check and/or communicate with the PTAA. Discussion switched to the Residency part of the hand out, C, 2nd page with the understanding, don't turn anyone away. Nielsen commented that their goal is to be independent so they can open up residency. Brohan questioned if they wanted to field non-resident teams and Romfo replied it would be a case to case basis, resident fees vs non-resident fees. McKinney stated, it's pretty simple, township funds, township kids, no township funds, anyone. Romfo stated that they can add an amendment, if it's not 18045, then they don't get into the system, other zips have to go in front of the Board. Brohan brought up from previous meetings that this was originally a four-year plan, the Recreation Board felt it should be a two-year plan and questioned whether the numbers support two vs four-year plan and proceeded to ask Romfo if he really wanted the four-year plan? Romfo answered, yes, things are hard to forecast and ii gives a larger cushion for transition. Higgins asked if they would compromise and consider a three-year plan? Romfo stated that ii would create a faster lime for registration fees to go up.

Discussion continued on the Recreation Board Budget Proposal, fees for league-based programs and in house-based programs, voluntary fees, and buying uniforms as time goes on.

Smith stated that the money takes away from the kids, losing focus, four-year period to see what is necessary to succeed. Lee questioned if there would be no money back to the township during this transition time?

Romfo explained the direct reimbursement is basically the \$200,000, 25% reduction. The language would change from the 222 Fund to Recreation Capital Fund and McKinney brought up that we don't want to lose this money for the bathroom that has been discussed in previous minutes. Lee asked if the PTAA was going 501C, nonprofit? Romfo explained that the application was submitted in January and they received a notification of receipt two weeks ago. Smith explained that audits have to be performed as long as the PTAA is receiving township funds, after the transition, the PTAA is on their own. Nielsen asked if a date should be on #5 on the handout under Administrative? Romfo answered that large requests come from Wrestling. Winter sports will be the first affected sports, Basketball and Wrestling for 2020. Lee stated that it was brought to his attention over the last three years, that people have a problem with fund raising after paying registration fees. Smith and Brohan chuckled while stating that it has gone on for 65 years and Romfo confirmed that they get that all the time but assured third child not paid for. Smith questioned if by raising fees that someone absolutely can't pay, what happens? Romfo confirmed that hardships are always granted. Brohan suggested that we use this document from the PTAA to tweak for the next board meeting. Romfo explained that it is a live document so the edits can be added, but the timeframe needs to turn quite quickly. Lee stated that our goal is to get it to you by June. Smith explained that an ordinance takes three months so it would be needed by September to have the ordinance for the new year, not for budget. Romfo wants a conflict resolution in case this doesn't move forward. Smith confirmed that the Board of Supervisors has agreed to never let the PTAA fall, no intention of decreasing funding unless worked out. Lee also explained that we can just recommend, whether we agree or not, the Board of Supervisors makes the decisions, and continued to explain that we were approached to help out. Romfo expressed his concern about budget deadlines and registration deadlines.

D. Recreation Board Vacancy

Smith questioned whether Keckler's biography was ever forwarded and Lee responded that it was sent.

Nielsen made a motion that we formally recommend Daryl Keckler to a seat on the Recreation Board

Motion: Approve, Moved by Cheryl Nielsen, Seconded by Kelly Higgins. Passed 6-0.

Board Members voting Ayes: Lee, Brohan, Bulette, Nielsen, Higgins, McKinney

3. Director's Report **INFORMATION**

Dan McKinney gave the report that Palmer needs to be involved with GLVA, Flag Football, it is a very organized group. The Miracle League has opening day on May 4th. McKinney explained that Keith Horton will no longer be serving on the Recreation Board, there is an ordinance stating that you cannot be a township employee and serve on the Recreation Board.

4. Egg Hunt Review **INFORMATION**

Nielsen explained that she needed more help for the Egg Hunt and McKinney assured her that his staff would be there to help. She also specified she needed six tables, cones and the candy that was delivered to the Community Center to be set in the hallway.

If it rains, the plan is to have the Multipurpose Room cleared and Gym 1 and Gym 2 available.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Cheryl Nielsen made a motion to reconvene the meeting at 9:08 pm., the motion was seconded by Richard Bulette.

Board Members voting Ayes: Lee, Brohan, Bulette, Nielsen, Higgins, McKinney. Passed. 6-0.

Next meeting May 21st, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Lazarus
Corresponding Secretary