

PALMER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD
March 19, 2019
7:00 PM
GENERAL MEETING

The Palmer Township Recreation Board held a General meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 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 Cheryl Nielsen, Keith Horton, Kelly Higgins and Dan McKinney. Richard Bulette was absent. Also, in attendance were Palmer Township Board of Supervisors Member Robert Smith, Residents David Blackstone, Gerry Genrich, John Halligan, Mike Leahy, Timothy Fisher and Daryl Keckler.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Minutes – February 19, 2019.

INFORMATION

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

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

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. Hiking Trail

INFORMATION

David Blackstone, 4 Moor Drive, introduced himself and stated he lives in the Highlands of Glenmore Community, approximately 750 citizens, and there is a concern about the Hiking Trail on the Comprehensive Plan. The Hiking/Biking Trail is an opportunity and that proposes development on both sides of the creek. The plan submitted by the developer has no trail, just warehouses and concerned about the impact of the Shoeneck Creek.

Lee asked how the site plans were obtained and explained that the Board was trying to understand and what was their intent from the Recreation Board?

DISCUSSION

Timothy Fisher, also of Glenmore, started a discussion by showing drawings of where the trail was proposed in the Comprehensive Plan

John Halligan, 12 Caterbury Lane, expanded on details.

Brohan questioned what the cross streets were and Nielsen explained North of Corriere.

Smith explained that the Comprehensive Plan was approved but not for the Parks and Recreation, still not approved. Blackstone explained that the application is before the Planning Commission and it has a building on both sides of the creek and he thought the Recreation Board could help. Smith went onto explain that developers never show their whole plan in their first set of drawings. He stated to bring their concerns to the Board of Supervisors meeting and they can recommend through Planning.

Lee explained that the Recreation Board is an advisory board but can make recommendations. McKinney explained that the trail is definitely on the agenda and not just with us. DL (Delaware/Lehigh) is moving forward and Smith stated it will be 10 foot wide.

Blackstone thanked everyone for listening and stated they will move forward with it. Nielsen encouraged them to stay on it.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Board Members

INFORMATION

Lee brought it to everyone's attention once again that the Recreation Board is looking for additional board members and introduced Daryl Keckler who lives in Palmer with his family which includes four children. He is a basketball coach for Drew and travels to recruit.

Keckler explained his Basketball duties, his wife Alexis is the volleyball coach at Lehigh University. The children play sports for Palmer and attend the Before and After Care program at the Charles Chrin Community

Center. He explained that Recreation Sports are very important to his family.

Lee thanked Mr. Keckler for coming in and explained we can make a recommendation and Smith asked if he submit a one-page bio to accompany our recommendation.

B. Palmer Township Future Funding Follow-up

INFORMATION

Lee stated he got a call from Chuck Romfo, President of the PTAA and Romfo explained that the PTAA is still reviewing the proposals, they are not ready yet but should be by our April meeting and advised the Board to ready to answer any questions.

DISCUSSION

McKinney stated that is very important that we keep moving forward because before we know it, budget will be up for approval again. Smith stated that the PTAA is struggling with football equipment, trying to get true numbers. Liam questioned whether is was confirmed that the PTAA was coming to the Recreation Board meeting in April? Not confirmed.

C. Riverview Parking Lot

INFORMATION

Brohan asked what's going on with the parking lot at Riverview?

DISCUSSION

McKinney explained that Easton Suburban Authority has a line that runs through it and that needs to be assessed. Smith also explained that they are looking to put in a Fire Training and Shooting Range that would require a hydrant and nobody wants to pave and then have to dig it up to put the line in. They are working on a deal and the line is supposed to go in in the Spring.

D. Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

INFORMATION

Lee told the Board that Supervisor Young asked him to look at the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan and after reading it, he feels it makes a

lot of sense. The Board of Supervisors require a motion to formally recognize the plan and give it our blessing to adopt.

DISCUSSION

Liam questioned what has changed that the former gentlemen are concerned about. Smith explained about the project that is going on and the four million-dollar improvements are recommendations and their concern about this ten-foot-wide trail. These trails are on page 11 and 12 of the Comprehensive Plan. Discussion continued about the location of the bike trail and the DL trail was discussed again and went over where it would follow. Lee questioned, why do you require a motion to adopt this plan? Smith reiterated because we are the Recreation Board.

Lee makes a motion to formally recognize and adopt the Recreation Open Space Plan from 2017, to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to adopt this plan with the understanding that the bike path is to be completed as part of the plan.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Cheryl Nielsen, Seconded by Keith Horton Passed. 6-0.

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

3. Director's Report

INFORMATION

Dan McKinney gave the update on the turf field bathrooms and the dates that were open for help from the Board for the Miracle League.

4. 222 Report

INFORMATION

Lee talked about 222 money and allocating it to the Chrin facility. Previous meetings there has been discussion about using the funds for scoreboards and bathrooms

DISCUSSION

Smith asked if the Board was recommending that 222 funds be for bathrooms and then stated we needed to pick a plan and make a recommendation and then go the 222 group. Higgins questioned whether anyone asked about no

scoreboards on the turf field. McKinney answered that sometimes two games play at the same time and a scoreboard would not be able to be used.

Discussion continued with pros and cons of the bathroom options and that a baby option was needed. McKinney stated that our challenge right now was to move forward and as progress goes on, we can make changes but the need is to start.

Brohan questioned a utility chase, storage and plumbing. McKinney answered his question with mineral storage, nothing of value should be stored.

Keith Horton made a motion to start implementing Model SP244 along with the agreement of the 222.

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

Board Members voting Ayes: Lee, Brohan, Nielsen, Horton, Higgins, McKinney with the contingency that Robert Smith would acquire the deed restrictions.

5. Egg Hunt Review

INFORMATION

Nielsen confirmed that some of the eggs were moldy so she will be ordering more eggs and having them sent to the Charles Chrin Community Center and has also acquired six boxes of peeps. She will need people at the Community Center by 8:00 am on April 19, 2019 and is requesting cones for use and is always looking for volunteers to man stations. It starts at 10:00 am. There has to be someone responsible for a key for the Miracle League field. It will be broken down that the smaller children will be on the Miracle League field, two more age groups on the turf field, and the older children on the Palmer football field. She suggested that a sign be put up at Palmer School to let people know to come to the Community Center.

7. NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATION

Robert Smith has received a request from the Commissioner of Baseball to look for a coach for Senior Region Baseball. He explained the construction of the legion teams and losing to travel teams is becoming huge.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Kelly Higgins made a motion to reconvene the meeting at 8:10 pm., the motion was seconded by Cheryl Nielson.

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

Next meeting April 16, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Lazarus
Corresponding Secretary