

PALMER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD
September 21, 2021
7:00 PM
GENERAL MEETING

The Palmer Township Recreation Board held a General meeting on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Charles Chrin Community Center. The following were in attendance: Chairman Liam Brohan, Vice-Chairman Cheryl Nielsen, Thom Lee, and Rick Bulette.

Liam Brohan called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes – August 2021

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the minutes of August 17, 2021.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Rick Bulette, Seconded by Cheryl Nielsen.
Passed. 4-0.

Board Members voting Ayes: Brohan, Bulette, Lee, Nielsen.

Discussion occurred on the June minutes that it should have been 12ft not 8ft, amended.

2. OLD BUSINESS

INFORMATION

Discussion opened about the Pickleball Courts at Fairview. Quote that was provided by Dan McKinney, Director of Parks and Recreation was discussed confirming the converting of the tennis courts. Brohan stated that it is not feasible to get rid of the tennis court. Discussed prior proposal. Lee commented that you can still play on the tennis court if it relined and resurfaced, it could be one tennis court and six Pickleball courts. Nielsen proposed that it would have to be something everyone could use. Brohan questioned whether it should be two tennis courts and four Pickleball courts? Lee commented that he knows it's not preferred but can still use the tennis court for pickleball, courts just lined differently. Nielsen asked if the nets for the six courts would stay up? Brohan stated they would stay up. Nielsen asked, "don't they take a beating?" Brohan answered the nets are very sturdy, but

Fairview could definitely use new. Lee stated two and four and then decide. Brohan and Bulette in unison said there has to be some tennis. A discussion followed on the tennis courts in the township. Brohan said we will ask Dan McKinney to do a little more homework. Lee discussed the money associated with Recreation funds and Brohan will, and can this come from Rec funds? Brohan also stated that we should go through the Recreation funds at the next meeting. Nielsen suggested that the money can be put aside in the budget for next year.

INFORMATION

Cheryl Nielsen made a motion to put the improvement for the Pickleball courts at Fairview, approximately \$130,000 - \$150,000 based on current proposal to accommodate resurfacing the Tennis/pickleball combination to be determined into the 2022 budget.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Cheryl Nielsen, Seconded by Richard Bulette

Passed. 4-0.

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

A new discussion started about Pickleball and Mill Race. Lee expressed that this is up and coming, making people happy and basic guidelines should be followed adhering to township ordinances. Brohan stated that the signs at Mill Race state, "From Dusk to Dawn". If residents are complaining that people are playing too early, Lee stated maybe it should be according to the township noise ordinance. Nielsen commented that people like to play early because in the afternoon it gets too hot. Brohan suggested to investigate and table, and we will let Dan know that we are investigating the ordinance and will revisit at the next meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION

No Public Comment

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

INFORMATION

No new business.

5. NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATION

Dave Dumpel who is on the Palmer Township Athletic Association board was asked to be here at Chuck Romfo's request, president of the PTAA to attend in his absence. Dumpel explained that he was here to discuss improvements for the PTAA. First request was to extend Keystone soccer field by 40 feet. Lee asked if this wasn't something that was discussed years and years ago and it wasn't feasible then so isn't now either. Dumpel stated that the second request was to resurface area in front of Keystone goals. Nielsen asked if could be roped and off and the goals taken down? Dumpel commented that they have tried to drive signs in with "not to use" verbiage on them. Nielsen clarified that the request is to dig up and resod and not just in front of the goals? Nielson stated that she thought this was done before. Dumpel states that soccer took a downward turn but now is on the rise again. Brohan questioned if is it Dan that gets those estimates? Dumpel stated that there was a meeting with the Parks Department some time ago and an irrigation system was discussed. Lee stated that the Recreation Board would be behind the request of the PTAA resurfacing the area in front of Keystone goals and will ask Dan McKinney, Director of Parks and Recreation to get an estimate of the cost. Brohan questioned if it is worth it? Dumpel explained that the east side of Mill Race needs help so it would help to roll Mill Race. Brohan asked if it was because of water? Dumpel explained that the regulation field is 300 feet, needs 330 to fit the goals. Brohan stated that the regulation is either wide or long. He said that he was going to look at Keystone and there would be more to come on the subject. Dumpel stated that third request was a concrete wall similar to a handball wall and realizes it is probably not feasible. Dumpel presented the fourth request was a small storage shed at turf field and sod field. He explained that throwback nets are left outside and they would like to put them away. Before, three years ago when the turf field was new, they used to have time but now goals are in the middle of the field. Storage for Field Hockey goals and flags is needed. Dan had mentioned that a storage closet may be a solution at the turf field bathroom. Lee asked what about storage at the Community Center and Nielsen asked the dimensions of the equipment. Dumpel explained that it is taller than he is but they do collapse. Lee stated that if you are putting them outside, wouldn't lighting be necessary to make them safe? Dumpel stated that they could be chained. The Lacrosse community came to me because when they were cleaning up the fields people were using them. Lee asked how many goals? Dumpel replied six field size and two goals collapsed. Brohan stated that this needs to be a broader conversation. Dumpel also mentioned that the baseball and softball program and other programs need scoreboards and asked if the PTAA would put them in if the township would take care of the electric. Turf, football, and Fairview are included in this request. He did not know if electric was already at the Turf field. Brohan responded that he thought there was a bidding war for the boards and asked if they were multi-purpose scoreboards? Dumpel stated that the Football program does a crazy job with their program and that the football field is just football since the turf field installed. Every year we must budget for nets

because we leave them up and have to replace nets, flags and throwback nets, this way we could put them away. Brohan stated that there needed to be more discussion on options. We would check on the design of the bathroom at the sold field to make sure big enough to support. Dumpel thanked the Recreation Board and stated he was not expecting a decision but just wanted to keep the discussion open.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Cheryl Nielsen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm., the motion was seconded by Rick Bulette.

Board Members voting Ayes: Brohan, Bulette, Lee, Nielsen
Passed. 4-0.

Next meeting October 19, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Lazarus
Corresponding Secretary