

**AMITY TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
AMITY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 4th , 2010 7:00 pm**

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Harold Boyer, Risa Marmontello, Joe Rusiewicz, David Rathgeb, Jerry Kupp.

Chairman Harold Boyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the pledge to the flag.

MOTION to approve minutes of December 7, 2009 meeting Motion made by Joe Rusiewicz, second by Dave Rathgeb. Motion passed 4-0.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT - Attached

Mr. Chazz Lyon was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Boyer reviewed the items in the report.

NEW BUSINESS

SKATEBOARD PARK

Brent Frampton spoke on behalf of skateboard park users. He wants to reorganize the skateboard park committee with volunteers from the community. The primary goal is to add additional equipment and improve conditions at the park. Recent articles reported vandalism at the park.

Harold Boyer told Mr. Frampton that the recreation board has responsibility for the park and would like to be notified directly of any problems there, rather than through newspaper articles. Board members told the committee that the township has no money budgeted for equipment. The committee is seeking to pay for equipment through fundraising efforts. One fundraising idea was a concert proposed for Lake Drive in summer of 2010. A band has been located to donate music for the concert. Bentley's Boards skate shop has offered to work with committee on the equipment. Mr. Frampton has been in touch with Mr. Lyon regarding the insurance issue and was told that any new equipment would have to have the approval of the township's insurance company.

Risa Marmontello asked if there was a need to replace any of the original equipment. Mr. Frampton said the some pieces may be rusting, but he was not aware that anything needed to be replaced.

David Rathgeb mentioned that there may be some funds remaining in a previous account for the skateboard park.

Discussions would continue and Mr. Frampton will continue to pursue the insurance issue with Mr. Lyon and the insurance carrier.

There will be a meeting of the newly reformed skateboard park committee on Tuesday evening , January 12th at 7:00 pm at the Villa at Morlatton. Rec Board members were invited to attend.

PACERS Running Club- Club representative, Peter Groth is requesting that the club be given permission to run the trails at Monocacy Hill Recreation Area one evening a week after dark during the winter months. Approximately 6-10 people would be participating one night each week. Mr. Groth said that he would inform police concerning the cars in the parking lot after dark. Some board members expressed safety concerns, especially since Sept – Feb is hunting season. Runners stated that they wear reflective gear. It was explained that a facility usage permit would have to be filled out and submitted to the township. There would be no fee. This permit would then be approved or rejected by the Board of Supervisors. It was also noted that liability might be an issue and would have to be considered.

MOTION to recommend approval of the Pacers Running Club request pending approval for liability. Motion made by Joe Rusiewicz, second by Jerry Kupp. Motion passes 4-1.

John Okuniewski- Blazer Midget Football - John has made a formal request to the Recreation Board for permanent lighting fixtures at the practice football fields at Amity Community Park. This lighting would allow the teams to practice from 6 pm to 8 pm during a 6 week period beginning in the 2nd week of October. The practices would be 3 days a week. Three lights would be donated and would be 45 feet in height. They are looking to install these this summer. The sketch he presented also proposes a post for additional electric for a concession stand near the cul de sac.

Board members said that the plan would have to be reviewed by the Steve Loomis and meet the requirements of the lighting ordinance. Other issues to be worked out would be ownership of the lights, insurance, metering and use of the lights by other organizations. It would also have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors and the License Committee prior to code review.

Board members generally were in favor if these issues could be worked out.

MOTION made to recommend that we move the process forward to discuss with the supervisors Motion made by Risa Marmontello, second by Jerry Kupp. Motion passed 5-0.

REORGANIZATION

MOTION to retain the following slate of officers for 2010:

Chairman- Harold Boyer

Vice Chairman- Jerry Kupp

Secretary – Risa Marmontello

Motion made by David Rathgeb , second by Joe Rusiewicz. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Lyon stopped in the meeting and asked if DYBS had attended the meeting to discuss the sharing of the school gym during basketball program. Jerry Kupp indicated that it might be possible to work out something to share the time, but it was not possible to share the court space.

PRPS Membership

Board members discussed renewal of our board membership in PA Parks and Recreation Society. There is no money in 2010 in the category of conferences and workshops, which included the annual membership.

Mr. Boyer stated that the PRPS magazine has good information and news of conferences and he would like the membership to continue. He would personally consider an individual membership for \$40.00. Mr. Kupp was also in favor of retaining the board membership.

Dave Rathgeb and Risa Marmontello felt that most of the information from PRPS was also available on various websites and that there is no money in the budget for attending conferences. Dave Rathgeb mentioned that our membership fees to PRPS also go to support recreation education and initiatives across the state.

The supervisors might be willing to reconsider their decision or board members can decide if they want to send in an individual membership.

Board members wanted an update on Amity Community Park field improvements also the status of the gate for accessing the lights at the tennis courts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Karen LeBlanc said that the gates at the Amity AC are now locked with a combination lock and she has given that combination to the fire companies, the police and Mr. Lyon. She will also give that number to the Chair and the Secretary of the Recreation Board.

BOARD CONCERNS

Mr. Boyer asked about the summer day camp program. Joe Rusiewicz said he would try to have estimates by the February meeting.

Mr. Boyer indicated the he would do soil samples for the athletic fields this year.

Mrs. Marmontello mentioned the following items:

No meeting had yet been scheduled for the 2010 "Christmas to Remember" event.

She would have estimates for various types of signage for Monocacy Hill at the February meeting.

The township is due to renew its Open Space and Recreation Plan, done in 2001.

She will be attending a DCNR Grant workshop on February 2nd.

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 8:14 pm made by Jerry Kupp, second by Joe Rusiewicz. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Risa Marmontello, Secretary