

**West Vincent Township
Park and Recreation Commission**

June 1, 2016 7:30 PM

Attendance: Chairman Brad Dyer, Bill Dietrich, Whitney Jaeger, William Holderness, Chip Farnham, Maria Jacobs, Steve Merroth, Kristina Casey, Jim Deisinger, Board of Supervisor Mike Schneider, and Township Secretary Tammy Swavely.

Dr. Dyer called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

The first item of business was two neighborhood boys who came to the Park and Recreation Commission informing them that they play on the basketball court 3-4 days a week and the backboards are broken. They were asking if the Township would be able to purchase new backboards. Dr. Dyer stated that he asked the boys to come in to verify that the basketball court is being used. Dr. Dyer made the motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to purchase two basketball backboards with breakaway rims. Ms. Jaeger seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The minutes from April were unanimously approved as submitted on a motion by Mr. Dietrich and a second from Mr. Farnham.

Correspondence: An email from Supervisor Mike Schneider was acknowledged as received regarding the Community Garden.

Old Business:

Events:

1. Campout: Mrs. Jacobs stated that she has two sign ups at this time. It was suggested that posters be placed at the Library. The Commission decided that the minimum number of sign-ups to hold the event should be 10. The food being purchased will be determined by the number of attendees. The Board has agreed to cover expenses that are not covered with the \$35 registration fee. The only people who need clearances will be the ones directly in contact with children. There are only a few activities like this, tie-dying is one. The person bringing the telescope has his clearances since he does this at schools. The Food Handler will be Davey Waters. Mrs. Jacobs asked for commission members to volunteer. Bill Dietrich stated that he would, but he does not have clearances. Steve Merroth will bring the firewood. The Police Department will be asked to set up the lit sign board to encourage sign ups. Signs will be ordered to put in Evans Park.
2. Kite Event: Cliff Quinn has been confirmed to come to the park on July 2nd at 10 am as part of the Pottstown Health and Wellness Grant competition. Signs will be ordered for this event.
3. Movie Night: The movie Ghostbusters was chosen for August 27th at 8:30 PM.

Fields: At this time Windview has done the first aeration and weeding of the baseball infield. Brad Dyer developed a list of maintenance items for the rectangular and little league baseball field. These include: Aeration/dragging/slit seeding/overseeding of soccer and baseball fields in the spring, and just the soccer field in the fall. Fertilizer application in the spring to both fields and to just soccer field in the fall. Broad leaf weed killer application once in the summer to both fields. Lime needs to be added every 3-4 years. Top Dressing needs to be done, but this is only done one time and should be a separate bid. The baseball diamond is not included in this. The baseball field can be done at a separate time. Spot seeding should be included in the maintenance. Dr. Dyer will organize all the suggestions and come up with preliminary bid specs. Groups using the field without permission was discussed. The Township Ordinance 108-2001 is sufficient for the Police Department to remove people who are using the field without prior approvals which they did on May 8th. That group has not returned, however they did come to the Township office and they were informed that they need liability insurance and to pay the fee. Additions to the ordinance may be considered. Mrs. Swavely will distribute the ordinance so all can review it.

Community Garden: Mr. Dietrich stated he has gotten more volunteers to help with the cutting of grass and removal of weeds. He now has 2 lawn mowers. He did an analysis of the water costs. Last year 18,000 gallons of water was purchased for the total amount of \$1,200. This works out to be 6.7¢/gallon and if water is purchased from Aqua PA it would be 1.03¢/gallon. This is something to consider for the long range goals of the garden. There was a lot of water used this past weekend and no one really knows why. A lock may be necessary to place either on the tank outside or to the garden itself. There was a discussion on the Girl Scout projects for the Community Garden. They are asking for \$1,190 in funds to purchase supplies for the raised beds, book box, bench and bee box. Girl Scouts cannot raise funds except with their cookie sales. They are extremely limited with what the organization will permit them to do. Mr. Dietrich stated that there is \$12,000 in the budget for the garden this year. This amount is a small amount to spend on the garden. This garden can be used by anyone in the Township and can be signed up for just like the athletic fields. Overtime he feels that just like the Capital Fund for the fields is in the black, that the garden will too. This is a long term asset and for the 272 houses in Weatherstone who have no space for a garden and soon another 180 homes will be in the same situation it is a good thing to offer. Residents in West Vincent desire open space and this is a way that they can use it and enjoy it. Part of the Township's responsibility is to take care of its residents. This is similar to a tennis court, or an Open Space that is rented as farm field. Mrs. Jacobs feels that \$900 for the raised beds is disproportionate to the other projects. Mr. Dietrich stated that the past spending on the garden should not be a consideration and the Girl Scouts projects should be seriously considered. Dr. Dyer stated that it is the Board of Supervisors who determine fiscal responsibility. Mr. Dietrich made the motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the Girl Scout projects be funded for the Community Garden. Mr. Deisinger seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote 6-3.

New Park Land along French Creek: Tammy Swavely is still trying to find what is permitted on this property. It is called Cooks Glen Park. It needs a parking area.

School House Park: The Parking sign was installed this week.

Wilson's Corner Park: This Park has been in existence for many years. It is used mainly by fisherman. There is a parking area. This park could be cleaned up and a picnic table be placed along the creek.

Website Information: Tammy Swavely has created a page on the Township website for each park. Each has photos and a description of what can be done at each park. Any suggestions for additional activities should be sent to Mrs. Swavely.

Regional Trail Map: The Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee has prepared a map of regional trails. Each Township on the map is to review it for accuracy and make comments. Ms. Shick, 1201 Davis Lane stated that the trails in West Vincent Township were taken from the Multi-Modal Study maps. For many years, the EAC has placed the dirt roads in West Vincent Township as part of the trail system. This map is to be taken home with each member and comments this will be discussed at the next Township meeting.

Business from the Floor:

Mr. Dietrich shared information about the Chester County Planning Commission's website. It has a detailed map with all the pipelines in the area. This can be helpful since many pipelines go through the Township.

Mr. Deisinger asked about the tree work done along Pinehurst. Now that that area has one less tree, he is concerned with weeds growing in the open space. He would like to know who takes care of that. This will need to be researched to find out how that area is to be kept.

Meeting Adjourned 9:30 PM.