

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 4, 2008**

Adequate notice of this meeting, in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, has been given by posting one copy of the Notice of Meeting in the Washington Township Administrative office, by making copies to the "Express Times" and "Star Gazette," and to the municipal clerk in Washington Township.

The regular meeting of the Washington Township Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman, M. Kries.

ATTENDEES

R. Berrie, D. Detrick, S. Fritts, W. Godfrey, M. Kries, J. Miller, D. Schott. J. DeFranza and B. Jeffries were absent. Committeeman B. Mueller and WTRC Administrator were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M. Kries asked for a motion to approve the minutes of December 4, 2007 and the Reorganization Meeting minutes of January 7, 2008. D. Schott made a motion to approve the minutes of December 4, 2007 and the Reorganization Meeting minutes of January 7, 2008, W. Godfrey seconded. All in favor.

MEADOW BREEZE PARK

Ice Skating - Morris Canal - D. Detrick stated that he was not happy with the placement of the temporary dam. He had spoken to Pete deBoer about where he thought approximately it should have been placed, even walked the canal with D. Slack (DPW) and showed him approximately where he thought it should be placed, but where J. Cooper (DPW) placed it and filled it up was half way in the middle of that spot and is no where near we had intended it to be at all. When he spoke to J. Cooper about where he had placed it, he replied that he didn't know where it was suppose to be located and when he spoke with J. Cooper a second time to ask him how hard it would be to move it, he really didn't give him any indication. It really makes no sense where it's in place now because the bank (the pile of dirt) where it is now is actually doing the same thing that the dam is suppose to do. N. Godfrey will speak with Pete deBoer about this and try to find out why J. Cooper placed it where he did.

Mill Pond Property - The Mayor indicated that soil testing should be the first step in getting this property ready to develop. At this time the Township Committee is concentrating on getting the new municipal building completed and getting the administrative staff and the police department moved in. Once the move takes place then they will concentrate on developing this property.

D 2 Dugout Roof Repair - Washington Township Youth Association will be handling. J. Miller will bring this up at tomorrow's Youth Association meeting.

D4 Installation of Aluminum Player Benches - Benches have been delivered pending DPW installation. N. Godfrey will check with Pete deBoer as to when installation will be done.

Installation of Shade Covers over player Benches - WTYA is looking into this per D. Dempski (WTYA President).

D2 Bench Repair - W. Godfrey & J. DeFranza will take care of this in the spring.

D3 Bench Repair & Installation of new aluminum benches on D4 - WTYA to repair D3 player benches and N. Godfrey will check with P. deBoer as to when the D4 benches will be installed.

Horseshoe Court Shed and Field House Roof Repair - These two items should be tied into together. P. deBoer was to get quotes and have the roofs repaired.

D. Detrick had a couple of issues that he wanted to bring to the Commission's attention. They are as follows:

Meadow Breeze Park Sign - The sign that was taken has still not been replaced. What is the status? S. Fritts stated that he thought he noticed it up today. W. Godfrey will check it out on his way home tonight.

New Tennis Court Contact & Pass Information Sign - What is the status? N. Godfrey stated that she gave the information to J. Cooper a while ago and he was to have the new sign ordered. She will check with P. deBoer.

Tennis Court Cracks - It appears that the cracks are back again on the tennis courts. They were just repaired in October and less than 3 months later they are back. He's not sure if we have any other options than to use up the \$5,000 bond we are still holding of Halcon's. Our only other recourse would be a law suit and we really do not want to go that way, especially since the previous Engineer signed off on the contract.

Walking Paths Map - D. Detrick asked if we had gotten any further with highlighting the walking paths on the existing park map and/or have we gotten in touch with the previous Engineer who designed the map regarding getting a copy of the CAD or a CD of the map. N. Godfrey reported that she had gotten in touch with the previous Engineer who told her that this material was on a 2008 CAD version and would probably not be compatible with the equipment at Warren County Vo Tech School. N. Godfrey asked if they wanted her to find out from the previous Engineer what the cost of having his Company transfer the CAD to a CD (if possible). D. Schott made a motion to have N. Godfrey have this transfer done, but at a cost not to exceed \$100.00, the motion was seconded by R. Berrie. All in favor.

A discussion followed about prioritizing a separate project list for work that needs to be done by DPW. The following projects will be given to P. deBoer for action.

1. Horseshoe Court Shed Roof & Field House Roof Repair
2. Installation of New Aluminum Benches on D4
3. Installation of Mulch at new Playground
4. Grooming of Port Colden Field for use this Spring
5. Port Colden Field - maintaining and keeping it fit for soccer practice.
6. Spraying Trees on Kayharts Lane & around the Park
7. Walking Path Extensions
8. Dr. Wasser Bench - placement of concrete footings

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on Morris Canal Winter Ice Skating - already covered above under Meadow Breeze Park
2. Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award - D. Schott made the changes discussed at the last meeting. B. Mueller will now take the nomination form to the Township Committee for their input.
3. Dr. Wasser Memorial Bench - J. Miller reported that he received a quote of \$480.00 for a 4" x 8" brass plaque (without a ground stake) for the bench. D. Detrick received a quote of \$150 - \$200 on site engraving of the bench from Pequest Granted. The Commission decided that because of the cost difference, having the bench engraved would be the most practical way to go. D. Detrick will follow up on this project

FINANCIAL & BUDGET REVIEW

There has been no new activity since December. N. Godfrey reported that the Township has a new CFO, Barbara Emery, and a new Treasurer, Meadow McCain. She was not sure how the new Finance people will be handling the various reports that we had previously received. R. Berrie had a request that perhaps we could receive reports that are more user friendly than those we received in the past. N. Godfrey will talk to them about this.

ACTIVE AREAS

N. Godfrey has notified everyone involved with Spring Field Scheduling Meeting that the meeting will be held on Monday, February 25, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. W. Godfrey asked what's the status of the Port Colden field. R. Berrie said that when the school has events such as parents night, they park on that field and as far as he knew the parking on this field makes to many ruts for safe play. This is something that needs to be addressed and we have put on the DPW list of priority items to be taken care of.

W. Godfrey reported that at the last Washington Township Committee meeting the National Cancer Society gave the same presentation to them that they gave to us regarding the Relay for Life over night event at Meadow Breeze Park. The Township Committee had no problem with them using the park for this event from late afternoon on Friday, May 30, 2008 until Saturday morning, May 31, 2008.

PASSIVE AREAS

R. Flint reported that at Lake Marguerite there is a large blow down that fell across the path into the Lake. There is also half of a old telephone pole which was also lying across the path. He has asked Pete deBoer to have a couple of DPW workers to help him cut up the blow down and remove the telephone pole. The DPW will also help him with a big blow down at the Pohatcong Creek Nature Park.

At Griffiths Woods one of the bridges that was built about five years ago was washed away a few months ago. The bridge cannot be replaced so he will try to figure out another way to get across the stream.

Pete deBoer spoke to him about the Springtown Road property. There seems that there is some renewed interest in the nature trail by some of the residents of Hawk Pointe. Pete will have his DPW workers do some maintenance on the trails and ideally it would be great if some of the interested Hawk Pointe residents could actually adopt a trail to help maintain them.

NEW BUSINESS

D. Schott had one item to bring up tonight. Rob Plenge (WTYA Basketball) had approached her about us putting up the square boxes on the basketball backboards. The tape he would like us to get is \$59.00 per roll. After a brief discussion, J. Miller said that he thought he could get the tape cheaper, so he would like the opportunity to get some more prices before we spend \$59.00 for a roll of auto type tape. All were in agreement to let J. Miller get more prices and D. Schott will let R. Plenge that we will take care of this for him.

S. Fritts had spoken to N. Holgash & F. Loughlin with regards to field usage. A brief discussion followed and it seems that there was a lack of communications between the parties. D. Detrick will speak with Nick Holgash regarding (1) Times of games and (2) whether or not he can keep the J.V. teams at the Middle School. When we have the "Fall" Field Scheduling meeting these issues and others will be addressed.

Having no further business to discuss a motion was made by D. Schott, seconded by R. Berrie to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Godfrey
WTRC Administrator

cc: P. deBoer - DPW
D. Dempski - WTYA
Twp. Comm