

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
MAY 12, 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 Mel Kries.

ATTENDEES

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman M. Kries asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of April 1, 2008. D. Schott made a motion to approve the minutes of April 1, 2008, S. Fritts seconded. All in favor.

MEADOW BREEZE PARK

D2 Bench Repair - DONE - W. Godfrey reported that he and J. DeFranza have completed this project.

Installation of New Aluminum Benches on D4 - J. Cooper reported that DPW has not installed them yet.

D2Dugout Roof Repair - DONE - B. Jeffries reported that this project has been completed by WTYA.

Field House Roof Repair - DONE - J. Cooper reported that this job has been completed.

Horseshoe Court Shed Roof Repair - J. Cooper reported that this job has not been done yet but will be done by DPW.

Tennis Court Sign - DONE

Walking Path Map - N. Godfrey reported that P. deBoer will be working with Township Engineer on this. There are also other changes/additions that P. deBoer wants to make to the map when time allows.

Replacement of Old Playground - DONE - J. Cooper reported that the mulch has been delivered and put down.

Basketball Backboard Stencils - DONE

Tree Spraying - J. Cooper reported that it will be done when/if there is a problem.

Replacement of Broken Dragon at Old Playground - A quote was received from GameTime to replace the Dragon in the amount of \$6,172.12 not including installation. J. Cooper informed the Commission that in order to keep the liability policy we will also need to have a certified installer to do it. There was a brief discussion on possible other options but it looks as if we have no choice to replace it. N. Godfrey said that there might be a possibility that since this was vandalism our insurance company might cover the replacement. She will have the Township Clerk contact the insurance company to see if this would be covered. N. Godfrey asked J. Cooper to get a police report made up on the vandalism.

In the case the replacement dragon is not be covered by insurance, D. Schott made a motion to ask the Township Committee if we could take the monies for the replacement dragon or replace with an alternative piece of playground equipment, not to exceed \$8,000., from the park bond, seconded by J. DeFranza. All in favor.

Graffiti on Roof of Old Playground - M. Kries asked J. Cooper if that has been removed yet. J. Cooper said that it has not been removed yet.

Chain Links on Old Swing Set - J. Cooper said that this has not been done yet.

Repair of Tables at Pavilion - J. Cooper said that this repair work has not been done yet.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Dr. Wasser Memorial Bench - J. Cooper reported that the bench has been installed. D. Detrick will be meeting with the engraver this week. The wording will read "Louis "DOC" Wasser for his years of dedicated service to Washington Township". The engraving will be in all capital letters.

2. Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award - Committeeman Mueller reported that the Township Committee is behind this endeavor, they thought that it should be done once a year, preferably at the end of each year. There should be a presentation at a Township Committee meeting and they are also looking for some more criteria. D. Detrick suggested that the when the new committee is formed, this is something that they should be looking into. The Recreation Commission has laid out the groundwork, but the new committee will ultimately be the ones to come up with the criteria that will be followed. B. Mueller also said that the Township Committee will be the ones who will appoint the members to this committee.

FINANCIAL & BUDGET REVIEW

N. Godfrey reported that the Township's 2008 Budget should be adopted at the Township's May 20, 2008 meeting. After that time we should know how much money we have been allocated. We have collected \$5540. in Use Fees to date, which is about par with the last few years.

ACTIVE AREAS

At this time, M. Kries announced that Rob Rhinehart and Dan Nolan from Jersey Fusion Softball League were in the audience and had wished to speak to the Recreation Commission about holding another softball tournament.

D. Nolan - He wanted to thank everyone for allowing Jersey Fusion to hold their softball tournament last weekend. They had a great turnout with teams from Long Island, Hudson Valley, South Jersey, and other locals, many of who had never been out to this area of the State. All went very well, unfortunately due to a prediction of a bad weather forecast for Sunday, he had to make the decision to only hold the tournament on Saturday and cancel the games scheduled for Sunday. He and R. Rhinehart were here tonight to ask if they could do it again on Saturday, August 2 and Sunday, August 3, 2008. It would be the same as the last one and they would like to again use D3, D5, D6 and D7.

J. Miller wanted to add that he thought that Dan and Rob did an excellent job pulling this tournament together. He didn't see or hear of any problems and did not receive one negative comment from any one. The Township should be proud to have these guys here and also proud of their fields that they actually put out to teams from Hudson Valley and all over. He also wanted to commend Ric Lucy (DPW) on how he prepared and kept up the fields throughout the whole tournament. M. Kries said that the people he talked to could not believe that there was a facility like this out here. J. Cooper said the only issue he had was having to remove and then build up the pitchers mound for a game the following day. It took 3/4 of a day, two people to take in down and the same to build it back up. If they had the manpower to spare it wouldn't have been a big deal, however, because he had to use 2 of his men for 2 days on just taking down and building up a pitcher mound hurt the normal pre-weekend maintenance on some other parts of the park. N. Godfrey said that for the August tournament there shouldn't be any other teams playing on the field that would require them to have to build the mound back up, so this should eliminate the problem of needing 2 men for 2 days just working on the pitcher mound. J. Cooper agreed. D. Nolan said that if they decide to do another tournament next spring again, then as long as it was the younger girls, they could probably still play with the mound in place. After some more discussion D. Schott made a motion to allow Jersey Fusion Softball League have another tournament on Saturday, August 2 and Sunday, August 3, 2008, S. Fritts seconded. All in favor.

End D. Nolan & R. Rhinehart presentation

J. Cooper reported that S1, S2, S3, S5, Football and Pacesetter fields have all been rolled and fertilized. The basketball backboards are done. On June 2 the fields are being sprayed for grubs and weeds, they have placed signs up around the fields notifying people of this.

J. Cooper wanted to let the Commission know that when he received the first schedule from Warren United Soccer Club at the beginning of the season they were scheduled for 93 games. They have continually been adding games because of state cup games, tournaments, playoff games etc.. and as of today they have a total of 120 games scheduled on the fields. With all of these extra games come fall when the WTYA and the High School has to use the fields they are not going to be in very good shape. J. Miller said that these extra games, no matter what for, should not be allowed to be added without permission from the Commission. When they were at our last meeting they were told specifically that they were going to have to cut back on the games that they had scheduled on our fields and that they will have to start looking for other fields to use for their games. They will also have to pay additional money for any extra game over and above their original schedule submitted.

Tournaments and additional field usage (from original scheduled submitted) will be addressed when we revise the existing field usage schedule.

M. Kries instructed N. Godfrey to send a letter to Warren United reiterating the facts that were discussed at our last meeting. She will send a letter stating that they will have to cut back their usage of the Meadow Breeze Fields for games to 50 - 60 games only. Any additional games will have to be approved by the Recreation Commission before they are scheduled.