



## WARRINGTON PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

May 27, 2010

852 Easton Road

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Mr. McNulty, Vice-Chair, in the absence of Ms. Rice. In addition to Mr. McNulty, other Park and Rec Board members present were Ruth Schemm, Lori Halber, Michael Richino and Richard Weiss. Staff present was Carolyn Hanel, Director of Parks and Recreation.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. McNulty led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. He also welcomed Richard Weiss to the Park and Recreation Board.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.
4. **OLD BUSINESS**

**4.1 King Park Soccer Field:** Rose Bennett, 500 Kelly Road, was present to discuss problems she is having with soccer balls landing in her yard from the games on the King Park field. Ms. Bennett inquired about the installation of safety netting and also asked the Park and Rec Board (PRB) to consider limiting use of the field to younger children (ages 11 and under), as most of the players kicking balls into her yard are older than 12. The Park and Rec Board responded to several of Ms. Bennett's concerns, but emphasized that they cannot control the conduct of anyone once they leave the park; *i.e.*, on private property.

Richard Weiss, who is involved with the Warrington Soccer League, commented that to his knowledge the trespassing has been done by members of visiting teams and that the members of the Warrington Soccer League have been advised that any soccer balls going onto the Bennett property will be replaced by the league and there is no need to enter the Bennett property.

Carolyn Hanel advised that preliminary estimates for the cost to install a 20' high safety net to keep the errant soccer balls from entering the Bennett property are \$10,000. The PRB expressed concern over the expense and asked staff to continue to research the purchase.

The Park and Rec Board also suggested posting signs along the park property line reading "Park Property Limit. Private Property Beyond the Point. No Trespassing" The PRB encouraged Ms. Bennett to post her property as "Private Property, No Trespassing": as well.

**4.2 King Park Lighting:** Bob Zoeller from MUSCO Lighting provided updated information on the lighting of the lower multi-use field at King Park, particularly the quantity of light trespass on the Bennett property. Mr. Zoeller presented a lighting diagram which showed that the amount of light entering the second floor windows on the Bennett residence would be equivalent to moonlight. Mr. Zoeller also provided an updated estimate for the cost of the lighting of \$130,000. He commented that in order to have the lights operational for the fall, the project needed to be bid by July.

The PRB discussed the funding for this improvement. Carolyn Hanel advised that while the expense was included in the 2010 capital budget, there was not sufficient revenue (developer contributions and fee-in-lieu) to cover the expense. The PRB asked if 2008 bond funds could be used for the expense. Ms. Hanel responded that the Board of Supervisor was having a work session on June 1 to discuss potential capital projects and bond funding. The PRB unanimously recommended that the lighting for the King Park fields be the highest priority parks project.

**4.3 Barness Park Expenses:** This item was tabled until a representative of the Warrington Softball League could be present.

**4.4 April 22 Dog Park Design Charette (update):** Ruth Schemm and Carolyn Hanel reported briefly on the April 22 design charette, which Carol Rice also attended. Ms Schemm complimented staff on how the charette was conducted. Ms. Hanel reported that approximately 25-30 people attended the meeting and shared their thoughts on how the dog park should be designed, the location and some policies. An email list has been developed from those who attended the meeting and they will be notified of future meetings where the dog park will be discussed. Staff is developing costs associated with the recommendations from the design charette and another meeting will be held with those interested to review the costs and hopefully to budget for the project in 2011.

- ✓ Those who attended the April 22 meeting recommended King Park as the location for a dog park.
- ✓ They also recommended not charging any type of user fee, as Horsham and Montgomery Township do not charge for the use of their parks.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS)**

**5.1 Eagle Scout Project Proposal:** Paul Johnston presented his Eagle Scout Project for review by the PRB. Mr. Johnston proposes to refurbish the bird blind at Lower Nike Park, including staining and repairs. He is also proposing to post information on the variety of birds that frequent that area.

On motion by Ms. Schemm, seconded by Ms. Halber, the PRB unanimously endorsed Mr. Johnston's project proposal.

**5.2 Swim Club Membership:** Ms. Hanel presented an issue with a 2010 Swim Club membership. The swim club policy defines a family as 2 adults and related children (under age 18) living in the same household as a family. A request has been received from a non-resident who wanted to include her grandson, who resides with her, on her family membership. The PRB indicated that they would support staff's decision, but as the grandmother functions as the primary care giver and the grandson resides with her permanently, consideration should be given to granting the request. There was a brief discussion regarding how to define family. The PRB indicated that they agreed with the policy of requiring a separate adult membership for anyone age 18 and above, but suggested that the extended families (grand parents, grand children, etc.) residing at the same address be treated as a family. Ms. Hanel will poll other municipal swim clubs and park and recreation departments on their policies.

## **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**6.1** April 8, 2010: On motion by Ms. Schemm, seconded by Mr. Richino, the Minutes of the April 8 meeting were approved as presented.

**7. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Hanel, CPRP  
Director of Parks and Recreation