



MEETING MINUTES

WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

September 24th, 2020

7:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Call to order at 7:31pm
- Present: Barbara L., Patrice T., Beth I., Rick W., Andy O., Mike D., Joanne M., Eileen A., Bob M., Ruth S.
- Members of Public: Jeremy Victor, Ivy Ross

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 2020

- Beth **motion** for approval of mins, Joanne second. No comments, approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS *(The Board will hear from any interested resident or taxpayer who would like to comment on an item not on this evening's agenda. Respondents are asked to keep their comments to 3 minutes.)*

- Email from resident Vinobha Selvam – EAC is opposed allowing lights at IPW

PRESENTATIONS BY GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS

Warrington Soccer Temporary Light Proposal by Jeremy Victor

- Only saw a drop in about 200 player registration for the fall program
- Last August the P&R Board approved the club seeking
- Mon-Thurs from sundown through to 9:00pm. Lights went off by 8:15pm
- Requesting permission to use lights at IPW. Only current lighted fields are at Kings Field and that is not enough capacity
- The lights are approx. 20ft high and there are shields on the lights that allow them focus on the field.
- Concerns from EAC:
 - Has no problem with lights themselves but would like the lights to be at a different location as the fields are on the flight path for birds migrating from the Bradford Dam.
 - It also affects the feeding cycle of insects and other nocturnal animals. So, when lights are turned on at nighttime it throws off the timing of insects and other animals which will affect birds and daytime animals. Deers nighttime migration is also thrown off.
 - Why can't club have Sunday morning practices?

- Not workable because unwritten rule about not using IPW before noon on Sundays. Additionally, that is only one day, and the soccer capacity requires 4 days.
 - Township is putting in almost \$1million to develop the wetland and environment in that area and the lights is going to disrupt their pattern.
- Discussion:
 - Last year the soccer club pursued several other locations, but they were not feasible for a number of reasons
 - Lights have been running for a number of years, but next year there will be a problem because there will be an established wetland that used a grant. It is most likely that temp lights will not be approved.
- **Motion:** for P&R Board recommend to the BOS that it approve to the Warrington Soccer Club request for permission to use temporary lighting at Upper Nike Park from Oct. 1, 2020 – Nov. 30, 2020 from Mon-Thurs from sundown to 9pm.
 - Bob M Motioned, Beth seconded
 - Unanimous vote to approve motion; Carol R absent

LIAISON REPORTS

1. Bike and Hike Trails Committee
 - a. An eagle scout made a presentation on how he can assist with upkeeping the trails by putting in repair stations. Members approved him making the presentation to the Board.
 - b. Committee will start meeting at the various trails so members can become familiar with the trails and what needs to be done.
2. Environmental Advisory Council
 - a. No August or October meeting. They should attend the regional EAC summit meeting on Oct 7th.
 - b. There was a presentation about how to trap the spotted lantern flies – EAC will review proposition and the locations she wants put them before going to BOS
3. Open Space and Land Preservation Committee
 - a. Discussed the signage to educate residents. It went to the BOS for approval, it has not been approved as yet but it is in the process of that taking place
 - b. Natural Lands working on plans for Wiesel, Mill Creek and Emmerson
 - i. Conservation easement for Mill Creek land will protect it for centuries from any future development, and the inclusion of Natural Lands on the project protects this
 - ii. McManney’s property (truck patch at Folly and Street Rd.) is under contract to be sold, but historical commission is trying to save the house. There is no connection to Black history.
 - c. Kettle Creek, a woman company out of Warminster donated trash receptacles throughout Lion’s Pride Park. Parks dept. employees will empty the trash
4. Mary Barness Community Pool Committee; Recent Meeting and Reports Summary
 - a. Pool currently closed. This month’s meeting was cancelled.
 - b. Summer season was successful even through the pandemic. We should start considering

how to bring the pool into current time.

5. Directors Report, (BOS Actions), (Works in Progress), (Presented Studies/Reports from other Boards, Committees to BOS). Willow Knoll Update
 - a. Pool – got a letter from a resident that discussed how important opening the pool was to her personally and how it improved her life quality in the summer.
 - b. Lion’s Pride park – ribbon cutting on Friday Oct. 2nd at 11am. Trails have been completed and paved. There are a number of things that will put it out to enhance the park. We are willing
 - c. Josh Adams – Warrington resident, and current players for NY Jets wanted to see an update to Willow Knoll Playground, the area in which he grew up. Some of the idea for the update would include a challenge course that would tie in the NFL’s Play 60 program (having children go outside and be active at least 60mins per day). The company that could install this would provide a \$25k grant towards building the course. This will cost approximately \$350-400K range. Most of the funding would come from Josh Adams and his fundraising networks. The Township would pick up some cost (such as engineering, the storm water management, grass cutting, tree removal etc.). But majority of the funding would come from J. Adams. In exchange for the funding J. Adams would like the park renamed to Josh Adams Community Park.
 - d. Andy O did ask for it to be a community build process to have the community involved and have ownership and minimize the vandalism.
 - e. Ask: The P&R Board give permission to bring this issue to the BOS so that they can continue conversation and putting effort into getting this done.
 - f. **Comments:**
 - i. How do you control for the others coming and using the new equipment?
 - ii. Will this create more expenses? No, it’s not that it is going to creating a new item, because it is a current park that the Township already maintains.
 - iii. What is the timeframe? They would like to get something done by March or April, but nothing has been done as yet.
 - g. **Motion** – to move forward with the renovation of the Willow Knoll park as sponsored by Josh Adams
 - i. Joanne motioned, Bob second. Passed unanimously with Carol R absent.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Sports Teams Agreements; Lets get started back on these.
 - a. Work on the one you have been assigned. Don’t let it slip further.
 - b. Once we get our agreements signed off on it, we then send it to Andy to finish off.
 - c. We should get each team to come in and give a report to the Board, so we get an idea of what they are looking for.
 - i. Talk about registration – which updates from previous years
 - ii. What changes they envision
2. Community Pool Season Extension update and “Self-sufficiency” plan. (Is it operating in the black currently)? Step 1; Pavilion for added events.
 - a. Mike D will advise if/when we need to discuss and planning for opening again.
3. Liaison for Bike and Hike

- a. Patrice and Bob will work together as liaison.
- 4. Natural Lands Studies and Feasibility Studies Update
 - a. Discussed above, with further info

NEW BUSINESS

1. Hunting Regulations; This was completed and recommended to BOS. Considerations should be taken for “controlled hunts” in Township Parks and on Township Properties.
 - a. This is about establishing a prohibition of hunting on Township land. There was discussion on this matter, but the BOS did not take action on it.
 - b. In 2013 the P&R Board proposed changes to Ordinance 16-8 Firearms and Hunting to prohibit hunting in Township Parks and Open Space.
 - c. **Motioned** that the 2013 proposal be presented to the BOS again by Mike D, seconded by Bob: Vote: yea – 5, nay – 1 Carol R. absent
2. Park and Recreation Mission Statement. Authored by Mike. Discuss and approve for publication.
 - a. Board will review and think about it and discuss further next month.
3. Is there a timeline discussion, currently, for the next phasing of Lions Pride, other than or amending the original 10-year plan?
 - a. There is a next phase for Lions Pride, but the timeline is dependent on how things move along.
 - b. Many of the other projects are in

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Site Tour on permanent hold until normal township meetings are restored. End of discussion for now.
2. Individual Board/Committee operations. Advisory vs Action.
 - a. All boards/committee are advisory, and the BOS makes the final decision. EAC has a budget, so they can make certain things financial decisions.
 - b. Ruth will check to see if there are charters for each committee from when they were created.
3. Lighting at Upper Nike Park. Is there discussion as to this? SEE ABOVE DISCUSSION
4. Mikes List of items. On hold till September Meeting.
5. It is imperative that Board Members read the Link both digital and hard copy. There is a wealth of information in it and many questions are answered as to updates on projects, P/R activities and overall Township news. I also advise reading the minutes of each of the Boards and Committees associated or linked with P/R and Open Space.

ADJOURNMENT: - Motion to adjourn by Mike, second by Bob M. adjourned at 9:43am