



MINUTES

WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

September 28, 2023

7:00 pm

Hybrid Meeting Held Both In Person At The Township Building And Via Zoom

ATTENDEES: Andy Oles, Dan Mertz, Joanne Mancini, Lise Dietz, Ernie Rehr, Carl Doerr, Mike Diorka

BOS Liaison: Mike Diorka

7:06 PM - CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF August 2023 MINUTES AND POSTING TO WEBSITE

Joanne motion, Carl second, all in favor, approved.

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.)*

PRESENTATIONS

1. **Bill Connolly – Open Space Master Plan Ad Hoc Update**
 - a. Shared map and report for Mill Creek Preserve
 - a. Final report from September meeting
 - b. Newer ordinance to make better use of open space in Warrington, completed summer 2022
 - c. Many concerns from neighbors in area abutting Mill Creek
 - d. Bill never considered a do-nothing option -grant money involved, has to be open to public
 - e. Parking for 10 to 12 cars shall be deleted and parking for 6 cars is recommended, no boardwalk system, no picnic area
 - f. Task for all P&R members to review report
 - b. Shared his view of preferences for Planning and Zoning focus 2024 and forward
 - a. Doing landscaping and planning in active parks
 - b. Plant trees and “non” trees
 - c. Handicap bathrooms in township building

2. **Joanne Mancini – Township Tot Lot Existing Conditions**
 - a. Presentation with pictures and analysis of current tot lots
 - b. Included perspective of her 8-year old granddaughter – which is great feedback to keep in mind as they are for kids
 - c. Ongoing maintenance plans are needed taking into account:
 - a. Current status
 - b. Preventative
 - c. Risk management
 - d. Fred Gaines (in attendance) notes that historically maintenance is managed mostly by “complaints” from community members. Lise notes we should incorporate a more pro-active approach and reduce the need for “complaints”
 - e. Insurance carrier should help assess risk management aspects
 - a. Immediate concern is fencing (risk mgt) for some of the parks
 - b. 1-3 year plan and then further out
 - f. Considerations for improving
 - a. Funding – possible sponsorships
 - b. Andy makes notes to discuss with public works for their support
 - c. Pathways document is a great guide
 - d. Take into account how much each park is used to help prioritize time and money investment in each park

LIAISON REPORTS

1. **Open Space and Land Preservation Committee Update**
 - a. See Presentation Notes above
2. **Director’s Report** (BoS Actions), (Works in Progress), (Presented Studies/Reports), (Programs Updates), (Financial Budget Status) (Andy)
 - a. Warrington day cancelled due to weather on both Saturday and Sunday
 - b. Programs
 - a. Legos (already filled), Pumpkin Princesses, Chess
 - b. Continue to be well attended and received
 - c. Pond to Wetlands
 - a. In progress
 - b. “shovels” anticipated to be “in the ground” soon
 - d. Bradford Dam
 - a. New paved area near Morning Walk and Pump House
 - e. Budget – Process is moving
 - f. Andy proposed new and additional position of “Program Coordinator”

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Park Steward(s) status**
 - g. One candidate did not work out
 - h. Another candidate (recommended by Jim Keyser) is very promising and expect him to start soon

2. Budget

- a. Dan will summarize and forward to Andy (completed on September 29, 2023 – see below)
- b. Requests:
 1. King Park Basketball Court and Tennis Area Improvements
 2. Barnes Park Fencing Repairs (we would like to see money budgeted over multiple years in the Capital Improvement Program starting in 2024).
 3. Tot Lot Fencing Upgrades / Repairs (money budgeted over multiple years starting in 2024)
 4. Trash Can Replacement / Upgrades (money budgeted over multiple years starting in 2024)
 5. Barnes Park Shade Structures
 6. Finally, we would like to see cost budgeted in the later years for the addition of flushable toilet rooms along the Bristol Road side of Barnes Park. The existing toilet rooms are aging, the reliability at large events is becoming a concern and the amount of users in the Park is growing every year. One solution could be a partnership with Baseball to replace the existing Snackstand Building and add toilet rooms to the building.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Youth Sports Roster Fees

- a. Currently \$7.50 resident, \$10 non-resident
- b. Possible increase to \$10 or \$12.50 for resident starting fall 2024
- c. Intent is to help with revenue for maintenance – must be able to say these fees will actually be used for improvement and maintenance of “active” park areas
 - a. i.e soccer alone has ~1,600 kids for fall season
- d. Andy will check and verify if we are able to have these fees go directly to the fields

2. Park and Rec Ordinance Review

- a. Bill notes “ad-hoc” committees are intended to be short-term to address a specific “problem”
- b. Ernie asks what is the purpose of P&R Advisory board
- c. Bill’s response – Advise on programming and budget and that these two are specifically noted in the ordinance
- d. Bill noted we can always look at the ordinances and offer feedback/opinion to the Board of Supervisors
- e. Ernie requests we keep this in mind and going forward, put our efforts in these areas

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

10:07 pm - adjournment