



WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP PARK & RECREATION MEETING
January 24, 2013 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Rick Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Present were Mr. Weiss, Ms. Schemm, Mr. Smith and Mr. Piotrowicz. Mr. McNulty and Mrs. Rice were absent. Ms. Halber arrived at 8:00 P.M. and Township Manager Tim Tieperman arrived at 8:20 P.M...

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Weiss led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion to approve the minutes the December 19, 2012 meeting was submitted by Mr. Piotrowicz; seconded by Ms. Schemm and passed unanimously.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Weiss stated that since the public comments deal with an agenda item, it will be discussed at that time.
3. **REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD:** Mr. Weiss stated that since the entire Board is not present, it would be best to table this item until the next meeting.

LIAISON REPORTS

4. **Open Space Task Force:** Ms. Schemm stated that a joint meeting was held on December 19th to try and develop some unified open space strategy and review the scope of the referendum and try to develop a consensus of goals and objectives for the use of the open space funds. It was a very productive meeting and another joint meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

Mr. Smith suggested that the Park and Recreation Board come up with their own list to present as a recommendation to the joint group.

5. **Bike and Hike Committee:** Mrs. Bell stated that she had attended the meeting and reported that the slate of officers remained the same. Since they had not met for several months short discussions were held regarding Warrington Day, the joint meeting with Open Space and future events such as the Spring Family Campout and the Fishing Derby.
6. **Environmental Advisory Council:** Mr. Smith reported that there was no meeting in January. It was suggested that since Mr. Smith's schedule has prevented him from being able to attend the EAC meetings that a new liaison be appointed. Mr. Smith stated that he

has kept up with everything through e-mails. He noted that the EAC is a very active, well organized and very involved committee.

It was suggested that no permanent liaison be appointed until the entire Board is present. It was also suggested that perhaps members could take turns attending. Mr. Piotrowicz volunteered to attend the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- 7. Continue Discussion on Park Ordinance Revisions:** A draft of the revisions to the Park Ordinance was presented. Mr. Weiss stated that everyone on the board should review the changes before it is adopted.

Ms. Schemm stated that she is concerned with enforcement and that the Ordinance and Field Usage Policy should be consistent.

- 8. Update on Lacrosse Field Project:** Mr. Weiss reported that there has been no movement on the project and no work will be approved until there is a chance to review the engineered drawings which have not been submitted yet.

Mr. Smith commented that the board should be analyzing the Twin Oaks site a lot closer for an open space referendum project as the site has a lot of possibilities. There are baseball fields there that are not utilized and there is also a lot of passive recreation that can be developed as well.

- 9. Update on King Park Baseball Field Project:** Mr. Weiss reported that he has not heard anything about the progress or approval of this project. The project must be approved first by the Conservation District. It should be moving soon if it is to be finished and ready for spring.

- 10. Updated Field and Facility Use Policy Application and Fees:** The Draft of the Warrington Township Field and Facility Use Policy was reviewed by the board. Mr. Weiss stated that he would like everyone to look this over and get back to him with any changes, ideas, etc. by next Thursday, January 31st.

Mr. Smith commented that he can see some problems with this document and how it relates to Maintenance. He stated that this document should have been started out with and the Field Maintenance Agreements be done after.

Mr. Weiss stated that he and Ms. Halber will be meeting with the Township Manager to discuss and make changes.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the new Field and Facility Use Fees which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors as part of their Fee Schedule. The main issue of

concern voiced by those present in the audience was the inclusion of Roster Fees which in their opinion would cost their organizations a lot of money.

Mr. Tieperman stated that this was a policy decision initiated by the Board of Supervisors to raise revenues and fund more recreation activities. He explained the roster fee is a "pass through" fee; however, comments from those present were that it is very expensive to play sports and some people just can't afford the \$10.00 resident and \$25.00 non resident fees.

Those present representing local sports organizations included Mr. Chris Gay, President of Connie Mack Baseball; Mr. Dave Schilling and Mr. Ed Sablich from Warrington Girls Softball; Mr. Tom Monser and Mr. Karl Hallgren from Warrington Youth Baseball. Members of the Park Board representing these sports groups, Mr. Weiss (Soccer) and Mr. Smith (Football) also voiced opposition to the fees.

Ms. Halber stated that the Park and Recreation Board should have had the opportunity to review these fees and make their own recommendations before the Supervisors adopted them.

A motion was submitted by Mr. Weiss; seconded by Mr. Smith and passed 5-0 to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that they reconsider these fees and consider the appeals from the local athletic organizations.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was submitted by Ms. Schemm; seconded by Mr. Piotrowicz and passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 28, 2013 at 7:30 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Vivian Bell