

**WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING  
September 16, 2009**

**Attending:** Bob Cifone, Jennifer Dobbins, Mary Lou Enoches, Jerry Napiecek, Nancy Pine, Ed Smith, and Megan Zug

**Township Representatives:** Ken Lehr, Tom Steines, and Kent Wise

**Meeting called to Order:** 7:01 PM by Chair Mary Lou Enoches

After a review of the minutes submitted for the August 19, 2009 meeting, a motion was made by Bob Cifone to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Jerry Napiecek and passed.

The Financial Report dated August 31, 2009 was reviewed. There were no questions or comments pertaining to the Financial Report.

**Parks:** Kent Wise reported that the crew is still busy cutting grass and grooming the ballfields. Kent Wise said that this effort is taking a lot of time as a result of the loss of the summer helpers, scheduled vacations, and the abundance of rainfall. Kent Wise reported that an invasive weed has been spreading through the infield and outfield area of Flagg Field for several years. Kent Wise stated that he has been trying to control the weed. Two applications of a new chemical seemed to do the trick. Kent Wise reported that in addition to this weed control treatment, Flagg Field was over-seeded with 800 pounds of new grass seed. Kent Wise indicated that he was very pleased with the results. Work to top dress Flagg Field is scheduled for next week. Kent Wise reported that the heavy rains over the last several weeks resulted in a lot of storm damage at the Township's parks. Kent Wise stated that, on the positive side, there have not been any uprooted trees to clean up as a result of the recent storms. Kent Wise reported that work to relocate the bleachers from Hollowell Field to the softball field at Community Park has been completed. Jerry Napiecek asked for an update on how the new recycle bins are working at the Township parks. Kent Wise indicated that there were some issues over the first couple of weeks with Allied Waste picking up the recycle totes at some of the locations. Kent Wise informed that, at this time, three recycle totes are being filled each week at Lambert Park. There is not much utilization of the recycle totes at Coopersmith and Barker Parks. Nancy Pine asked if a notification could be placed in the newsletter to inform residents the Township is now providing receptacles for recycling at the Township's parks. Ken Lehr indicated that he would add this notification to the next newsletter. Bob Cifone stated that the good response to recycling at the skatepark seems to indicate that children and young adults are more familiar with recycling and the environmental benefits this practice provides.

**Recreation:** Tom Steines, reporting on the Summer Recreation Program, informed that copies of the end of year report were included in the Park and Recreation Board members' information packet. Jerry Napiecek asked Tom Steines if there were any concerns and/or complaints voiced to date pertaining to this year's program. Tom Steines informed that several parents of young children expressed concern about sending their children on the field trips, fearing the children could get lost or hurt. Tom Steines indicated that he provided an open invitation to the parents to attend the field trips to alleviate their concerns. Tom Steines reported that he received requests to extend the Summer Programs an additional week, stating that families of campers where both parents work are finding it difficult line up care and activities for their child after the program completes. Tom Steines informed that he also received requests to add golf clinics and more nature programs. Tom Steines stated that he tailors the activities for the Summer Programs based on the experience and background of the counselors. Finally, Tom Steines reported that surveys for the 2009 program were recently mailed to the parents of campers. There would be a formal report on the responses for review at the October Park and Recreation Board meeting.

Tom Steines, reporting on the Summer Teen Program, reported that the information provided for the Summer Recreation Program also applies to the Summer Teen Program. Mary Lou Enoches, speaking for the members of the Park and Recreation Board, offered thanks to Tom Steines for an excellent job in making this year's summer programs a success.

**Friends of the Park:** Jennifer Dobbins, reporting for the Friends of West Goshen Parks, informed that the baskets raffled off during the August 23rd Blackthorn concert netted \$791.00 for the Friends. Jennifer Dobbins indicated that feedback on the raffle was very positive. Thank you letters have been mailed to the people donating the baskets for the raffle. Ken Lehr reported that the next Board of Directors election is scheduled for May 2010. Ken Lehr informed that there is currently an opening for the Secretary position and stated that the President's position would become open in May 2010. Ken Lehr asked the members of the Park and Recreation Board to let him know if there is anyone they know that would be interested in filling the open positions.

**Old Business:** Ken Lehr, reporting on Township bus trips, informed that the Township took three buses for the August 21<sup>st</sup> trip to Citi Field for the Mets/Phillies game. Ken Lehr stated that this was the first trip to the new Mets Stadium and indicated the 3:00 PM departure time was too late for a game starting at 7:00 PM (a 2:00 PM departure time would be ideal). Jerry Napiecek indicated that there was also some confusion over where the buses would pick up the group after the game. Overall everyone seemed to be pleased with the first trip to Citi Field. Ken Lehr informed that the Township is taking registrations for the Fall/Winter trips that include a December 7<sup>th</sup> trip to Radio City Music Hall with dinner at Carmines for a cost of \$145/person, a December 12<sup>th</sup> "Tour New York City on your own" bus trip for a cost of \$35/person and a November 7<sup>th</sup> trip to the Guggenheim and Whitney Museums featuring a guided tour provided by Inez Starr for a cost of \$79/adult, \$75/senior (65 or older) and \$65/Child under 18.

Ken Lehr, reporting on Senior Water Walking at ACAC, informed that there were no applicants for the September session. At this time the October and November sessions are being filled. Ken Lehr indicated that these sessions would be held regardless of how many Township residents register, stating that ACAC would fill out the classes with their own clients. Each session will feature eight 45 minute classes at a cost of \$50.00 per session.

Ken Lehr, reporting on the Summer Concert Series, said between 1,000 and 1,200 people attended the August 23rd concert featuring Blackthorn. Megan Zug asked if parking was an issue due to the large turnout. Ken Lehr said that the Township's traffic safety unit was onsite to provide support, and indicated that there were no issues to report. Ken Lehr informed that he was in contact with representatives from Straight Shooter, and that the band may be available to perform in mid-October. Ken Lehr indicated that the band was paid \$600.00 for the rained out August 9th concert date. Ken Lehr expressed concern that patrons may not be expecting a Township concert in the October timeframe and as a result the attendance may be light. Ken Lehr informed that a wrap-up/planning meeting would be scheduled for 6:15 PM on October 21st prior the Park and Recreation Board meeting. Ken Lehr indicated that he would place a sticker on the October meeting package to remind the Park and Recreation Board members of this meeting. Information on the 2009 Summer Concert Series is listed below:

Date	Theme	Featured Performers	Location	Attendance
June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Special Sneak Preview Concert	West Chester East High School Jazz Bands	Community Park	250 - 300
June 14 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Concert	John Flynn	Community Park	400
June 28 <sup>th</sup>	Classics and Pops	Shaw Strings	Community Park	200
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Motown revisited	Special Blendz	Community Park	900

July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Your Hometown Band	Chester County Concert Band	Community Park	300 - 350
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	Country-Western	Straight Shooter	Community Park	Rained out
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Irish Rock	Blackthorn	Community Park	1000 - 1200

Ken Lehr, reporting on Movie Nights, informed that there was a typographical error on the fliers that incorrectly stated the start time was 7:00 PM. The actual start time for the presentations is 7:30 PM. Ken Lehr asked the members of the Park and Recreation Board to volunteer to provide support for one or more of movie presentations, stating that there is manual labor required to set up and take down the screen and set up the Township meeting room in the event of inclement weather. Kent Wise indicated that he would also have people available to help. Information on Movie Nights is listed below:

Date	Movie	Location	Attendance
September 19 <sup>th</sup>	Hannah Montana	Community Park	
September 26 <sup>th</sup>	Earth	Community Park	
October 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Monsters vs. Aliens	Community Park	
October 10 <sup>th</sup>	People's Choice	Community Park	

Ken Lehr, reporting on Harvest Day, informed that the 2009 festivities are scheduled for Sunday, October 25th from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Community Park. Ken Lehr indicated that Michael Pillagalli has made arrangements with Phil and Linda Hicks to line up their haywagon for this year's event. Additionally, Ken Lehr said East Goshen Township's Pumpkin Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, so their haywagon will be available for West Goshen Township on October 25th. All volunteers are asked to arrive at Community Park by noon to help with preparations for the event.

Bob Cifone, reporting on community gardens, said that there is nothing new to report at this time. To date, there has been no response from any business and/or property owner on the request in the Township's Summer Newsletter for use of land for a community garden. Bob Cifone indicated that he would keep the members of the Park and Recreation Board informed of any updates. Bob Cifone asked for the Township to run the advertisement again in the Spring Newsletter.

Ken Lehr, reporting on Robert E. Lambert Park, informed that vandals recently broke the plexiglass on the front of the bulletin board case at the skatepark. Mary Lou Enoches indicated she drives by the Robert E. Lambert Park daily stating the park always seems to be busy.

**New Business:** Megan Zug asked if the Township received any feedback from residents on the decision to discontinue Community Day festivities this year. Ken Lehr informed that notification of the Township's decision to not offer Community Day in 2009 was published in the Township's spring newsletter and that the feedback he has received indicates that residents seem to understand the economics of the decision. Jennifer Dobbins asked if the Township could re-consider this decision for 2010. Ken Lehr informed that funding for Community Day was not in the 2010 budget at this time and stated that he does not see the event coming back next year due to budget constraints. Jerry Napiecek suggested the Township could consider presenting Community Day again on the 15th anniversary of the opening of Community Park. Kent Wise stated that if the Township is going to consider offering Community Day in the future, we need to come up with new ideas to attract people back to the event. Mary Lou Enoches indicated that we must also identify activities and entertainment that can be offered for a lower cost to the Township.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Smith