

**WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING
April 20, 2011**

Attending: Mary Lou Enoches, Jerry Napiecek, and Ed Smith

Township Representatives: Casey LaLonde, Ken Lehr, Tom Steines, and Kent Wise

Meeting called to Order: 7:02 PM by Vice-Chair Jerry Napiecek

After a review of the minutes submitted for the March 16, 2011 meeting, a motion was made by Mary Lou Enoches to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Ed Smith and passed.

The Financial Report dated March 31, 2011 was reviewed. There were no questions or comments pertaining to the Financial Report.

Parks: Kent Wise reported that the crew completed spring cleanup efforts several weeks ago. At this time, the crew is working on the Township ballfields that opened for activity in mid-March. Kent Wise said 60 yards of playground mulch has been applied at Community Park and Cloud Park. Kent Wise indicated that work to resurface the tennis courts at Community Park is scheduled to start by the end of April depending on the weather. The gates to the tennis courts will be locked for ten days to two weeks while the resurfacing takes place. At the Community Park softball field, a new drainage pipe is being installed behind the backstop. Additionally, Kent Wise said that new dugouts have been purchased for the softball field using open space funding. The new dugouts are going to be installed in June. Finally, Kent Wise reported that two of the six juveniles caught vandalizing Coopersmith Park will do 79 hours of community service once they are out of school this year. Kent Wise indicated that he would put them to work at Coopersmith Park once they are available.

Recreation: Tom Steines, reporting on the Summer Recreation Program, noted that registration for the Summer Recreation and Summer Teen programs is scheduled for Saturday, May 7th (8:00 AM to 11:00 AM) and Saturday, May 14th (9:00 AM to 11:00 AM). Volunteers are asked to be at the Township Administration Building by 7:45 AM to provide support for the first day of registration. Tom Steines said that the interviews for the counselor positions have been completed, and indicated that the Township has made the first round of offers for the open positions. Tom Steines indicated that he is in the process of scheduling interviews for the junior counselor positions. This process would take about three weeks to complete. The deadline for junior counselor applications is April 28th. Applicants for the junior counselor positions must be sixteen years old by June 20th. The Summer Recreation Program is scheduled to begin on June 20nd and run through August 12th.

Tom Steines, reporting on the Summer Teen Program reported that two of the three counselors (including the head counselor) from last year's program would return this year. Tom Steines indicated that the Township has made an offer to fill the remaining open position. The Summer Teen Program is scheduled to begin on June 20nd and run through August 12th.

Friends of the Park: Jerry Napiecek, reporting on the Friends of West Goshen Parks, informed that the annual membership meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 5th at 7:00 PM. Ken Lehr said John Herley has sent out letters to the members of the Friends of West Goshen Parks as reminder of the upcoming May 5th annual membership meeting. Ken Lehr reported that letters have also been sent out to 35 businesses that are prospective sponsors for the 2011 calendar year.

Old Business: Ken Lehr, reporting on Township bus trips, informed that a trip was coordinated with East Goshen Township and the Borough of West Chester (each municipality taking a separate bus on their

selected date) to Washington D.C. to see the Cherry Blossoms on March 26th. Ken Lehr indicated that the Cherry Blossoms were fabulous. Survey results from this trip were included in the Park and Recreation Board member information packet. Upcoming trips include the June 11th trip to New York City (seven spaces remain available) and the June 25th trip to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island (only 1 space remains available). Ken Lehr indicated that the Township would add a second bus for this trip due to the demand. Upcoming baseball trips include August 20th trip to Nationals Park to see the Phillies play the Washington Nationals. Ken Lehr stated that this trip is filling quickly and a second bus could be added if necessary. The Township is also planning trips to Citi Field to see the Phillies play the Mets on July 17th and September 24th. Finally, Ken Lehr expressed some concern over the number of spaces remaining for the May 28th to May 31st Boston. Ken Lehr indicated that at this time there are still 30 spaces available. The cost of the trip is \$650 per person for double, triple or quad occupancy or \$800 per person for single occupancy.

Ken Lehr, reporting on the Summer Concert Series, informed that he planned to advertise that the August 7th Motown concert would feature a new version of Special Blendz with all new singers to avoid any confusion. Information on the 2011 Summer Concert Series is listed below:

Date	Theme	Featured Performers	Location	Attendance
June 12 th	Children's Concert	Ernie and Neal	Community Park	TBD
June 26 th	Zydeco Concert	Zydeco-A-Go-Go	Community Park	TBD
July 10 th	Country-Western	Double Clutchin' Weasels	Community Park	TBD
July 24 th	Party Music	The Greaseband	Community Park	TBD
August 7 th	Motown	The New Special Blendz	Community Park	TBD
August 21 st	Jazz Concert	The Commodores	Community Park	TBD

Ken Lehr, reporting on the Egg Hunt and Decorated Hat Parade, informed that this year's event would be held on the April 23rd raindate. Ken Lehr indicated that at this time there is a 60% chance of rain on April 23rd. Ken Lehr reported that he attempted to contact the school district to see if there was any inside space available to hold the event if inclement weather prevailed. Ken Lehr stated that in a worst case scenario the Township could have the Easter Bunny located under the Community Park pavilion handing out eggs. Additionally, everyone wearing a decorated hat would receive a prize medal. Ken Lehr also noted that he had cancelled the fire truck due to the expected inclement weather. Ken Lehr said both he and Tom Steines would be out of the office on Thursday, April 21st, and that the Egg Hunt would take place on Saturday April 23rd rain or shine.

Ken Lehr provided an update on the skatepark informing that both he and Tom Steines had witnessed several dangerous instances where the skatepark staff was not enforcing the Township's safety rules. As a result, the skatepark staff has been dismissed and the skatepark closed down. After talking with the Township's insurance carrier, a decision was made to reopen the skatepark around May 9th as an unstaffed, unsupervised, skate-at-your-own-risk facility. Mary Lou Enoches asked if the Township considered either hiring older (college age) or senior staff for the facility. Casey LaLonde informed that the staff positions pay \$8.00 an hour and that the hours are not steady, varying from week to week. This makes it difficult to find college aged individuals that would be interested in this type of position. Additionally, not staffing the skatepark would reduce the liability risk. As a result of this decision, the skatepark will operate in a similar manner as the Township's tennis and basketball courts. Ken Lehr reported that a May 4th public meeting has been scheduled to review the new skatepark operating procedures. Anyone who had purchased a pass to the skatepark will have prorated fees refunded by the Township. Ken Lehr indicated that there will be no option for locking the skatepark, and informed that the park would be open during daylight hours. Additionally, a webcam will be reactivated at the skatepark and

police will arrest anyone attempting to use the skatepark after hours. Ken Lehr noted that Dave Fairman would also help communicate the new rules for the skatepark.

Ken Lehr provided an update on the dogpark, indicating that he received a phone call from a resident that prompted the idea of featuring "dog days" at the park where specific breeds would be featured. Kent Wise informed that there have been no issues at the dogpark to report.

New Business: Ken Lehr reported that he, along with Tom Steines and Bob Cifone, attended the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society Citizen Symposium at the Valley Forge Convention Center on Sunday, March 20th. Bob Cifone will provide an update on the symposium at the May Park and Recreation Board meeting.

Casey LaLonde provided an update on the Jerrehian property informing that the preliminary plan review would take place in September. At this time an obstacle for developing the property is the stormwater management. Casey LaLonde indicated that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection may not approve the proposal that utilizes an existing "high hazard" dam in this process.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for May 18, 2011.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Smith