

PRINCETON BOARD OF PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

January 22, 2015

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners was held on January 22, 2015 in the Princeton Recreation Department (PRD) lower level Conference Room, 380 Witherspoon Street.

Present: Dr. Nosker, Dr. Frawley, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Koontz, Ms. Germaine & Mr. Young

Also present: Mr. Stentz, Mr. Marroli, Mr. Moorhead & Mr. Groeger

Absent: Ms. Olivares-Weber, Dr. Cahill, Ms. Butler, & Ms. Horan

Appointment of Commission Chair

Mr. Koontz made the motion to appoint Dick Nosker as Chair of the Park and Recreation Commission for a 1-year term, seconded by Ms. Rogers and unanimously approved.

Activities

Mr. Groeger reported on the following activities:

- The Dillon Basketball League is four games into the season. There are six game dates remaining. There will be games this Saturday 1/31/15.
- On 1/20/15 the first of three skills clinics was held at PHS. There will be two more clinics on 1/27/15 & 1/28/15.
- There are two Dillon Basketball Events coming up: Dillon Appreciation (Women's game) night on 2/7/15 and Dillon League Night (Men's game) on 2/13/15. Both involve free game tickets and events for Dillon participants.
- PAWS wrestling will host their only home match of the season on 2/1/15 at Princeton HS.

Mr. Marroli reported on the following activities:

- The most recent Special Needs dance was held on 1/9/15 at Community Park School. 56 youth attended the event. The next dance will be held on 2/6/15.
- Mr. Marroli attended the IT Steering Committee meeting on 1/12/15.
- Youth Squash Clinic Update: Clinic dates have been received from the University. The clinic will take place 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 3/15 & 3/22 at Jadwin Gym.

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following activities:

- Ice Skating Update: PRD Maintenance Staff has been checking ice for thickness for the past two weeks at CP North Pond, Lake Carnegie and Barbara Smoyer Park Pond. The ice was safe to skate on at Lake Carnegie on 1/14 & 1/15, and at both Lake Carnegie & CP North Pond on 1/16 & 1/17.
- On January 9th, Mr. Moorhead & Mr. Stentz met with Princeton Little League representatives Jon Durbin & Mike Petrone in regards to hosting Little League baseball tournaments at Farmview Fields. Mr. Durbin & Mr. Petrone praised the PRD maintenance staff for doing an excellent job keeping the baseball fields in good shape. They are anticipating a 10-20% increase in participation across baseball and softball and intend to use Community Park South fields more often this spring. They are concerned about the shape of those fields, as well as how safe they are to play on. They are requesting to partner with the municipality on funding to improve the fields such as edging, improving the lips and bringing in new infield mix. Mr. Durbin & Mr. Petrone will request quotes from vendors on how much these improvements will cost. Initial estimates on the improvements are a few thousand dollars per field for materials and labor. **Discussion was held.**

Subcommittee Reports

- a. Mary Moss Park

The subcommittee, which includes Mr. Stentz, Mr. Moorhead, Ms. Caines, Ms. Olivares-Weber, Ms. Germaine, Ms. Butler, and Asst. Engineer Deanna Stockton has met twice to discuss general details on the project, a tentative timeline to complete the project, potential challenges, as well as traffic/parking concerns and design details. Mr. Stentz reports that the municipality is partnering with Mercer County to purchase the double-lot located at 31-33 Lytle Street, which sits directly next to Mary Moss Park. This acquisition will result in an approx. 60% increase in the size of the park. **Discussion was held.**

b. Princeton Tennis Program (PTP)

Mr. Moorhead, Ms. Cahill, Ms. Butler and Mr. Stentz met with Gwen Guidice, Executive Director of PTP on 1/20/15 to discuss a new agreement for use of the CP Tennis Facility. A second meeting is being planned for early February. **Discussion was held.**

Directors Report

Mr. Stentz reported on the following:

- PRD Staff member Vikki Caines has won a Sustainable Princeton Leadership awards in recognition of her work with community gardens around the Witherspoon Municipal Complex and CP Pool. The awards presentation will take place at the Princeton Public Library on Thursday, 1/29/15 at 7 pm.
- The computer hardware & accounting systems software conversion is moving forward. Mr. Stentz reports that all PRD Staff have new computers installed, while the accounting software conversion is about 50% complete.
- The municipality has offered the position of Open Space Manager/Arborist to Loraine Konopka and she will start in Princeton on 2/17/15. Mr. Stentz commented that the Open Space Manager will need to play a vital role in the process of identifying maintenance priorities for the open space/passive park areas in 2015. **Discussion was held.**
- PRD Maintenance staff spent a full day assisting the Friends of Princeton Open Space with clearing trails at Mountain Lakes Preserve. FOPOS representatives were appreciative and to have help and commented that the PRD crew was able to get a lot of work done in one day.
- Mr. Stentz re-submitted his proposal to the Township Administrator for additional maintenance staff. Mr. Stentz will continue to pursue a meeting with the Administrator in an effort to discuss the proposal further.

Communications

- a. Steve Hiltner: planting of detention basins in park
Mr. Hiltner has been working on a plan to plant wild flowers and native grasses in detention basins at Barbara Smoyer Park and Greenway Meadows. Mr. Stentz suggested that including the new Open Space Manager in discussions about the project would be helpful.

Public Comment

NO COMMENT

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the December 2014 Board meeting minutes, seconded by Dr. Frawley, and approved. Mr. Young and Ms. Germaine abstained.

Old Business

NO OLD BUSINESS

New Business

A. 2014 Revolving Trust (RT) Operating End-Of-Year Report

Mr. Stentz reminded the Commission that PNC Bank stopped reimbursing merchant fees on 1/1/14, which is approximately a \$22,000 expense that we did not have in 2013. Mr. Koontz asked that PRD evaluate a convenience fee in lieu of losing the reimbursement of merchant fees from PNC. **Discussion was held.** Mr. Stentz explained that Spring/Summer fees will be on the February 2015 Commission agenda and that he will provide an analysis of fees for the Commission to consider.

- Mr. Stentz pointed out that PRD lost two important subsidies in 2014 that directly affected Teen Travel Camp. The subsidies, from the Housing Authority and the Ingrassia Fund, were scheduled to end in 2013. Dr. Nosker and Ms. Rogers both commented that even though Teen Travel Camp lost money in 2014, there is an important benefit to the program as it relates to the teen population in Princeton. **Discussion was held.**
- Dr. Nosker asked about the cost of water for CP Pool being doubled from 2013 to 2014. **Discussion was held.**

Mr. Koontz made the motion to approve the End-Of-Year report Disbursement Plan, seconded by Ms. Rogers and unanimously approved.

B. 2015 RT Reserve Proposal

- Improvements/Purchases approved with the following exceptions:
- Pool Shade Structures: \$20,000
 - o Item tabled until future report presented by PRD Staff
- Wind Screen for CP tennis complex: \$3,325
 - o Item may be forwarded to PTP for consideration

Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the 2015 RT Reserve Proposal, seconded by Dr. Frawley and unanimously approved.

Approval of Bills

Mr. Koontz made the motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mr. Young and unanimously approved.

Next Meeting Date

February 26, 2015

Adjournment