

PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

October 20, 2016

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on October 20, 2016, in the Princeton Recreation Department (PRD) lower level Conference Room, 380 Witherspoon Street.

Present: Dr. Nosker, Ms. Butler, Dr. Frawley, Ms. Olivares-Weber, Ms. Germaine and Dr. Cahill

Also Present: Mr. Stentz, Mr. Moorhead, Mr. Marrolli and Mr. Groeger

Absent: Mr. Koontz, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Young

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Activities Report

- **Dillon Youth Basketball:** Mr. Groeger reported that Dillon Youth Basketball League registration is ongoing and seasonal staffers have been hired (12 people) for the program. The 4th grade evaluation night for the program will be held on Monday, 11/7/16 at JW Middle School. The first games will take place on Saturday, 12/3/16 at Dillon Gym. Mr. Marrolli and Mr. Groeger are recruiting volunteer coaches from Princeton University. The program will include 70-80 students. There are eight (8) skills clinics scheduled for this winter, above and beyond the regular practice and game schedule. There will be two (2) 'Dillon Basketball League Nights' at halftime of Princeton University games.
- **Youth Squash:** Program dates have been set for the winter season at Jadwin Gym.
- **Special Needs Dances:** Mr. Marrolli reported that 70 participants attended the most recent Special Needs Dance held on Friday, 10/7/16 at John Witherspoon MS. The next dance will be held on Friday, 11/4/16.
- **Men's 40 & Over Softball:** The league recently ended its 2016 season at Hilltop Park.
- **Park Usage:** Mr. Moorhead reported that most community sport groups will end their fall seasons by about mid-November. Once the fall seasons are over, PRD Maintenance Staff can begin to winterize all park restrooms, water fountains, and irrigation systems.
- **Farmview Fields Safety Netting:** Mr. Moorhead reported that the extended netting project on the baseball field is almost complete. This project was at the request of a neighbor who was seeing an increased number of foul balls land in his back yard and pool. The netting addition is approx. 22 feet high on the 1st base side of the field. Additional backstop extensions are being considered with existing capital improvement funds. *Discussion was held.*
- **Potts Park gate request:** In 2015, a resident requested that a gate be installed at the entrance of Potts Park for safety reasons. Mr. Moorhead inquired about this through the Municipal Counsel and was told that the town does not have an obligation to install a gate. Mr. Moorhead then did a site-inspection at Potts Park on 10/4/16 with municipal JIF (Joint Insurance Fund) Safety Inspector, Don Ruprecht. It was Mr. Ruprecht's analysis that a gate is not needed at this location because the play area, by design, is set back far enough from the park entrance. Mr. Ruprecht believes that any issue relating to safety in this regard is a supervisory issue. *Discussion was held.*

Director's Report

Mr. Stentz reported on the following:

- **Community Park South field conditions:** Mr. Stentz explained that a contractor was brought in to perform some exploratory digging in & around the sinkhole. The contractor uncovered an expansive horizontal cavity that contained a large amount of decayed wood. The contractor was not able to get to the end of the cavity, as it wasn't clear how far it extended. The sinkhole was back-filled and PRD Staff continues to monitor the area and leave the sinkhole area roped-off. Mr. Stentz reported that he has had discussions with Administration about capital funding for 2017 to perform geotechnical testing in the park and also to fund a park master plan with neighbors and stakeholder groups. Mr. Stentz is not clear when, or if, that funding will be available. *Discussion was held.*
- **Transgender Subcommittee Update:** The subcommittee held its first meeting on 9/28/16. Mr. Frawley, Mr. Moorhead and Ms. Butler attended. The subcommittee is seeking to have an outside resource come in and meet with the subcommittee to provide some general information and an overview of current trends, challenges and considerations. Ms. Olivares Weber offered to reach out to HiTops to see if they might be interested in assisting. Dr. Cahill commented that she thinks it will be helpful if the subcommittee can have a punch list on where this issue might affect Recreation in the future. *Discussion was held.*
- **Financial Aid:** Mr. Stentz reported that the staff recently completed its fall 2016 outreach to collect unpaid financial aid payments. Approximately \$1,300 was collected, leaving an open balance of approximately \$4,300.
- **Vandalism in parks:** Mr. Stentz reported that there have been two (2) graffiti incidents at Grover Park in the past week. The first incident was removed by PRD Maintenance staff the day of discovery. The 2nd incident has been more difficult to clean. PRD Staff continues to work on it. In addition, someone drove a vehicle on the Hilltop Park soccer field in early October. The damage was minimal in that the PRD Maintenance Staff was able to repair the tire ruts.
- **Annual Staff Performance Reviews:** Mr. Stentz reported that he has begun putting together performance review documents for the twelve (12) FT Recreation employees. Mr. Stentz will meet with each employee individually in November and then submit completed reviews to Administration.
- **CP Pool Dive Well Update:** Mr. Stentz reported that Mainline Commercial Pools (MLCP) was on-site and performed a back-flow pressure test into the dive pool plumbing. It is MLCP's finding that there is inconsistency in the pressure, suggesting a leak at some point in the return line. While this testing has provided a general sense of the location, it is very difficult to pinpoint the exact location. Before excavating the concrete deck to dig down towards the return line, MLCP is considering running a camera into the return line to try to further pinpoint the location of the leak. *Discussion was held.*
- **Mary Moss Project Update:** The MMP subcommittee met today 10/20/16 and has been meeting on a regular basis over the last six weeks to move the project forward. Mr. Stentz, Mr. Moorhead, Ms. Stockton, and Ms. Butler attended the Historical Preservation Commission meeting on 10/17/16 for a no-obligations review of the project. Demolition of the HABOP shed and upper terrace of MMP will take place this fall. This work is being coordinated by the Engineering Department.

Old Business

Field Usage/Rental Fee subcommittee: See attached summary

New Business

No New Business

Approval of Minutes

- *Dr. Nosker made a motion to approve the September minutes, with two minor corrections, seconded by Ms. Germaine and approved.*

Approval of Bills

- *Ms. Germaine made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Ms. Butler, and approved.*

Next Meeting Date

November 17, 2016 – 3rd Thursday of the month due to Thanksgiving.

Adjournment