

Tri-Township Park Board Meeting
November Regular Meeting
Park Office
January 11, 2005

*Phil
2/8/06*

7:00 PM Meeting called to order.

In Attendance: Phil Loethen, Terry Ball, Randy Wiesemeyer, Norm Beck, Mary Kmetz, and Kevin Woodring

Absent: Jim Derby – Phil mentioned that Jim had called and notified the park that he would be unable to attend.

Additions to the Agenda – None

Approval of Minutes –

Motion: Approve Dec 14, 2005 minutes. Randy/Mary 5-0-1 Ayes Norm abstained. Roll call vote.

Thank you notes/Get Well – None

Friends of the Park – No one in attendance.

Correspondence – None

Treasures Report –

\$516,812.33 in the bank.

Motion: Accept treasures report. Randy/Kevin 6-0 Ayes Roll call vote.

Pay Bills –

Bills totaling \$14,038.74 were reviewed.

Motion: Pay all bills for \$14,038.74. Randy/Kevin 6-0 Ayes Roll Call Vote

Park Director Report – George Bryant

Park Lighting Status – George said that he has been in discussion with Ameren IP on this topic. There has been a significant reduction in costs proposed while featuring many of the same features we have today. George will continue to work with them and hopefully have some good news at the next meeting.

Park Mapping – George meeting on Jan 19th to get GIS equipment. He will be concentrating initially on working with utilities and structures.

Park Key and Lock System – Phil said that he has talked to Sam Italiano and a new cylinder will solve the lock problem on the Wiesemeyer Center door. The lock box will also be implemented shortly.

Phil said that at the last meeting Mary had complained that she did not have keys to the locks to all of the doors in the office. She stated that she had gone to the States Attorneys office to complain about this and that she was informed that we were breaking the law by restricting her access. She demanded that she be given keys to the Park Directors office.

Phil said that as a result of that discussion, he asked Park Attorney Steve Giacoletto to meet with the States Attorney and see what if any laws were applicable to this situation. Phil handed out a letter to the board from Steve.

To: Tri-Township Park District Board
From Steve Giacoletto

RE: Keys for Board Members
Date: January 5, 2006

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2/8/06*

After the last board meeting, I spoke with Assistant State's Attorney John McGuire regarding keys to every door being issued to board members.

He did not say that any laws were being broken.

He did indicate that he was not sure that this type of issue would fall under the jurisdiction of the State's Attorney.

I am aware of no law stating that board members are entitled to keys to all facilities of a governmental body.

The board may wish to consider establishing a policy regarding key distribution to its members.

Phil asked if anyone had any questions or concerns with this finding. No one did.

Mowing Equipment Bid – George explained what he had put out for bid on tractors and indicated what had been received back and what he suggested going with.

Motion: Award the bid and approve the purchase of two replacement SCAG mowers from Highland Rental for \$7,000, and to award the bid and approve the purchase of one John Deere wide area mower from Erb Equipment for \$36,834. The purchases and award of bids for this mowing equipment is dependent on receiving the Madison County PEP grant. Randy/Norm 5-1 Ayes Roll call vote. Kevin was the No vote.

PEP Grant – George asked for permission of the board to pursue this grant.

Motion: Authorize George Bryant to submit and execute a PEP grant application in the amount of \$39,834.00 for park mowers. Terry/Norm 6-0 Ayes. Roll call vote.

Special Needs Programming Meeting – George said that he was unable to make the meeting for the St. Louis Council for inclusive recreation but that information from the meeting will be forwarded to him.

Park Drainage Plan – George said that he is working with the TBSL, the TSC, and the Titans to determine what issues exist with water drainage across the 32 acres. Water appears to drain across the fields and the parking lots. George will be looking at this with HR and determining a long-range plan for finished grading needs.

IPRA/IAPD State Conference – George said this would be held January 26th – 29th. He will be attending and said that it is a great networking opportunity and has very good workshops. He encouraged any and all commissioners to attend.

Gazebo Status – George said that railing, electrical, and edging work are all contingent upon work on the walkway ramp. This work is in progress.

Fountain Status – George said that this would be a spring project.

WC furnace/air-conditioner status – George said that the new furnace is in.

Lake Drive Project Status – George said that Mike Maedge has been given notice to proceed. We are waiting on performance bonds. George said that Mike understands we want the work completed by April 1.

Director comments – George said that he has talked to Roger Alons from the VFW and the Torches Across America event held in the park was such a success that we have been picked to take part again next year. They will plan on coming again on September 6, 2006.

TBSL – Terry Ball

Terry said that the TBSL signups begin this coming weekend. We have four signups scheduled. Notice has gone out in weekly ads in the Times-Tribune, handouts at all of the schools, the Chamber of Commerce newsletter, and on the public access TV channel. After the last scheduled signup in February, all late signups will be assessed a \$20 late fee.

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TSC –

No one from TSC was in attendance.

Financial – Phil

Phil said that he is continuing to work on the modified working budget and that it is not completed at this time.

Dog Mitts – Phil said that we have a lot of citizens who walk their dogs on the paths. Dog droppings can be an issue. Phil presented something he has found that can be placed out for dog owners to use to clean up after their dogs.

Motion: Approve \$250 for the purchase of Mutt Mitts. Norm/Randy 5-1 Ayes Roll Call Vote.
Kevin voted No.

Satellite Parks – Phil said that he would be sending a letter proposing satellite parks to two developers - Osborne Brothers and Ralph Plummer.

Chairmen Comments – Phil said that he has a couple of concerns about the Veterans Memorial. There are monuments for WW1, WW2, Korea, and Vietnam. There is nothing for Panama, Desert Storm 1, Desert Storm 2, and others. As long as there are men, there will be wars. Do we need more stones for these or do we need just an all-inclusive memorial? Phil said that Bryan is a veteran and he has asked him to talk with Roger Alons at the VFW to get his opinion on how this can be properly done with respect to all veterans. Phil said that we also need to look at issues with the memorial falling apart and ongoing drainage problems there.

Athletics – Norm

Norm had no comments.

Insurance – Kevin

Kevin had no comments.

Grounds – Jim

Jim was absent.

Special Events – Mary

Mary said that she and George were continuing to look at the Park Shelter and Wiesemeyer rental policy. They plan to call other districts to see what they do and then work on establishing fees for residents and non-residents.

Motion: Spend \$500 for Concert in the Park (June 19 – August 21). Mary/Kevin 6-0 Ayes Roll call vote

Motion: Approve free use of the Wiesemeyer Center for Troy Fire Dept. Christmas dinner, Saturday Dec. 9, 2006 and free use of Shelter #1 for the National Alliance on Mental Illness Madison County September 23, 2006. Mary/Randy 6-0 Ayes Roll Call Vote

Chairman Comments – Mary said that Pat Cox of the Times-Tribune has forwarded an email to her that has brought to her attention that she has been accused of giving sealed executive session minutes to the newspaper unlawfully. She said that she has not and will not ever do this. She said that she does not want to be accused of this by Mr. Ball or by Mr. Loethen. She said that she didn't do it, as it would be unethical. She said that the email also talked about the EEOC complaint she filed against the park and accused her of lying and committing perjury with this. She said that even though the complaint was dismissed by the EEOC, she did not feel that the charges she filed were lies. She said that she wanted to set the record straight and that was all she had to say.

Personnel & Safety – Terry

Personnel Policy Manual – Terry said that he has made a few additions and changes to the manual per the request of Phil at the last meeting. Terry said that he wanted to sit down with George and review and once they were in agreement with wording he would present at the next meeting.

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Beautification – Randy

Nothing to report.

Norm said that the community donates a lot of trees, flowers, and other things that the park plants. Last summer these things did not get watered and a lot of it died. He said that we need to hire someone to do this.

Terry said that in prior years we had brought in part time people to address this issue and had new trees, new flowers, and other things regularly being watered after being planted. Last summer we requested that this happen, but in spite of near drought conditions it did not get done. He said that the cost of doing this is minimal compared with how nice it makes the park look, He said that he agreed we should do this again this coming summer.

Mike Johnson/School Board Presentation – Phil said that Dr. Johnson had requested to be on the agenda to discuss the upcoming School Board tax referendum but that he couldn't make it this evening. Phil said that he received Mary's email saying that she was not interested in sitting through this, but that he would put it last on the agenda for the February meeting and that anyone who didn't want to listen to the presentation could just leave.

7:30 Motion: Adjourn the meeting. Randy/Kevin 6-0 Ayes

Submitted by
Terry Ball, Secretary