

**EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD  
June 26, 2013 Minutes**

East Bradford Township Parks and Recreation Board met on Wednesday, June 26, 2013 at 7:30 pm, in the East Bradford Township Building, 666 Copeland School Road, West Chester, Chester County, Pa., 19380.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Marianne Bausinger, Chair  
Michael Colley  
John Dwyer  
John Fidler  
John Spangler

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT** - Tony Blanco, Joe Hamel, Ash Swayne, Bradley Titus

**STAFF/PROFESSIONALS PRESENT**

Tenley Adams, Township Services Coordinator

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Nick McLean, Eagle Scout Candidate; Tom Gotthold, Brandywine United Soccer Club

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of Parks and Recreation Board was called to order at 7:30 pm by Marianne Bausinger, Chairperson.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes was postponed as the most of the members at this meeting were not at the last meeting.

**EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS**

Nick McLean presented his proposed Eagle Scout project of clearing invasive plants from around the pond, spring house, garden house, barbecue and along the stone wall at the Mt. Bradford Preserve. This area had been used by the previous owners as a picnic area and is very attractive with native plants and bushes, but the area has become overgrown with invasive plants. He will assemble a crew to do the work and provide the necessary tools for the crew. He estimates that it will take 3 – 4 days to complete the project and is looking to do the project probably in late winter/early spring. Removal of the invasives from the area will be via dumpster or truck to the compost site in West Bradford. The Parks & Recreation Board felt that this will be an excellent project to make the area usable by visitors to the Preserve and that future maintenance to the area will be minimal for the township crew, to keep it that way. On motion of Mr. Colley and second by Mr. Fidler the Parks & Recreation Board approved Nick McLean's request to clear invasive plants from the pond area at Mt. Bradford Preserve as his Eagle Scout Project. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Titus will be the liaison for the project and Mr. Dwyer will help with identifying the different plants.

Mr. Colley reported that he had visited Brandywine Trail and Copeland School Park to inspect the Eagle Scout Projects that were installed at these locations. Nick Walker had constructed two benches that were installed next to the basketball court at Copeland School Park. He said the benches were excellently built, but in his experience with working with pressure treated lumber, he feels that screws need to be installed at more locations to hold the boards in place as pressure treated lumber will warp if not screwed down. The nails will pop if they start to warp. He said that the picnic tables that Quentin Walker constructed and placed along the Brandywine Trail were also excellently built, but that they also needed to have additional screws installed.

#### **REQUEST TO USE MULTI- PURPOSE FIELD**

Tom Gotthold from Brandywine United Soccer Club attended the meeting to discuss their request to use the multi-purpose field for a training camp for their members. It would last a week in late July from 5pm to 8pm for roughly 20 -25 boys. Mr. Gotthold discussed with the members BUSC's philosophy and how they run the club. The P & R Board thought it was an excellent idea and overwhelmingly approved the request.

#### **SHAW'S BRIDGE PARK PARKING AND DOG ISSUES**

The P & R Board discussed the continuing parking problems at Shaw's Bridge Park and also the issues with dogs off leash. The parking issues continue at the site even with the signage that has been installed (no parking signs, tow away zone signs, loading zone signs). It was noted that the West Chester Police have been routinely ticketing and towing vehicles. Mr. Spangler stated that he had been at the park on Sunday late afternoon and did not see any issues at that time. The P & R Board feels that some of these issues will be eliminated with the creation of a dog park at Brandywine Farm, and they will request that signs be installed at Shaw's Bridge Park requiring all dogs to be leashed and notifying dog owners of the off leash area that was created. This will take some of the vehicles away from Shaw's Bridge Park and the parking area created at Brandywine Farm Dog Park could also serve as an additional parking area for the north end of Shaw's Bridge Park. The Parks & Recreation Board had previously suggested enlarging the main parking lot at Shaw's Bridge Park to help with the parking issues.

#### **EAST BRADFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SOCCER FIELD**

The P & R Board discussed the design and construction cost estimate that was prepared by Mike Taggart of Gilmore and Associates for the proposed full size soccer field. The field is to be located at East Bradford Elementary School, on an easement given to the township by the school district, as part of the construction project that is underway at the school. The cost of engineering/design would be \$19,800 and the construction cost estimate is \$240,000, and with incidentals the total cost would probably be closer to \$300,000. They were very surprised by the cost and were concerned about spending that much money for a multi-purpose field that would not be owned by the township. Another issue of concern is the lack of parking for the field. It was suggested that this type of capital expense would be better spent on township owned land which is solely controlled by the township. At the present time the P & R Board feels that other projects need to be completed before planning for this project.

On motion of Mr. Fidler and second by Mr. Dwyer the Parks & Recreation Board recommends that the proposal for the soccer field at East Bradford Elementary School be put on hold until such time that funds become available for the project. The motion passed unanimously.

On motion of Mr. Spangler and second by Mr. Dwyer the Parks & Recreation Board recommends that the township explore other properties to install a full size multi-purpose field and plan for this in a future Capital Budget. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **CAPITAL ITEMS**

Ms. Bausinger reminded members to let her know of any capital budget items requested for the 2014 budget at their assigned park areas. Mr. Spangler would like to see some funds assigned for an engineering study for a trail crossing on Taylor Run at the Stroud Preserve. He will mention it at the Trails Meeting also.

#### **SUBDIVISION / LAND DEVELOPMENT**

The Parks & Recreation Board reviewed the following plans:

SD # 624 Barr – no comments

SD # 625 Chester County Art Association – no comments

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**USE OF FIELDS BY PROFIT BUSINESSES**

Ms. Bausinger commented that during late summer and the fall season, the ball fields are often not in use and with lack of use the weeds start to take over. She suggested that some of the “for profit” businesses might be interested to use the fields at a little higher cost as many of them do not have fields of their own. The Board agreed that this should be investigated. Ms. Bausinger will contact the businesses to see if they have any interest.

**ADJOURN:**

On motion of Mr. Colley and second by Mr. Fidler the meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

**NOTICE: THE NEXT MEETING FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2013 AT 7:30 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Tenley F. Adams  
Acting Secretary