

**EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
March 23, 2016 Minutes**

East Bradford Township Parks and Recreation Board met on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 7:00 pm, in the East Bradford Township Building, 666 Copeland School Road, West Chester, Chester County, Pa., 19380.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Marianne Bausinger, Chair
John Fidler
Ash Swayne

Tony Blanco
Joe Hamel

Michael Colley
John Spangler

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT - none

STAFF/PROFESSIONALS PRESENT

Tenley Adams, Property & Recreation Assistant, P & R Liaison, Acting Secretary
Michael Lynch, Township Manager

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dave Reinheimer, President West Side Little League
Tony Ryan, member West Side Little League

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of Parks and Recreation Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Marianne Bausinger, Chairperson.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Reinheimer & Mr. Ryan from West Side Little League were present to discuss the possibility of installing helmet and bat racks at the little league field at East Bradford Park. They would provide all the necessary materials and install the helmet rack in the dugouts and the bat racks would be installed at the entrance to the field. Mr. Reinheimer explained that Little League Rules require that the bats not be within the dugouts and that he wanted to keep the helmets off the ground. The P & R Board reviewed the proposal and plans that were provided and felt that this was an excellent idea. Ms. Bausinger said that she has a fair amount of Azek that they are welcome to use for the bat racks. On motion of Mr. Hamel and second by Mr. Blanco, with all in favor, the P & R Board approved the WSLI plans for installation of helmet and bat racks at the little league field at East Bradford Park. Mr. Lynch suggested that Mr. Ryan contact John Carroll, Public Works Superintendent, to discuss installation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the February 24, 2016 minutes was motioned by Mr. Hamel and seconded by Mr. Swayne, with all in favor.

VOLLEY BALL COURT, EAST BRADFORD PARK – The Township received a letter from John Cunningham a resident of Kenmara who along with several other residents play volleyball at the court in East Bradford Park. They are very happy with the new location of the court, but feel that the fencing is too close to the court and could cause injury if someone runs into the fence during play. The fence currently runs along three sides of the court with the side nearest the parking lot being open. The original intention of the fence was to help keep balls from rolling into the wetlands area below the court. Mr. Fidler stated that volleyball standards recommend the fence be set back a minimum of 10 feet from the court. Mr. Lynch suggested that Mr. Fidler meet with John Carroll, Public Works Superintendent to discuss the relocation of the fencing.

UPDATES:

COPELAND SCHOOL PARK – STORAGE BOX REPLACEMENT

The new box has been installed and WSLI will paint the old box to match.

CHAPEL TRAIL – Mr. Spangler updated the Board on the Chapel Trail bridge replacement. The updated cost estimate is around \$18,250 with Penn Trails anticipating that the installation would be in the fall of 2016. The Camp is hopeful that the installation can be moved up so that they can use the trail this season.

PUMP TRACK – No update

BRANDYWINE FARM NORTH - The Supervisors are looking at possibly subdividing the property, but the disc golf concept is still on the table.

BRANDYWINE FARM SOUTH / Dog Park - final grading plan is about ready to submit to PECO for approval and then to PennDOT for the highway occupancy permit approval.

FARM LEASES – The farm leases for Brandywine Farm and Skelp Level were renewed for one year. Starr Farm lease has been rebid and hopefully awarded in April.

OTHER BUSINESS:

PARK RULES - Mr. Colley reviewed each of the parks for opening and closing times that he feels would be more appropriate for the usage. His suggestions are as follows:

East Bradford & Copeland School Park – set hours should be established because they are active recreation parks.

Shaw’s Bridge Park – specific hours should be established because of the type of use.

Brandywine Trail – should be allowed to be open 24 hrs a day, as this would allow cyclists to use the trail at night and stay off of Rt. 322.

Harmony Hill Nature Area – open dawn to 11pm to allow mountain bikers to use for night riding.

Paradise Valley, Reed Park, Ingram’s’ Mill, Waite, Starr Farm – These parks/nature areas should be open Dawn to Dusk as many have areas for fishing.

On motion of Mr. Colley and second by Mr. Blanco, with all in favor the above opening and closing times are recommended to the Board of Supervisors to be included in the park rules ordinance.

Mr. Colley also made a motion for a change in the Starr Farm rules to allow for remote control model planes and helicopters to be allowed at Starr Farm Park (but do not include hovercraft and drones and similar types of flying models that have the possibility of cameras); Mr. Spangler seconded the motion with all in favor.

MT. BRADFORD PRESERVE – The P & R Board discussed with Mr. Lynch the Mt. Bradford Preserve and improvements to the preserve. He suggested that a meeting be set up to discuss the budget for the next several years to allow for planning for the improvement at that location.

FEE IN LIEU OF PARKS/OPEN SPACE - Mr. Lynch discussed Chapter 95, Section 34.1E, Fee in Lieu of Dedication which allows applicants for subdivision/land development to pay a fee instead of recreation or open space being provided on the properties. The fees if collected can be used for planning, purchase, improvement, replacement and addition to township lands used for open space, conservation and recreation areas. Mr. Lynch feels that the P & R Board should be aware of the fee especially when looking at proposed subdivisions/land development plans so that recommendations can be made with this in mind.

Mr. Spangler wondered if it would be possible for the Parks & Recreation Board to become more involved in the conditional use process for the Tigue Property/Toll Brothers as it relates to the Fee in Lieu Of and recreation/trails that are being considered. Mr. Lynch suggested that a meeting be arranged with Mandie Cantlin, Assistant Manager, to discuss.

PARK ASSIGNMENTS

Ms. Bausinger noted that the equipment boxes at East Bradford Park are also in need of repainting. Mr. Blanco noted that the one tennis court net is in need of a center strap (needed for over a year).

Mr. Hamel reported that he had walked Shaw's Bridge Park and had several items of concern: Some trash cans are in need of repair or replacement; stairs are in need of repair or replacement; birding platform needs repairs; some trails are in need of filling in because of wash outs. He also walked Harry Waite Nature Area and said that the boundaries need to be visibly marked and the trails need to be cleared of mulita-flora rose.

Mr. Hamel also suggested that the rest room facilities at Shaw's Bridge Park be reopened since they are nice facilities and have them serviced by the current Port-a-potty supplier on a weekly basis. This would eliminate the Public Works Department from having to clean the facilities. The entire P & R Board was in agreement with this suggestion.

Mr. Blanco will be scheduling pickleball clinics over the next few months to be held on the weekend and advertised on the township website and Facebook.

UPCOMING:

NATURALIST GUIDED WALK – The spring walk has been scheduled for Saturday May 15th at 2pm with a rain date of Saturday May 22nd at 2pm. The walk will take place at the Harmony Hill Nature area.

TRAIL BLAZER RUN – is scheduled for June 16th and registration & volunteer sign up is open at www.runtheday.com.

ADJOURN:

On motion of Mr. Blanco and second by Mr. Swayne, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

NOTICE: THE NEXT MEETING FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016 AT 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tenley F. Adams
Acting Secretary