

# Charter Township of Redford

## Parks Commission Meeting

March 10, 2008

The regular meeting of the Charter Township of Redford Park Commission was called to order March 10, 2008 by the Vice Chair at 7:02 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Present: Vice Chair, Diana Brang-Schroeder  
Secretary, John Keenan  
Treasurer, Laura Weaver  
Commissioner, Kevin Dodd

Absent: Commissioner Maureen Okasinski, Commissioner Steve Offman,  
Commissioner Saira Comerford, Youth Commissioner Suzanne  
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Also present: Tom O'Connor, Theresa Burgess, Debbie Break, Bob Miller, Steven Williams, Samantha Williams, Michael Branch, Grace Kimmel, Kenneth Lomas, Brittany Morlewski, Megan O'Grady, Jose Ortiz and Jasmine Fails.

**08-039 Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by WEAVER, supported by DODD, to approve the Agenda. All ayes. Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3

**08-040 Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by WEAVER, supported by KEENAN, to approve the minutes from February 11, 2008 as amended. The Doggie Rama location should have read "the garage at DPW" and not parks maintenance. All ayes. Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3

**08-041 Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by DODD, supported by KEENAN, to approve the minutes from February 25, 2008 as amended. Minor changes were made. Under Commissioners' Report, Commissioner Brang-Schroeder wants to offer sponsorship to the vendors for the Fall/Winter brochure. All ayes. Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3

**Citizen Comments:** None

### New Business:

#### ➤ Relay for Life:

**08-042 Motion** by WEAVER supported by KEENAN to approve the use of Claude Allison Park for Relay for Life on June 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008. All Ayes. Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3.

#### ➤ Softball Field Request:

Bob Miller from St. Valentine requested the use and the waiver of the normal fee for rental of Claude Allison softball diamonds #1 and 2 for a pre-season baseball tournament at that those diamonds.

- There was much discussion regarding field readiness, the weather, and the players' safety. Bob Miller, varsity coach at St Valentine, indicated he would

never allow play under conditions which might put any players in danger. St. Valentine would have to supply the bases for the 12 games on both diamonds. The weather was a limiting factor. Another concern of the commission was the possible damage to the concession area due to a late frost freeze. Mike Curle had previously denied this request as the concession stands are not de-winterized until later in April. Both Tom O'Connor and the commission wished to accommodate St. Valentine as much as possible under the circumstances and realized having a concession stand open at a baseball tournament would be wonderful for the players, coaches, and fans. Nonetheless, should St. Valentine wish same they could sign the necessary waivers and releases with the Parks Dept.

**08-042 Motion** by WEAVER, supported by DODD to waive the field permit fee and allow St. Valentine boys varsity baseball to use Claude Allison baseball diamonds 1 & 2, on April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> with the use of the concession stand, weather permitting, with proper releases and waivers signed. All ayes. Motion carried 4-0 Absent 3

**Old Business:**

- **Non-Motorized Bike Trails:** Redford Township has applied for a DNR grant to do renovations on the bridge between Meadowbrook and Fox on Five Mile Road. Mr. O'Connor asked for a letter of support from the Commissioners by the week's end. He would also like at least one of the Commissioners to participate in the project. Commissioner Brang-Schroeder stated Commissioner Okasinski has expressed a desire to be involved. Commissioner Keenan volunteered to write the letter.

**08-043 Motion** by KEENAN, supported by WEAVER for the Parks Commissioners to support the non-motorized bike trails project. All ayes. Motion carried 4-0.

**Department Report:**

- **Theresa Burgess** Spring/Summer Brochures: 12,000 sent out to residents; cost: approximately \$2,040.00; sent to all residents and distributed to all schools. Cost came within the budget; Scott Gray delivered approximately 5,000 of them to the schools.
- - Computer survey now available on-line; Theresa requests direction from Commission as to where results should be sent. Commissioners agree results may be sent to Mike Curle's e-mail site for review. Results to be shared with staff and Commission.
  - Discount tickets available in May.
  - The contract for repairs to Claude Allison concession has been signed.
  - Mike Curle is being updated and will do field permits when he returns.
  - Information on the new picnic areas needs to get out to the residents.
  - Mr. Keenan had many questions and suggestions regarding the youth golf program. He recalls with fondness playing golf at Rouge Golf Course for 25 cents per nine hole round. He explains each young golfer needed to participate in a four to five week program to learn the game of golf; how the game teaches patience, and etiquette. He understands Glenhurst Golf Course is owned by the Township of Redford and is separate from other park functions. Glenhurst is responsible for

running the program. A larger youth golf program, he feels, would be good for our Township kids.

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- **Tom O'Connor** has received a detailed report from Theresa Burgess for use during her absence. There will be a study session tomorrow with the Township Trustees regarding the budget. He will have an update at the next meeting.
- **Debbie Break** The Nichols Fence bill for the skate park was submitted for payment. They will store the fence until it can be installed.

### **Commissioners' Report:**

**Commissioner Dodd** wanted to know from Debbie Break if the amount of the skate park fencing included the labor for installation. Ms. Break said no, the labor is separate.

**Commissioner Weaver** gave Theresa Burgess the tree money. All tree money is due April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Commissioner Keenan** the dugout project is nearing completion. Many people have contributed their time and money to this valuable project. The tentative build date is April 5, 2008 weather permitting. The children, parents, and coaches should be thrilled with the result.

**Commissioner Brang-Schroeder** stated Doggie Rama is moving forward and many vendors from last year will be returning. She is very excited about the program and believes it to be another wonderful program for Township residents. All agree.

### **Park Bills**

**08-044** Motion was made by DODD supported by WEAVER to approve the Park's bills for 75100 Recreation and 75200 Maintenance. All ayes. Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3

### **Communication:**

- **Debbie Break** gave all the Commissioners a copy of the paperwork that she submitted to the Parade committee regarding the Memorial Day Parade.

**At 7:45 p.m. Commissioner Brang-Schroeder** called for a short recess to allow Tom O'Connor to provide copies of the current proposed budget for the Commissioners review. **The meeting was reconvened at 8:00 p.m.**

- **Tom O'Connor** reported he has been attending the budget meetings. The park commissioners asked many questions of him about the proposed budget.
- The budget is very tight this year due to lower property values and loss of revenue sharing. Funding for some items may come from other funding sources. Tomorrow will be the final study session regarding the budget and Mr. O'Connor will be there to express the concerns of the Parks Commissioners.

### **08-045 Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. by WEAVER, supported by KEENAN. All ayes. Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3

Respectfully submitted by Mr. John Keenan, Corresponding Secretary

Recording Secretary: Debbie Break