

Charter Township of Redford

Parks Commission Meeting August 11, 2008

The regular meeting of the Charter Township of Redford Park Commission was called to order August 11, 2008 by the Chair at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Chair, Maureen Okasinski
Vice Chair, Diana Brang-Schroeder
Treasurer, Laura Weaver
Commissioner Kevin Dodd

Absent: Commissioner John Keenan Commissioner Steve Offman and Commissioner Saira Comerford

Also present: Tom O'Connor, Debbie Break, Mike Curle, Jeff Osowski, Michael Donahue and Dennis Bauer.

08-088 Approval of Agenda: Motion was made by BRAND-SCHROEDER, supported by WEAVER, to approve the Agenda. All ayes. Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3

08-089 Approval of Amended Minutes from July 28, 2008: Motion was made by BRANG-SCHROEDER, supported by WEAVER to approve the minutes as amended. Discussion by Commissioner Brang-Schroeder change Motion 08-085 to read 2 ayes, 1 abstained and 4 absent. Motion was declined. Commissioner Weaver also pointed out Jim Milican's name was missing an (i) after the (l). All ayes. Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3

Citizen Comments:
None

New Business:

- **Nike Fundraiser:** Jeff Osowski presented an opportunity to the commissioners about raising funds through Nike for playground equipment. The Commission would need to sponsor a 5K run and charge \$15 per participant which would include the cost of a t-shirt. Nike would then reimburse the Commission the \$15 and this money would be used to purchase playground equipment. Commissioner Okasinski said Volney Smith Park could use \$3,000 - \$5,000 worth of new equipment. Mr. Osowski and future Commissioner Bauer said they would be willing to help with the fundraiser. Mr. O'Connor suggested involving the cross country high school teams at the end of their season in November. Commissioner Okasinski took the information from Mr. Osowski and will see what she can put together.

Old Business:

- **Paws in the Park - WAG:** Mike Curle had a meeting with the WAG people. They will be having 8 – 10 booths. There will be an agility show and Sparkie the Fire Dog will be present. They asked if Commissioner Brang-Schroeder would be willing to be a judge on August 23 from 11-2pm since she has a lot of experience with Doggie Rama. There will be a dog and cat rescue there. They plan to handout food coupons for \$3.25 which would be filled at our concession stand that day.

- **Western Graham Diamond Cutback:** Mr. Bauer and Mr. Donahue apologized to the Commission for what happened to the diamond. They realize the property belongs to the Township and they must have the approval of the Parks Commission before they can do any work on the field or diamond. The cutback was done by an over zealous volunteer on their dugout committee before permission had been granted by the Parks Commission. St. Valentine's wanted the infield to be bigger so their older students could play there. Commissioner Okasinski asked why they did not ask to appear before the Parks Commission. They had spoken to Commissioner Keenan about this matter, also about adding electricity, but their message was never properly conveyed to the rest of the Commissioners. Commissioner Keenan failed to make it clear that St. Valentines would have to appear before the Commission for approval of any renovations. Commissioner Brang-Schroeder asked Mr. Curle how much it cost to make the field safe for play after the cutback. Mr. Curle said the cost of the field mix was \$953.00. Commissioner Brang-Schroeder said it would be nice to have the money repaid or the equivalent of the amount of infield mixed used to be replaced. Mike Curle will give St. Valentine the phone number to the supplier to see if they can get the supplier to help with a donation, etc. Commissioner Okasinski said if St. Valentines reimburse the cost of the infield mix the Commission would waive the cost of the Townships labor.

08-090 Motion: by BRANG-SCHROEDER supported by WEAVER that St. Valentines is to repay the cost of \$953 for infield mix used on Western Graham Diamond which was cut back and the cost of the labor will be waived. All ayes. Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3

- **Community Service Awards:** Commissioner Okasinski will ask Commissioner Offman if he can provide table cloths. She would also like to have fruit, coffee, ice tea and cookies. Bill McSween will announce the winners of the Community Service Awards to the crowd just before the concert in the park begins and Commissioner Weaver will announce the Sun Messengers who will be the entertainment for the evening.

Department Report:

- **Debbie Break:** Due the increase of residents using the Permitted Picnic Areas suggested all holidays that fall on a weekday should be charged the weekend price. Over crowding in the parks, especially Capitol is starting to become a problem. Ms. Break suggested after Capitol Shelter and the Grove have been permitted customers should be told the area is filled to capacity. Also, the "Grove" area needs to be roped off somehow so other residents will not remove the picnic tables which have be reserved in that area. Maybe a sign could be installed or another idea could be developed.
- **Tom O'Connor:** Stated he would be all for the holiday fee. He would like to see the current Commissioners extend mentoring to the new commissioners who will be coming on board soon.
- **Mike Curle:** During the past 2 weeks Mr. Gray had the Capitol Concession stand open during the day from 12 – 2. This has proved not to be financially feasible. We are now losing any profit we had made.
 - Summer Softball is ending this week.
 - Men's Senior League Baseball (hard ball) is in full swing.
 - Phoenix Park – the sand box has been removed.
 - Claude Allison Park – removed exposed playground equipment.
 - Trying to find a small non-enclosed play structure (no sides for less graffiti) for Kraft Park.
 - Next week begins the skateboard park expansion.

- A lot of time is spent moving many picnic tables around.
 - 3 more concerts in the park left.
 - The next movie will be held in Claude Allison Park
 - The WAG fundraiser event will be the weekend following the movie.
 - September 6 the movie in the park will be held at Capitol Park. Not sure which movie will be playing either Alvan & the Chipmunks or The Bee movie
 - Mr. Curle will talk to W.C.N.L.S. attorney Katherine Graham to see if she can help with getting the 501(c)(3) established.
- **Jan Pokorny:** This year has been better than last year. She is trying to keep the peace and is waiting for the new fence around the skateboard park.

Commissioners' Report:

- **Commissioner Okasinski:** Congratulations to Commissioner Brang-Schroeder as a new Township Trustee and Bill McSween as a new Park Commissioner. The next meeting of the Park Commission will be held at Jaycee Park. In the event of bad weather the meeting will take place in Meeting Room C at the Redford Township Community Center. On the Agenda for September 22 she would like to invite the new commissioners and present them with a welcome packet containing the By Laws and Agenda. Also, add Doggie Rama.
- **Commissioner Brang-Schroeder:** Thank you to all for the congratulations.
- **Commissioner Weaver:** Apologized for missing the last concert in the park due to working on the voting at Jane Addams School.
- She is not so shocked as disappointed that Commissioner Keenan knew more about the information regarding Western Graham field when the Commissioners had questions about who was responsible and he remained silent.
 - Glad to see Commissioner Dodd here tonight.
- **Commissioner Dodd:** Has been working 18 hours a day and it has been hard to make the Park Commission meetings lately. It is a pleasure to be here tonight he really missed not being here more often. It really bothered him. Congratulations to Commissioner Brang-Schroeder.
- **Quote:** "Aspire to inspire before you expire."

Park Bills

08-091 Motion was made by BRANG-SCHROEDER supported by DODD to approve the Park's bills as amended for 75100 Recreation, 75500 Concession and 75200 Maintenance. All ayes.
Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3

Communication:

None

08-092 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. by WEAVER, supported by BRANG-SCHROEDER. All ayes.
Motion carried: 4-0 Absent 3

Respectfully submitted by Ms. Brang-Schroeder, Corresponding Secretary

Recording Secretary: Debbie Break