

Township of Spring Parks and Recreation Board

Meeting Minutes –February 15th, 2024

Chairperson Richard Bashore called the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board to order at 7:01 pm in the Public Meeting Room at the Township Administration Building. The following members were present: Keith Stamm, Michael Kocher, Sheila Faust and William Herbine. Also present was Parks and Recreation Director, Judy Houck, Terry Yuhas and a Zoom attendee.

Amendments to the February 15th, 2024 Agenda – *Motion to include the West Lawn Owls' Club request for Grant Application support was made by Mr. Kocher, seconded by Mr. Stamm. MOTION CARRIED 4 – 0. Mr. Herbine had not yet joined the meeting.*

Re-Organization - Chairperson Bashore turned the meeting over to Ms. Houck for the Re-Organization. Mr. Herbine arrived at the meeting.
Ms. Houck opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary/Treasurer. Motion to retain all current positions on the Parks and Recreation Board – Chairperson Richard Bashore, Vice Chairperson William Herbine and Secretary/Treasurer Keith Stamm, was made by Mr. Kocher, seconded by Ms. Faust. MOTION CARRIED. 5 – 0

Ms. Houck turned the meeting back over to Mr. Bashore.

Approval of Minutes – *Motion to approve the minutes of the December 21st, 2023 meeting was made by Mr. Stamm, seconded by Mr. Herbine. MOTION CARRIED 5 – 0.*

Courtesy of the Floor – Terry Yuhas, 2632 Girard Avenue, West Lawn, is observing the meeting and may be interested in serving on the Parks and Recreation Board. Ms. Yuhas also expressed interest in a Special Needs Playground within the Township of Spring's Park System.

Ann Marie – Joined the meeting through Zoom, had no response.

General Report – Ms. Houck briefly reviewed the written reports and reported a correction to the Status Report in regards to the Groundhog Program that was not cancelled due to weather but due to the instructor's illness. Also included was an outline of the Department's activities during the month of January 2024.

Old Business

Comprehensive Plan – Ms. Houck reported that all corrections and comments have been forwarded to the consultant and noted to the consultant that the plan needs to be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Board before setting a public meeting date and presenting the plan to the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Houck and the Consultant will also review the items missing from the RFP.

Winter-Spring Programs – Nothing new to report

General Comments – None

New Business

Summer Playground Program – Ms. Houck reported the Board of Supervisors approved the fee schedule. Registration starts March 1st and the Department has been recruiting playground leaders. Ms. Houck was asked if we have reached out to the School District to recruit playground leaders and playground registrations through the District’s “Bulldog Blast” system. Ms. Houck will instruct the Program Coordinator to do so.

Gring’s Hill Development/Section 5 – Recreation Dedication – Ms. Houck has included the proposed plans for the Gring’s Hill Estates Section 5 which includes a parking lot in Kline’s Creek Park at the terminus of the new street. This matter is on the agenda to consider the sketch plan. A brief discussion was held regarding the loss of green space, concerns about multiple uses of the proposed parking lot and losing the easement. The Board does not believe it is in the best interest of the Parks Department to lose the 30’ easement or to sacrifice green space for the proposed parking lot.

Motion to maintain the 30’ easement from Gring’s Hill Road into Kline’s Creek Park and to reject the proposal to install a parking lot in Kline’s Creek Park was made by Mr. Stamm, seconded by Mr. Herbine. MOTION CARRIED 5 – 0.

West Wyomissing Park – Master Site Plan – Proposals – Ms. Houck requested opinions, suggestions or proposals to select consultants to interview. After a brief discussion it has been recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board to select YSM and Simone Collins for interviews for the Master Site Plans.

West Lawn Owls’ – Grant Application Request – The Board requested that Mr. Hettinger attend the March meeting so they can gather more details before making a recommendation.

General Comments – None

Announcements –

- Conditional Offer of Employment was made for the Assistant Township Manager/Director of Facilities position with a proposed start date of March 25th, 2024.
- A list of upcoming programs and events has been included on the back of the agenda.
- Next meeting – Thursday, March 21st, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment – *Motion was made by Mr. Herbine, seconded by Mr. Stamm to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.- MOTION CARRIED 5 - 0*

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Breneman
Administrative Assistant