

Tri-Township Park Board Meeting
Park Board House
May 12, 2004

Approved
6/17/04
[Signature]

Meeting called to order at 7:10 by Phil

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call: Phil Loethen, Randy Wiesemeyer, Terry Ball, and Kevin Woodring
Absent: Todd Moore, Doug Brendel, and Norm Beck

Also in attendance: Tim Greenfield, Dave Roady, Ryan Fultz

Additions to the agenda –

Phil said the he would like to add the following items under financial:

- 1) Tim Jolley and the CD changer in the park truck.
- 2) Asphalt for road.
- 3) American Cancer Society

Motion: Add these to the agenda under financial. Terry/Randy 4-0 Ayes

Approval of Minutes -

Motion: Approve minutes from April 7th, 2003 meeting. Randy/Terry 4-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve minutes from April 7th, 2003 executive session and recognizes that these minutes and all executive session minutes shall remain sealed unless directed otherwise. Randy/Terry 4-0 Ayes

Norm arrives 7:12

Citizens on the Agenda –

Dave Bode – appreciation plaque. Dave was not in attendance. Tim said that he would personally deliver the plaque to Dave.

Thank-You notes –

Jarvis Township – helping in the unloading of playground equipment.

Friends of the Park –

Mary Anne Barkley said that FOP was continuing to work on the bandstand. FOP is talking to contractors about supplying the concrete base. Mary Anne said the bandstand would ship on May 28th.

Tim reminded her that we would probably not jump right in to construction. There is a lot going on in the park and he will coordinate all ongoing park activities and then pick a date to try and build the bandstand.

Phil asked Mary Anne if FOP was interested in donating some of it's remaining funds towards adding a playground on Meadow Drive.

Mary Anne said that FOP was somewhat concerned about donations being used for a satellite park somewhere other than the existing park grounds.

Correspondence –

Surveys for each commissioner from the Chamber of Commerce.

Thank you letter from Eastside Family Church.

Tax levy extension – EAV increased 11%, this equates to a tax rate decrease of over 14% over the past three years.

Treasurer's Report – Dave Roady

There is \$337,928 in the bank. **ATTACHED**

Motion: Accept Treasurers report. Kevin/Norm 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Spend up to \$250 for new checks. Randy/Kevin 5-0 Ayes

Bills were reviewed. ATTACHED

Phil said that GL Warren has not completed all of the punch list items. He suggested not paying GL Warren until it is completed. There are also the bill additions of \$8,400 for Spring Valley and \$139.72 for Mid West Supply.

Motion: Pay all bills totaling \$42,688.91 and have Phil hold GL Warren payment of \$7,836.60 until punch list is completed. Terry/Randy 5-0 Ayes

Park Superintendent Report – Tim ATTACHED

Fireproof cabinet – no activity

Paint Lee Leonard – waiting on painter

Soccer kickboard – no activity

Grass & Fertilizer – still working on

Fish for lake – the fish are in the lake

Lights on diamond #4 – resolved

Water on field #6 – discussed, Phil commented there is too much going on right now

Drawing for basketball court on Meadow Drive – Tim showed his changes for Meadow Drive layout. The basketball court needs to be moved in order to accommodate the pipeline.

Motion: Approve Tim's plan for Meadow Drive basketball court layout. Randy/Norm 5-0 Ayes

Tim said that part-time employee John Owens had been hired as a \$6 per hour grass cutter and that he had performed other part-time duties and then had inadvertently been paid at the \$7.50 per hour rate. Tim said that he would make a good part-time employee.

Motion: Make John Owens part-time employee at \$7.50 per hour, instead of grass cutter, retroactive to his hire date. Terry/Norm 5-0 Ayes

Tim said that he had also hired the following summer help:

Tim Jolley - part-time

John Owens – part-time

Elizabeth Ball – part-time

Willie Bullard – grass cutter

Darwin Meier – grass cutter

Ron Fenimore – grass cutter

Tim said that the batteries for the golf cart appear to be worn out and are not holding a charge.

Motion: Spend up to \$400 for replacement batteries for the golf cart. Norm/Randy 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Accept Superintendents report. Norm/Randy 5-0 Ayes

TBSL Report – Terry Ball

Terry said that TBSL has started its season and have 808 kids signed p and playing. This is the biggest year we have ever had. The most kids ever signed up in any previous year were 753. Terry thanked Tim for the superb quality of the baseball diamonds on opening night.

TSC Report – Bill Beguhn

Bill said that the TSC has completed all sign-ups. 608 kids have signed up to play so far. This is the most kids ever. Sign-ups continue to come in daily.

Bill said that TSC board member Kevin Rickman has resigned.

Bill said that TSC is selling a soccer decal this year and he has seen them on cars around town.

Bill said that the soccer goals are a work in process and are currently being welded at the high school.

Financial – Phil

Employee Tim Jolley has told the park that he is interested in purchasing the CD changer that is in the park truck. He is willing to pay \$150 for it.

Tim said he would never use it.

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Phil asked if any commissioners had any issues with this. None did.

Phil reported, that we need to asphalt the handicapped parking spot in front of the CXT bathroom across from the Lee Leonard building. He has received three quotes and they range from \$1,500 to \$4,900. Phil said that we would obviously go with the \$1,500 bid.

Phil said that the American Cancer Society has contacted the park looking for ways to volunteer labor. He said that he would coordinate with Tim and try to line them up some work in the park.

To do list.....

Park Commissioner plaque office

2004 budget

Prevailing wage ordinance

Year in Review for the web page

Gabion Baskets

Sealed bid items – most have been collected

Park benches – 3 more to order

Update web page with approved coaches

Ordinance 2004-04 – pending with Dick Cain

Meadow Drive – Phil said that we received the paperwork on owning the property this week.

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All-Purpose Erectors have given us a quote of \$5,000 to replace the baseball diamond electrical box – Phil suggested waiting till the fall and the end of the season to make a decision on this.

OSLAD –

Drinking fountains and water lines – work in progress

Walking trail – no activity

New backstops – completed

Player benches – completed

New playground – recognize volunteers. Phil suggested that we have an appreciation day for all park volunteers.

This would include the boards of the TBSL, the TSC, and the Titans, as well as all other volunteers. We should plan a get together and have a keg and a BBQ to say thank you. Phil said that he would pick a date and have Doug coordinate the activity.

Madison County Park Grant Contract – Should be able to seek reimbursement when all of the cancelled checks have been processed.

New basketball court – completed

Illinois Power – New electricity service/poles – leaning pole problem, Phil said he called IP

Concession Stand Building – GL Warren still working

Bury time capsule – Dan Eyrich's 2nd grade class will bury a 40-year time capsule on May 20th and plant trees.

Dedication Date for TBSL Building and plaques – Phil will select a date

Jeff Hunt Eagle Scout project/Titan's curb effort – waiting for approval from Eagle Scouts.

Motion: Spend up to \$200 for an appreciation plaque for the Titan's to place in curb. Norm/Randy 5-0 Ayes

Ryan Fultz Eagle Scout project –

Ryan Fultz presented his plan for a project to the board. Ryan is planning on adding wooden field numbers to the new ball diamonds on the 32 acres. These would be much the same as the field number markers on the existing diamonds. Ryan said he would make and place six new signs.

Terry suggested that Ryan contact TBSL President Greg Hunt to get the diamond numbering correct.

Motion: Spend up to \$300 for materials for project. Randy/Norm 5-0 Ayes

No vandalism in the park and no water leaks.

Phil told the board his other son is getting married next week and he will be out of the office

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Dew

Athletics – Norm

Norm asked the board to consider moving the Titan’s football field closer to the concession stand on the 32 acres.

Bill Beguhn, President of the TSC looked at the current drawing and the proposal from Norm and said that this would not be an issue with the TSC.

Norm asked Bill to discuss this with the board of the TSC.

Terry said that he has had no conversation with the board of the TBSL on this topic but thought that the Titan’s should be given first chance to operate the new concession on the 32 acres. The TBSL will still be operating the big diamond and will still be operating the existing concession stand. Running two would be quite a chore. The Titans operating the third concession stand would bring a fresh batch of volunteer labor to man the stand and would allow the Titans to raise some extra funds for their organization.

Norm noted changes to the TSC board list with the resignation of Kevin Rickman and presented a new and complete list of TSC and TBSL board members.

Motion: Approve current TBSL and TSC board member list. Norm/Terry 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Spend up to \$25 to purchase an appreciation plaque for Kevin Rickman. Norm/Randy 5-0 Ayes

Insurance - Kevin

Nothing to report on insurance.

Kevin said that he has talked to a biologist about the lake and got recommendations for fish signs. Bass should be limited to a minimum of 14 inches and 3 fish per day. Catfish should be limited to a 12-inch minimum and 3 fish per day.

Phil told Kevin the board has already approved signage and he should proceed.

Grounds – Todd (absent)

Norm said that he would spray paint the roof of the #1 pavilion if the park would purchase the paint.

Special Events – Doug (absent)

Motion: Approve overnight campout in the park using diamond #4, Friday night, July 30th, with the event being over at 8:00 am on Saturday. Heather Braswell – Camp Great Skate Norm/Randy 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve free use of the #1 pavilion for Sat. September 25th, for the National Alliance of the Mentally Ill “Walk for Mental Health” – May 3rd email request from Sandy Giger. Norm/Randy 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve use of #1 pavilion on Wed, June 2 for Triad track banquet. Terry/Randy 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve free usage of the Wiesemeyer Center for Sat. June 19th for a fundraiser for Swen Tompkins. Norm/Randy 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve use of the sunroom for July 10th wedding reception. Sheryl Denton – mother of the bride Amy Hartman. Norm/Terry 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve free usage of the Wiesemeyer Center on Sat. Oct 23rd and Sun Nov. 21st for the Troy Titans. Shannon Mercer email 3/30. Randy/Terry 5-0 Ayes

Motion: Approve free usage of the lower level of the Wiesemeyer Center for Karate banquet on Sat. May 22nd. Norm/Terry 5-0 Ayes

Phil asked the commissioners if there was a desire to sell hot dogs and refreshments again at the 4th of July. All were in favor.

Randy suggested that the proceeds of sales be applied to the volunteer dinner and BBQ planned for later in the year.

6/17/04
Pam

Personnel & Safety - Terry

Terry said that he and Randy met with the IDOT on April 13th concerning our proposal for a walkway over the new 162 bridge. Several people were there from IDOT. Included were Theresa Price, Cindy Stafford, and Karen Geldert. From the City, were Tom Caraker, Rollie Riess, and attorney Fred Keck. From Madison County Transit, representing MEPRD, was Mark Steyer.

IDOT presented a drawing of the planned bridge. There are provisions for a walkway across the bridge. There is a planned right-of way, so sidewalks to and from the bridge can be put in. IDOT provided a cost analysis and it would be an approximate total cost of \$20,000 to complete this sidewalk from the bridge to the frontage road. This expense would need to be paid for by the Govt. agency or agencies requesting it. The expense of the sidewalk on the bridge is 100% IDOT responsibility, IDOT said that there is a public meeting at TRIAD on the 14th and wanted to get direction from the City and the Park on what the agreed upon plans would be.

Tom Caraker stated that the City Council met Monday night to discuss this and unanimously voted to reject the idea of a walkway across the bridge due to safety considerations. He said the bridge would be extremely busy and too dangerous for pedestrian traffic. He also said that he expected exponential growth of both the City and the resulting traffic over the bridge and that the volume would only get worse over time.

Fred Keck, attorney for the City said that as a result of this danger to pedestrians, the City would require the park District to sign contracts taking 100% liability for any accident that would ever occur on the walkway and also sign indemnification and hold harmless agreements with the City. All expenses and maintenance would also be the responsibility of the Park District.

Randy stated that the Park District was merely trying to allow the citizens of Troy who live west of I55 to have walking access to the Tri-Township Park and to provide access that would allow, in the future, for the MEPRD trails west of I55 to possibly be connected to the trails in the Park District. Randy said that the Park District had the backing of the MEPRD on this plan.

Mark Steyer stated that he was employed by Madison County Transit and that he worked for Jerry Kane. Mark corrected Randy and said that MEPRD did not support the plan for a walkway across the bridge. Terry showed Mark a letter from Phil Loethen to Jerry Kane seeking support for this project. Jerry wrote back to Phil indicating that Phil should contact Mike Buehlhorn at MEPRD for support. Terry showed Mark the letter from Phil to Mike Buehlhorn requesting support from MEPRD. Terry then presented a letter from Mike Buehlhorn, Executive Director MEPRD, back to Phil, stating "*The MEPRD is in support of the measure requesting the pedestrian walkway*". Mark said that Mike had overstepped his authority and should not have told us this. Mark said that Jerry Kane, while not specifically stating it, had indicated to him that MEPRD did not support this request.

Terry reported that at this point he and Randy were pretty much threw in the towel. We thought we had support from MEPRD and had never heard any response; pro or con, to multiple requests made to the City for support.

Phil said that when he heard this he was perplexed. He said that he first had emailed Jerry Kane, requesting the MEPRD support. Jerry responded that the request had to be on letterhead and mailed to the MEPRD office. Phil said he did this and after the MEPRD had a meeting he received the email from Mike Buehlhorn (Executive Director), stating the MEPRD supported the concept. Phil said he didn't think that the Executive Director would email support unless the board had taken some action, so Phil told the commissioners that he went to the MEPRD office, and requested the minutes of the last two meetings. Phil produced a copy of the March 15, 2004 MEPRD minutes and read;

“Pam Hogan made motion, seconded by Gene Peters for the MEPRD to write a letter to IDOT on behalf of Tri-Township to have them include in their design of the bridge a pedestrian bike way.” Voice vote all ayes motion carried

6/17/04
Phil

Phil continued that the MEPRD was founded to connect existing park to trails. Over a year ago Phil attended a MEPRD planning meeting and the focus group he was in stated the number one request. Phil said that the MEPRD should be all over this issue.

Norm said that he was prepared to make a motion tonight to spend the \$20,000.

Phil said that we should give MEPRD the chance to finance this. Phil suggested that he and another commissioner go to the next MEPRD meeting to discuss why the contradictions. The MEPRD meeting minutes clearly show that they voted to support this idea and also instructed their President, Jerry Kane, to write a letter to IDOT saying so. Phil said that we should go to their meeting and ask why this letter was not written and seek their board direction on where they actually stand on this.

Motion: Terry and Phil to attend the next MEPRD meeting and be on the agenda to inquire why MEPRD did not follow through on their minutes and write the support letter to IDOT and why we weren't contacted to be informed if they had changed their mind on supporting the project. Norm/Randy 5-0 Ayes

Beautification – Randy

No comments.

9:25 PM Motion: Adjourn to executive session. Terry/Randy 5-0 Ayes

9:45 PM Return from executive session.

Phil informed the board that commissioner Todd Moore has resigned. Phil said that we need to consider appointing someone to fill out the term until the next election.

Kevin suggested that we should consider the people who ran in the last election.

Randy said that he didn't believe there were any strong candidates in the election and the low number of votes cast made him uncomfortable with these candidates.

Phil said that we should look at civic-minded volunteers like those involved with the TBSL and the TSC.

9:45PM Motion to adjourn meeting. Norm/Randy 5-0 Ayes

Respectfully submitted by

Terry Ball, Secretary