

MINUTES
NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
April 5, 2022

The meeting of the North Lebanon Township Parks & Recreation Board was called to order at 7:00 PM at the North Lebanon Township Municipal Building located at 725 Kimmerlings Road, North Lebanon Township. The pledge to the flag was recited.

The following members were present:

Dwayne Elder	Chair
Corey Uhrich	Vice-Chair
Ryan Schmidt	Member
Mark Grumbine	Member
Audrey Blauch	Member
Lori Books	Assistant Township Manager

Jenn Schmidt, Gary Heisey, Cheri Grumbine, and Jim Cikovic were also in attendance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jenn Schmidt – Union Canal Elementary/Girls on the Run – Jenn attended the Park & Rec meeting on behalf of the Union Canal Girls on the Run program. This group consists of 3rd to 5th grade female students who sign up to run a 5k. It is a non-profit group to help young girls reach their athletic potential. They would like to use Lenni Lenape for their practice on Wednesday, May 4th. In addition to using the park, they would like to use the pavilion and have access to the electric to plug in a speaker to play music. Jenn is requesting the Park & Rec Board waive the fee for the pavilion rental and electric usage for this event.

All members agreed to recommend to the Supervisors to waive the pavilion rental fee including electric for the Union Canal Elementary Girls on the Run program.

MOTION: Motion was made and seconded to recommend the approval to waive the pavilion rental fee including electricity on Wednesday, May 4th, for the Union Canal Elementary Girls on the Run program. Motion approved unanimously.

Lori will prepare a memo for the Board of Supervisors.

Chair Elder asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes or for a motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting.

MOTION: Motion was made and seconded to approve the March minutes. Motion approved unanimously.

ASSISTANT TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT-Lori Books

Old Business

Sports Association Agreements and Fees – Lori provided the Board with an update on their recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to eliminate the \$500.00 athletic association fee for the sports associations. The recommendation went before the Board of Supervisors where the motion was made to eliminate this fee, however, there was no second to the motion. Therefore, the motion died on the floor and the fees will remain in effect as approved in the Township’s Fee Schedule.

Future Stars Tournaments and Fees – Last month the \$50.00 per game fee for the Future Stars Tournaments (FST) was discussed. This fee is strictly for out-of-state tournaments. Our local teams do not fall under this fee schedule. The topic of reducing the FST fee was tabled until maintenance costs could be gathered. Lori provided the maintenance costs for the Long Lane fields for the past four (4) years and provided a copy to all board members.

Corey stated he thinks the fee should remain \$50.00 per game for the Future Star Tournaments since this does not apply to our local teams. Corey also stated the maintenance of the fields has gone downhill for years, and that the baseball association has been picking up the slack and paying for the supplies. He indicated that the Township should be doing more for the fields.

Cheri, Township Manager, explained that Dave can only do as directed by the Board of Supervisors. He maintains multiple parks and fields, and everything is kept to the same standard. She does not feel the field conditions have gone downhill. Anything above and beyond the NLT standard was the baseball association’s choice to purchase and provide.

Lori asked Dwayne about our field usage for the Future Star Tournaments. She was under the impression that we were a last resort if the other fields could not handle all the games. In 2021, over 71 games were held at the Long Lane field. Dwayne explained that he is contacted when they are needed and that’s all he knows.

Gary asked what other fields are used for the Future Star Tournaments? Dwayne responded Coleman’s, Jonestown, Fredericksburg, Hershey, Harrisburg, etc. He stated there are 60 to 70 teams over the summer of all age groups that are scheduled to play so multiple fields are needed. Dwayne said they generally only schedule at Long Lane two (2) weekends a month. Occasionally there is a third if needed. Lori stated that all four weekends in June were booked, and July and August both had three weekends booked according to the schedule provided by Dwayne.

Lori asked the Board how they would like to handle the concession stand usage as our youth baseball season ends in the beginning of July. Dwayne stated our youth baseball program has joined Northern Lebanon Little League and there may be a fall program. He doesn't know that for sure yet.

Cheri questioned the use of the concession stand over the summer months when our local kids baseball season ends, as it appears the concession stand is being used solely for the FST from July through October. Dwayne responded that he and his wife purchase all the leftover inventory from the Ebenezer Baseball Association so that they don't lose money. Cheri asked if the proceeds then go back to Ebenezer Baseball? Dwayne stated that after they break even from what they paid to purchase the inventory, they try to give the additional money to the Ebenezer Baseball Association. He stated they typically lose money every year.

Cheri commented that she has helped with many concessions stands over the years and they always brought in a lot of money. Audrey stated that she has had the same experience when running a concession stand for the Ebenezer football team. They always did quite well. Dwayne and Corey said that is very different because baseball doesn't bring out as many people. Dwayne also stated they don't offer any hot food on Sunday because they hold the consolation games where teams play once and then leave. Lori stated that she has also helped with concession stands at her son's games and again, they bring in a lot of money. Corey stated just because one organization makes a lot of money doesn't mean that FST does. He is confused as it seems Dwayne is being accused of making "millions of dollars".

Lori responded the problem isn't how much Dwayne is making at the concession stand. The problem is that Ebenezer Baseball ends in July, Dwayne Elder and his wife purchase all the remaining inventory, and any profit is then made by Dwayne Elder and not Ebenezer Baseball Association. Dwayne does not have an agreement with the Township to run the concession stand. If he wants to open the concession stand for the FST, then he should have an agreement with the Township to do so just like we would make any other person or group. Dwayne stated again that if they make more money after they cover their own costs, it goes back to Ebenezer Baseball. Lori asked who keeps those records. Dwayne stated Gary keeps the books. Corey stated if the Township is questioning so much, they should just ask to see the books.

Dwayne stated he could just stop running the concession stand after July. He bought the remaining inventory so that Ebenezer Baseball wasn't out any money. He could just buy it and keep it at his house for his family.

Gary said if the Township would like to see the books, he can easily provide the spreadsheet and receipts. He would need to seek approval from the association to share that information. He also stated he can track it pretty close to see what estimated profit

would be made off the inventory originally purchased. Dwayne pays approximately \$340.00, give or a take a few dollars, for the remaining inventory most years. Gary stated that Dwayne is very good at providing receipts for additional purchases. Dwayne will purchase additional inventory if needed, provide the receipt to Gary, and then be reimbursed through the Ebenezer Baseball fund. Lori stated she doesn't understand why the Elder's would be reimbursed through the Ebenezer Baseball fund if they have already purchased the remaining inventory, taking Ebenezer Baseball out of the equation.

Dwayne went on to explain how they are losing money because they try to keep the costs down for the items they sell. They get comments about how cheap the food is. He likes to do that as it helps the larger families. Their goal every year is to cover the umpire costs for the Ebenezer Baseball association.

PARK & REC ACTIVITIES

General Activities – Leaves are being raked at the parks.

Lion's Lake – The roof work on the main restrooms has been completed. The floating boat dock has been installed. Two (2) swings were replaced at the small playground near the rental pavilion. Twelve (12) yards of playground mulch was spread.

Long Lane – The Teener backstop is complete. Leaves and sticks are being cleaned up along the bleachers and backstop. The shackles, chains, and "S" hooks were replaced on the swings located at the playground shared with NCCS. Pipes that froze and broke over the winter were replaced.

Community Park – The restroom floor was power washed and painted.

Lenni Lenape – The parking lot access to the new pavilion has begun.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Dwayne asked Dave if he could bring the Township's roller over to Long Lane and roll the edges of the field. Dwayne used their roller to do it the other night, but it wasn't heavy enough to roll out the tractor marks. Dave said he could work on doing that, but it wouldn't be before next week due to the rain.

Gary asked if there are any future plans to remodel the large playground at Lions Lake. Lori explained those renovations were included in the DCNR grant application. Once something is listed in the grant application, you are not allowed to do any work or make any improvements on the project until after the award and you sign an agreement with DCNR for the grant money.

Dwayne asked if the future paving and curbing was included with the grant? Lori said yes. The curbing is meant to eliminate the “free for all” entrance and create a more defined ingress and egress for that parking lot. Dwayne is curious if the openings will be wide enough for boat trailers. Lori said she believes they will be but has not seen a final design yet.

Gary stated large black birds, Mergansers, are now around Lions Lake and seem to be worse than the geese. He would like Lori and Dave to investigate what could be done to get rid of them. Lori said the typical tactics used to get rid of the geese don’t seem to work on these birds. She isn’t sure what else can be done.

Dwayne reported the groundhog seems to be back at the teener field. He had placed rocks over the hole, but it seemed to find its way back.

MOTION: Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion approved unanimously.

With there being no more business brought before the Parks and Recreation Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Lum
Recording Secretary