

**East Pikeland Township
Park and Recreation Board Meeting
January 17, 2013**

Present: Jerry Miller, Sean McShane, Al Koons, Shannon Wood, Mike Sisti
Absent: Rick Bullotta, Caesar Muzzioli
Staff: Kim Moretti, Township Manager
Guests: Richard Fried, Dave Biddison, Trish Keegan, Jonathan Gayl

Meeting began at 7:10 p.m.

Public Comment

Jonathan Gayl explained his involvement with the Kimberton Village Business Association (KVBA) and distributed information on the series of events they have planned - including lectures, concerts, excursions and performing arts. KVBA would like to add more outdoor entertainment to their schedule and are proposing that the township consider purchasing a portable, outdoor stage that could generate rental income. The purchase price for such a stage ranges from \$100,000 to \$145,000 depending on size and features. Jonathan asked that the Park & Rec Board evaluate his proposal, research cost and options and consider the potential for income.

KVBA members Dave Biddison, Trish Keegan and Richard Fried voiced their support for this purchase stating that the range of entertainment that could be provided would be great.

Park & Rec members discussed whether renting a portable stage or building a permanent stage/amphitheater at Kimberton Park would be better options and suggested these options be considered. One concern they had was the time commitment of the township staff in managing rentals, delivering the stage to renters, and set-up and dismantling of the stage. They were not favorable to the suggestion that the stage could be rented to a "southern municipality" during winter months in order to generate additional income.

Kim Moretti suggested that KVBA investigate grant opportunities to fund this purchase.

Annual Reorganization

Sean McShane nominated Jerry Miller to continue to serve as Chairman. Al Koons seconded the nomination. Jerry will serve as Chair for 2013.

Caesar Muzzioli was not present, but was nominated to serve as Secretary again. All approved, based on Caesar's agreement.

Meeting Minutes Approval

The December meeting minutes have not yet been distributed, so approval was tabled until the February meeting.

175th Anniversary Celebration

Kim Moretti invited Park & Rec members to attend the Anniversary Committee meeting on January 21 at 7 p.m. She explained that there will be several sub-committees to help with the planning.

She asked the Park & Rec Board to serve as the planning committee for a Kimberton Park 15th “Birthday” celebration. Tentative date for an event is Saturday, June 1st. Discussion about holding an evening event – beginning around 5 p.m. with food offering, games and activities for children, then finish with the Outdoor Movie Night. Al Koons will work with KYAL to make sure that any games they have scheduled for that day finish by 3 p.m.

Suggestions were made for entertainment – magician, juggler, balloon sculptor, face painting, and music. Park & Rec members will email specific suggestions to Kim who can compile them and get pricing information for the February meeting. Since the event will be to celebrate the Park’s birthday it was suggested that we include a “decorate your own cupcake” activity.

Kim would also like the Park & Rec Board to choose the movie to be shown. She will obtain a catalog of movies to be released by June 1st and bring it to the February meeting.

Spring Activities/Events

Trail Projects – Sean suggested a trail clean-up day on March 16th. Kim will advertise in the newsletter and send email notice to the “Friends of French Creek” volunteer list. The clean-up would include trail maintenance, removal of trash and removal of invasive species along the creek.

Kim updated the committee on the status of the bridge at Rapps Dam. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for January 28th with the bridge abutments being constructed in February and the bridge installed in March. Work should be completed by March 30 when fishing season begins.

Sean asked for input on this “Adopt an Acre” program idea (see attachment). The program could be managed through the “Friends of French Creek”. Add to February agenda for further discussion.

Kimberton Park Improvements – Jerry shared ideas for improvements at Kimberton Park:

- Install soft matting between the two playgrounds, under the swings and under the slides.
- Consider adding speed bumps in the parking lot
- Consider installing steps on the steep bank between the restrooms and the playground in order to get up to the sandbox area. Kim suggested this would make a good Eagle Scout project.
- Conduct a clean-up, flower planting day in the Spring. This would be a student good project for community service.

Easter Egg Hunt – scheduled for Saturday, March 23rd at 10 a.m. Park & Rec member assistance is important to carry out this event.

Trail Hikes – Sean will lead hikes along the French Creek on Saturdays in March and April. Anyone interested in participating should meet at 9 a.m. at Rapps Dam Covered bridge. Kim will advertise in newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

East Pikeland Township Adopt an Acre Plan

The opportunity is to adopt an acre of East Pikeland Township owned land.

- Adoptions are available to clubs, organizations and residents of East Pikeland Township.
- Responsibilities for those that adopt a parcel
 - Empower usage by keeping trails that traverse the parcel in a condition acceptable for the trail's stated usage
 - Discourage and eliminate invasive plant species from growing
 - Provide, plant and maintain native shrubs and trees in a manner that is suitable for the terrain and match the goals of the area in which the parcel is contained.
 - Notify the township of necessary projects that are beyond the expertise or skills of the adopter (Large dead tree takedown, Excavation that requires machinery, Using herbicides or chemicals etc.)
 - Access the land, learn about and enjoy the flora and fauna
 - Keep parcel free from trash
- Parcels will be 1 acre in size approximately 210 ft X 210 ft in size and limited to Township Owned land.

- Responsibilities of the Park and Recreation Board
 - Develop and refine guidelines and procedures for the program
 - Bring in the required resources to train the participants
 - Participate as an adopter organization - Adopt the first parcel
 - Train participants in:
 - Identifying non-native invasive plant species
 - Eliminating non-native invasive plant species
 - Acquiring native plant species and encouraging
 - Planting native plant species
 - Maintaining plant species
 - Identify, measure and label parcels
 - Assign parcels to participants and provide a method for easily locating parcel
 - Promote the program and work with the community to encourage adoption
 - Integrate existing land maintenance initiatives with adopters' revitalization techniques