

1 January 26th 2012, Birch Run Park Board Meeting

2 Members present

- 3 • Fred Sheridan, Chair
- 4 • Bill Nelson, Acting Secretary
- 5 • Keila Ruppel Knight
- 6 • Lisa Kiesling

7 The Board received copies of the latest “Park and Recreation Master Plan” dated October 2011. Review
8 of the draft plan revealed deficiencies and the Board discussed these. Lisa is thinking about a survey and
9 what to include in the survey.

10 Section VII, Targets included in the “Action Plan”... The Board discussed a priority list for items wanted,
11 including;

- 12 • Picnic tables... More are needed
- 13 • Tennis Courts... Need repair
- 14 • Concession stand / trailer

15 Bill was to get with Ramon Rosa regarding “Plan Drafts” ... Ramon will provide. Bill will get with Brad
16 Thomas regarding costs for playground material. Brad said on Jan 27th that the outstanding costs are;
17 \$7,400.00 for materials yet to be purchased at a minimum and could be increased by \$2,300.00
18 depending on the costs and availability of pea rock for the playground area.

19 The Board spoke on the placement of a building as possibly going between the play area and baseball
20 diamond.

21 A question was raised on the available space in the existing pavilion that could possibly be used for
22 concession vending. When asked, the BR Twp. Water department employees suggested the area in the
23 current pavilion could be MAYBE 6’ X 10’.

24 Discussion followed on the scheduling of events and who actually schedules the park use. Paula Counts
25 does the pavilion rental through the Township office, but there just seemed to be a disconnect as to the
26 activity scheduling for things other than paid pavilion rentals. Apparently in the past, the Park was used
27 in somewhat of a haphazard fashion. There were **numerous** groups discussed that use the Park for their
28 events. Follow-up discussion the next day in the Township office also added several other groups as
29 well.

30 A Township Board member suggested that every group that has used the Park in the past few years be
31 tasked with getting with every other group and submitting a “CONFLICT FREE” schedule to the
32 Township.

33 Editor’s note: While this is laudable, the actuality of this actually occurring is extremely slim!!! From all
34 reports the use groups do not communicate.

35 Bill was to make contact with PFY person Shelly Haggart at 989-379-0346. I did attempt to call, and got a
36 voice mail recording of "this is the Birch Run PFY, please leave a message". I did indeed leave a message
37 including my cell phone number and as of 4:45 PM Tuesday February 7, 2012, I have received no
38 response.

39 There is HS Soccer & Soccer Elite, PFY Football, PFY Cheerleading, PFY Baseball, PFY Softball, PFY T-Ball,
40 PFY Football, Men's Softball all using the Park and little to no co-ordination of Park facilities.....

41 Discussion followed on the possibilities associated with a mobile vending trailer rather than a stationary
42 building. Discussion wondered if the potential to using the trailer off the park property for fund raising
43 opportunities would be possible. Certainly the Township Board would need to be consulted on this
44 issue. There are several possibilities for different trailer units and Fred will address some of the at the
45 meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2012 @ 7:PM.

46 I apologize for the delay in receiving these minutes. I just completed the download of the software to
47 produce these minutes at 4pm THIS afternoon. Respectfully submitted February 7th, 2012, Bill Nelson,
48 Acting Secretary, Birch Run Park Board.