

April 23 2013 BR TWP. Park Board Meeting

Members in attendance:

Bill Nelson

Ramon Rosas

Fred Sheridan

Ryan McReynolds

Lisa Kiesling @ 7:07

Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting called to order @ 7:00pm by Chair, Fred

Motion by Ramon supported by Ryan to accept the minutes as presented

Motion carried

**Jakob Fox** in audience was acknowledged and spoke of his Eagle Scout project. He wants to install 3 to 5 bat houses. These need to be at least 15 feet in the air for bats to occupy the houses. Mr. Fox will need to pick up the materials and intends on installing these on the ditch bank. His project is to show leadership skills and to help other scouts as well as provide a service to the community. There will be droppings connected with the bat houses. He also wants to be involved in the final assembly of the pavilion.

There have been reports of aggressive unleashed dogs. An individual spoke to Ramon and the Township Supervisor about this issue. The Supervisor went to the park and spoke to people in the park about this issue. There was a question about what could be done about enforcing the leash rules. Discussion followed. Fred will put a reminder notice in the Herald advising the park users about the leash rules. It was also suggested that DPW employees be allowed to advise dog owners of the leash rules if they see violations. Fred volunteered to set at the park if it could be determined when the leash violations occur.

PFY storage of golf cart. The PFY asked the Township Board about storing their golf cart at the park. The Township Board asked for insurance and security to be supplied by PFY.

**The drag.** Fred and Ramon spoke of the drag and arranged to transport it to the park on Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm.

**Park Plan.** Lisa spoke on the park plan. Discussion followed. She said she handed out the Park Plan last week (she said week, not month) and asked for comments. Discussion followed on that matter. Fred tabled the Park Plan until next month's meeting, and encouraged the Park Board to do so.

**Executive committee.** Ramon spoke on this. According to the MTA we need to have an Executive Park Board. The Twp. Board adopted an ordinance in 2002 and affirmed a 1990 resolution to develop a Park Executive Board. **RAMON, INSERT THE RESOLUTION HERE!!! Ord 2002-02 and March 31 1990** Pursuant

to act 261 of MCL's (Michigan Compiled Laws). If this board is a committee it falls under the open meetings act. These meetings are considered special meetings because there is no formal schedule adopted. Ramon is researching this issue and will continue to do so. Ramon will follow up and report back to the Park Board at the next meeting. Fred will discuss with the Supervisor and get the feeling of the Twp. Board on formalizing the Park Committee.

**Concession Stand.** This weekend the roof will be on, if not more. The hold back has been the weather. Fred will contact the church to see if they're still interested in staffing the concession stand. Fred thinks the Methodist Church is still interested.

**Diamond Dust.** Dixie Cut Stone has no written record of BR Twp. purchasing Diamond Dust. Ramon spoke on the prices associated with Dixie Cut Stone's Diamond Dust. **Grey** 2500 pounds per yard is \$41.72 per ton, **Red** is 2400 pounds per yard and \$118.30 per ton, **Washington mix** has more sand 2400 pounds per ton is \$109.40 per ton.

**New Volunteer.** Ramon & Fred acknowledged Mr. Solak as a new Park Volunteer. They spoke on some needed bench repairs, and that Mr. Solak has picked several bags of weeds, and Mrs. Solak loves the fact that Mr. Solak has something to do.

Discussion followed on the maintenance of the ball diamonds.

**Vandalism.** The Twp Board is moving forward on vandalism that has occurred.

**Park Maps.** Maps have been sent out for the Park Board to review. It was suggested that one be in each parking lot, one at the concession stand, one in the back part where two trails converge. Ramon provided literature on proposed Park Signs. Discussion followed. Fred will speak at the next Twp. Board meeting to decide what that Board wants to do regarding the number of signs.

**Budget.** **RAMON, INSERT THE BUDGET REPORT HERE!!!!** Discussion followed on some drainage issues near where the train playscape will go. Ramon spoke on soil being transferred from the water tower project. The Train Playscape should be landscaped just like the other playscape. There was some information on the budget presented and there appeared to be a surplus. However Ramon showed a deficit of \$1,893.15. This was from the concession stand, etcetera... Ramon showed the 2012 and 2013 budgets for comparison.

**Circus.** The circus is going to happen in Birch Run. The Chamber of Commerce printed and distributed 50,000 flyers and another organization printed and distributed 100,000 flyers. So the event IS GOING TO HAPPEN. However, there is no parking in the Park for this. Discussions had been going on trying to find a place. General RV and Meijers have been suggested as potential locations. The Circus is looking for an organization to do local set up and there is a potential for this being a fund raiser for an organization that can handle the local set up and promotion of the circus. Fred will follow up with the Chamber of Commerce on this issue. The Expo Center already has a Circus set up for their grounds sometime this year and that means the Expo Center is out for an additional circus.

**Scheduling.** Ramon displayed the Park scheduling. JV Girls softball has been displaced. They need to use the park too. Ramon has been speaking with them about scheduling. Nothing firmed up yet. The Park schedule is available in the Twp. Web page.

**PARK FYI.** Email sent to committee regarding the current parcel count. No records for the meeting minutes on the public hearing for the Park Master Plan from August 2012. Discussion ensued about whether or not the south end of the Park is considered wetlands. The DEQ said there is nothing on record that says there are any wetlands in the Park. Also there is nothing on file with the County Clerk making any determination for any wetland areas in the park. Also, **RAMON, INSERT THE JIM TOTTON LETTER HERE!!!** The public records say the Southeast corner has a hay field and it was to be maintained as such until such time as the Park needed the property. On the main page of the Twp. Website there is a copy of the Park Survey. This can be completed online. Ramon demonstrated the Admin features of the survey.

**Next Meeting.** Next Meeting date is set for May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013 @ 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn by Bill Seconded by Ramon, motion carried.