

ORANGE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARK BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 22, 2018

Orange Township Hall

1680 East Orange Road

7:00 PM

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

ROLL CALL

- Barrett Ault - Present
- Jennifer Keck - Present
- Brian Hock - Present
- Marla Gilreath - Absent
- Matt DeGraw - Present
- J.D. Hartwell - Absent
- Maintenance & Parks Director Beth Hugh - Present

Minutes were prepared by Township Administrative Assistant Nancy Fay

Approval of Minutes April 18, 2018

Ms. Ault made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2018, regular park board meeting. Mr. DeGraw seconded.

Approval of Minutes May 16, 2018

Ms. Ault made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2018, regular park board meeting. Ms. Keck seconded.

Approval of Minutes June 20, 2018

Ms. Ault made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2018, regular park board meeting. Ms. Keck seconded.

Maintenance & Parks Director Resignation

- Ms. Hugh says as of September 7 she will no longer be with the township; she says it's been a difficult decision and she has enjoyed working with the board and with her staff but it is the best decision for her right now.
- Mr. Hock thanks Ms. Hugh for her leadership and everything she has done that has made the parks what they are.
- Ms. Ault states we've taken many strides in the last couple years with events and Ms. Hugh was a huge leader in that. The (park) board really appreciates that; they really grew as a board and had an opportunity to do a lot of great things. Ms. Hugh's participation has been wonderful and she will be greatly missed.
- Ms. Hugh says there is a position almost identical to hers that is out for posting; she doesn't know the status of it, she assumes they will be hiring and that person would be someone who would eventually be going with the park board. Ms. Hugh states Lee Bodnar is aware that the park board meets and a representative from the township needs to be here.
- Ms. Ault asked Trustee Debbie Taranto to attend tonight's meeting as Ms. Ault voices her own concerns on what the park board should do moving forward with events. Ms. Ault would like Trustee Taranto's thoughts and suggestions as to what the park board should do moving forward with the holiday celebration.
- Ms. Hugh says the holiday celebration event is on the calendar and she has reserved Santa. Most of the decorations were hers and she is leaving them with the township. They have the tree and the lights. It is a matter of publication and whatever the board decides as far as music activities (another band, a choir) it was all a huge success last year.

- Ms. Ault says one of her biggest concerns is purchasing items as the park board is not authorized to make purchases. It is decided the park board will work with Aaron James on the holiday event.
- Trustee Taranto asks who did the activities last year. Ms. Ault responded volunteers. Trustee Taranto suggests moving forward with the holiday celebration as normal she will step in or do anything she needs to do to make sure it happens.
- Trustee Taranto said there has been talk of restructuring the whole department. She suggested to Amanda and Lee a part time or full time person to assist in more activities for the township, more of a communication / marketing person for the township as well as assist Amanda.

2018 Events Updates

- Movie event in August was a success
 - Estimated 300 people came for the movie
 - At least another 100 people came for the food and activities and left before the movie
- Food trucks were happy. They felt it was worth their while and they loved the tables and chairs so people could sit and eat

Land Use Plan Update

- Michele Boni is editing the Land Use Plan Update now. Ms. Boni will come to a future park board meeting with a final update.

North Road Park

- Trucco is re-doing the fields, they did not come out as planned Trucco will disk, grade, and plant this fall. With irrigation, the fields should be ready in the spring; the fields may need rotated as they will be new. This is all warranty work - not costing the township.
- Ms. Keck asks who is going to manage that project. Ms. Hugh replies Aaron James checks that site on a regular basis.
- Ms. Ault asks where we are on the playground and bathroom facilities. Ms. Hugh replies the drawings final draft is under review and they should be ready to bid as soon as the position is filled. Depending on the schedule they should easily be able to start this fall and open in the spring.

Futures Parks and Property

- Property by Kroger
 - talked about future skate park
- Veteran's Memorial Park
- Ms. Ault asks where we are on the corner (E Orange Rd and S. Old State). Ms. Hugh answers, there were 3 concepts brought to the park board that were then shared with Ben Grumbles, Lee and the trustees; that's all the further they have gone. Ms. Hugh adds, following the trustee agenda, a survey has been approved but that's as far as it has gone to her knowledge.
- Ms. Ault states, they are surveying where to put the sledding hill. Ms. Hugh replies it is her understanding it is just a survey of the property. There is no design plan approved; nothing to show Kenmore what to do other than positive draining.

Trail and Grant Update and Questions

- Construction drawings are still under works for the grant from last year that was awarded (Lewis Center Trail from Bale Kenyon Road to Waukeegan Avenue)
 - There was a lot of utility coordination at the corner of Bale Kenyon
 - Close to being bid - should be bid this fall
- Two COTF grants were applied for this year
 - Phase 3 Waukeegan Avenue to the beach
 - North Road Park down to Lewis Center and across the school site and connecting to the Triple T (from Shanahan Road down North Road to Lewis Center Road behind Kroger)
- Township should receive notification sometime after October

- If the township gets the grants this fall, they could do the construction drawings in spring and summer of 2019; bid in late summer of 2019; and construction in 2019.
- Ms. Ault thanks Ms. Hugh for her work on grants

YMCA Questions Update

- Ms. Hugh hands out a summary of the survey questions done by YMCA
- Ms. Hugh said it falls in line with surveys and questionnaires done in the past for community center and master plan

Park Board Questions

- Ms. Ault asks about the condition of the basketball courts at North Orange Park. Ms. Hugh replies, they are going to go in and fill in the cracks and then resurface and paint. Aaron James is looking at improving the drainage for the basketball courts.
- Mr. DeGraw asks if the YMCA ever got back to Ms. Hugh on pricing for the "Event in a Box" concept. Ms. Hugh said they had played phone tag on that. Mr. DeGraw will contact YMCA before they start scheduling events next year.

Public Comments

- Sherry Jones 6205 Westwick Place asks how far off the road is Bale Kenyon to Waukeegan trail going to be? Ms. Hugh goes over where the trail will run. Ms. Jones asks if there will be any type of fence or if they will be putting in any trees; their property backs up to where the trail is planned so it would be nice in the winter, when there are no leaves, to have some pine trees to give them some privacy. Ms. Hugh states none are planned right now, there will be signs that say "stay on trail, private property" every few hundred feet. Ms. Hugh suggests contacting the township once it starts to be graded out and ask for screening.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Barrett Ault

Jenifer Keck

Brian Hock

Marla Gilreath

Matt DeGraw

J.D. Hartwell, Alternate