

**MINUTES
NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
JANUARY 4, 2005**

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 meeting started with the pledge to the flag.

The following members were present:

Clyde Ebersole	Vice Chairman
Jay Snavely	Member
Gary Zelinske	Member
Heather Pederson	Member
Sheila Wartluft	Asst. Manager

Also present at this evenings' meeting was Sup. Hawkins and 2 Township residents.

REORGANIZE THE BOARD FOR 2005

At this time, Assistant Manager Wartluft started the process of reorganizing the Park and Recreation Board for 2005. She stated that we have two options in order to do this. We can either change the membership and she can entertain nominations or we can leave the Board as it is with a motion. Currently we have the following:

Clyde Ebersole Chairman
Jay Snavely Member
Steve Smith Member
Gary Zelinske Member
Heather Pederson Member

She asked the Board for their input on the reorganization. Jay suggested leaving the Board as it currently stands for 2005.

MOTION: Motion was made and second to keep the Park and Recreation Board as was for 2004 as listed above. Motion approved.

Chairman Ebersole called for a motion to approve the December minutes.

MOTION: Motion was made and second to approve the December minutes. Motion unanimously approved.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Chairman Ebersole welcomed the public that attended the meeting this evening. He said it is always nice to see some new faces in the crowd. He asked them if they have any concerns they would like to voice at this time? They said not about this.

NEW BUSINESS

Dam Inspection

Sheila said this is something we have to do every year along with the Engineer as required by DEP. They look at any type of flow measurements that we take, along with photos and observe several different areas of the dam and dam breast. Even with all of the rain that we had this past year, we did not note any type of seepage and the Engineer notes that as well. He states that the seepage flow measurements have remained constant and have even dropped which is a good sign. He has not noted anything that we need to be concerned about at this time. She then passed the photos around for the Board members to see and also the paperwork we received along with it.

She did mention that Dave does water readings once or twice a month that has to be included in these reports for the Engineer. These were then forwarded to DEP since they are the ones that monitor this program. Chairman Ebersole asked if we had to change the dam level anytime this year? Sheila said we didn't, even with the high water levels in September. This was the time of the hurricane and everything went well. Chairman Ebersole said that he feels the experience of watching the lake is very valuable and helps in emergency situations.

Gary asked if the Engineer mentioned anything about the animals burrowing into the dam breast as he did last year? Sheila said he did not mention it this year, so she is not sure if it is still a problem or not. Jay corrected them by saying the problem was not in the dam breast, rather in the side over at Jay Street. Sheila also told the Board that Dave has sprayed the vegetation, the big poison trees that are growing up the hill. These have to be kept under control. He took care of that in either October or November. Things like this have to be constantly addressed and taken care of. This is a tough area to maintain because of the rocks and the snakes in the rocks.

Chairman Ebersole asked if it was Steckbeck's firm that did the inspection? Sheila said it was. There are not too many firms that are licensed to do these inspections. DEP also told her that they have their inspectors that make random stops and they have stopped at ours.

Pertinent Issues

Clyde said he has a question about Rettew and the comprehensive plan. He asked if we have to do any prep work for them before they get involved in their study for us? Sheila said when they did the first grant, they had asked for letters of support from various groups, which we provided. At the present, Rettew is not working on the plan, so we do

Pertinent Issues (cont'd)

not have to provide anything. Right now we are waiting to see if we were approved for the grant. Heather asked when we would hear back on that grant process? Sheila said she thinks they said March or April. She knows it is a little later that the grant monies are received. But the way this program works, if they start actively working now and accumulating time and dollars, it will not be able to be included with that grant. It can only be included after the grant is approved.

Chairman Ebersole asked if any members of the public have any concerns that they would like to address at this time? No one responded so he assumed that they had nothing to discuss.

OLD BUSINESS**Walking Path Elimination – DEP**

Chairman Ebersole asked Sheila if there is anything new on this topic? Sheila said after our last discussion, she received a letter in the mail from DEP stating what we can and cannot do with this trail. She enclosed a copy of this letter for the Board members. The letter pretty much explains what we have to do in order to rectify the situation. She knows that Dave was going to go out and do some work when it was a little colder on the path, but she is not sure how much he accomplished on it. The letter is very adamant about the process that we must follow to fix the problem. Any equipment used must stay on the path and not on the grounds surrounding the path. Chairman Ebersole asked if understood the letter correctly. Can we make a suggestion ourselves to fix the problem, which would have to meet the approval of the County and DEP, but other than that, are we involved? Sheila said the letter states exactly what we have to do to remove this walking path. Sheila then read from the letter, which states, "The activity would be considered the restoration of a historic violation." Which means they basically made a mistake when they allowed the walking path in this area, because they claim it was always a wetland. From what she explained to Sheila, soils always have the potential to be a wetland and you can check, but it always takes certain weather conditions. Sheila has never heard this explanation before, but this is what we have to go on. Heather asked how the path is going to be re-routed? Sheila said they haven't made that decision yet, because none of the asphalt plants are open, so we have a little more time to work on the location. Plus, we wanted to wait to see how the plants do that were planted before we disturb anything else. We are looking at completing this in the spring. Jay asked why we just couldn't let the path where it is at; it's their fault that is placed where it is? They approved it. Sheila tried to explain that this is a wetland and you cannot have anything placed in a wetland. Now that they are aware that this is a wetland, we have to make the change.

Pertinent Issues

Heather asked when the light posts will be put up over at the Lake. The concrete bases are in and the posts are lying there, she was just wondering when they would be put up. Sheila said she is not sure, but she will check with Dave.

Pertinent Issues (cont'd)

Chairman Ebersole said he has a safety concern he would like to bring up. He said he knows that the "acorn" caps on all the poles for the fencing must be put on over at the ball field. There are some that are missing and he feels they should be put back on or address this issue. Sheila said she knows that we do not have anymore of them. They had looked at them before and there were so many that were missing. They were told that the kids thought it was funny to remove them and get rid of them. At that time, it was determined to be too costly to continue to replace them.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Sheila had no new information items this evening. They thought quite possibly some new plans would be arriving, but with the holidays they have not been submitted.

With there being no more business brought before the Recreation Board, meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina M. Haser
Recording Secretary