

BAZETTA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 11, 2010 at 7:00pm
Bazetta Township Administration Building
3372 State Route 5 NE
Cortland, Ohio 44410

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Present:

Presiding Trustee Paul Hovis
Trustee Frank Parke
Trustee Don Urchek
Fiscal Officer Rita K. Drew

- Trustee Hovis thanked everyone for coming
 - Stated that the first order of business is to elect officers
 - Would like someone from the board to attend township meetings to keep the trustees informed
 - Would like to get some activities going in the park
 - Would like to get more lights for Christmas in the park

- Beth Barnes volunteered to serve as chairman, with no opposition
- Richard Musick volunteered to serve as vice chairman, with no opposition
- Rita Benoit volunteered to serve as secretary, with no opposition
- Eleanor Governor volunteered for a 2 year term member, with no opposition
- Martha Urchek volunteered for a 1 year term member, with no opposition
- Remaining 1 year terms to be filled at a later date

- Eleanor Governor stated that she does not remember seeing anything allowing for alternates on the Parks & Recreation Board
 - Trustee Hovis said that Atty. Finamore created the Parks & Recreation Board documents

- Trustee Hovis discussed the portion of the General Fund allocated to the park
 - Said he is a firm believer that any grant that we can get is worth it
 - Will work with other trustees to do whatever it takes to get grants
 - Noted that we do not know if the amount allocated for salaries will remain true since there could be unforeseen circumstances
 - Jack Governor will be taking care of the park again this year
 - Money has been appropriated for improvement of sites, but it may not go far
 - Money has been appropriated for special events if anyone wants to get something started
 - Still not sure what we can charge for usage of the park
 - Eleanor Governor said the previous Parks Boards had done this by looking at what other communities charge
 - Information was presented to the Trustees at the time and it was never acted upon

- Trustee Hovis wants to be sure that there is a master schedule for the park and that both the Administration Office and Parks & Recreation Board have the same information
 - Beth Barnes said the baseball teams previously had to submit their requests and insurance information in February or March
 - Eleanor Governor noted the importance of having copies of the insurance on file

- Beth Barnes said it is sometimes better to have a man in charge of the baseball leagues because they seem to respond better with a man in charge
- Trustee Hovis said he was unaware of any traveling teams that will be using the park
- Trustee Parke said Carol Harrison is willing to assist with something in the park on July 4th
- Beth Barnes asked who they should approach if a grant opportunity presents itself
 - Trustee Parke said there will be some opportunities and will do anything in his power to assist
 - Trustee Hovis said that Trustee Parke is the park liaison, so they should approach him with any issues
- Rita Benoit asked if there was any way that they could get any money from the First Energy grant
 - Trustee Hovis explained that a company came in last year to discuss switching over to energy efficient lighting
 - The savings would be roughly \$10,000 per year
 - No decision has been made regarding the grant money
- Eleanor Governor asked if we did not need to get the electrical situation taken care of before anything can happen in the park
 - Trustee Parke said there is power outside the gazebo
 - Eleanor Governor said we are not in compliance now and need to be if people want to have events
 - Trustee Parke thinks we can get a new box and get up to code for just a few hundred dollars
 - Trustee Hovis said maybe we could use some of the First Energy grant money for getting the electrical power up to code
 - Several suggestions for some local electricians were made
 - Trustee Parke suggested keeping the work in the township and trying to get some donations
 - Richard Musick suggested using a local group of apprentices-in-training to do the work as part of a school project wherein the township buys the materials and the township provides the labor
 - Eleanor Governor suggested approaching students at TCTC
- Eleanor Governor asked about the Trumbull County building inspector
 - Trustee Parke said there is a new one and that he has worked with him before
- Doug Lyons of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) discussed grants that are available
 - Noted that no new three-way leases between state, township, federal are being issued
 - Bazetta is likely to continue to receive the renewal because we have been doing a three-way lease for so long
 - Nature Works grant had a February deadline
 - Recommended starting now to work on this grant for next year
 - Land and Water Conservation is a federal grant that one wherein you need approval before you can even apply
 - Questions that needs to be answered include if the property is owned or leased
 - Clean Ohio Trails grant also had a February deadline
 - Can be used to build a trail or improve existing trails
 - Recreational Trails program is an 80% grant that also had a February deadline
 - Can be used for existing trails
 - Greater priority is given if the trail has motorized access
 - Could be used to purchase property and install trails
 - Other grants available are, but these 4 are the main ones that Bazetta could take advantage of
 - Discussed the Lake Vista project in Cortland
- Beth Barnes asked if the park road has to be handicapped compliant
 - Rita Benoit noted the poor condition of the road
 - Trustee Parke said we need to do something to make the park handicapped accessible so elderly residents can get to the gazebo and into the park

- Doug Lyons said to call his office if there are any maintenance needs and they will do what they can
- Beth Barnes asked if ODNR patrols the park
 - Doug Lyons said it is a low priority, but if someone were to call them with something out of the ordinary, then they will come out
 - They do have an undercover unit that works in the park
 - Would be willing set up a “sting” if asked
 - Could put up cameras
 - Trustee Urchek suggested putting up signs that said the cameras are there, even if they are not there
- Rita Benoit said we need signs in the park
 - Doug Lyons said they have some signs and we can just ask for them
- Beth Barnes asked if the township needed permission to do things in the park
 - Doug Lyons said no, but that you will need the Army Corps of Engineers permission
- Beth Barnes thanked Doug Lyons for coming in
- Doug Lyons notes that the dog park people have been raising funds for the dog park
 - They have raised roughly \$10,000 in the past year
 - They have done this with spaghetti dinners, Halloween costume contest, selling benches, and other fund raisers
- Rita Benoit volunteered to work on the EfficientGovNow grant with Doug Lyons
- Fiscal Officer Drew volunteered to pass along any grants that she comes across from various philanthropic groups she has access to
- Beth Barnes asked if Martha Urchek had heard anything about the Easter Egg Hunt
 - Martha Urchek said she did make the contact, but has not heard anything back
- Beth Barnes noted that future Parks & Recreation Board meetings will be on March 2, May 4, August 3, and October 5 at 6:00pm at the Administration Building
- Beth Barnes discussed doing an annual memorial car show
 - A couple of names were mentioned as people with whom to discuss this
 - Trustee Hovis said that he will look into this
 - Eleanor Governor asked who would sponsor this since the township could not
 - Trustee Hovis suggested talking to local businesses

078-10 To adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm.

Motion: Trustee Parke

Second: Trustee Urchek

Vote: Trustee Hovis-Yes Trustee Parke-Yes Trustee Urchek -Yes

_____ Dated: _____
 Attested by: Fiscal Officer Rita K. Drew

_____ Dated: _____
 Approved by: Chairman Trustee Paul Hovis