

## Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – February 4, 2019

Chairperson Brian Sulewski called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Notice Statement – The Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied by notification to the Hunterdon County Democrat and Trenton Times and by posting with the Township Clerk and on the Delaware Township bulletin board on January 10, 2019.

Flag Salute – Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Judy Allen, Tim Drew, Aidan Ricci, Toby Ruttenberg, Steve Smotrich, Tim Soltis, Brian Sulewski, Linda Ubry

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of January 7, 2019 – Tim Drew moved, Steve Smotrich seconded, and members present approved the minutes as written from the meeting of January 7, 2019 with an abstention by Linda Ubry.

### REPORTS:

Teens – Aidan Ricci and Toby Ruttenberg discussed development of their idea for a teen 3 on 3 basketball tournament to be sponsored by the Commission at Delaware Township School. Possible dates are March 23 or March 30. Toby thought there could be a prize to the winners funded by the Commission or a sponsor. Tim Drew thought DTAA coaches might volunteer to referee. Alternatively there could be a paid referee. Members discussed how best to advertise this event once it is finalized. Once the date is finalized, requests to use Delaware Township School facilities and for insurance coverage will be submitted. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

DTS BOE – Linda Ubry said that Vicki Hardy is the DTS Teacher of the Year and Reath Mast is the Professional of the Year.

### DTAA

Tim Drew reported DTAA will hold a fundraiser on March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company. Basketball play is ongoing. Spring sports registrations are open. He said an official request should be submitted to the Township Committee to close Field B with snow-fence installed surrounding it and a sign posted that the field is closed, and aeration/ restoration/ seeding be done as soon as possible. Tim Soltis moved, Linda Ubry seconded, and members agreed to submit this request to the Township Committee for its next meeting as an agenda item. Brian will convey that request. Tim explained how Field A will be lined to accommodate extra play this spring. Tim said he met with Delaware Township Chief Financial Officer Diane McDaniel to review Township funding of DTAA. The Township reimburses DTAA for soccer field maintenance, clay for the baseball fields, and gravel for the dugout areas. He hoped the Township would increase its allocation to DTAA this year and that it does not come out of the Recreation Commission budget.

OPEN SPACE – Steve Smotrich said the field of applicants for the position of Open Space coordinator has been narrowed to one candidate.

APPROVAL OF DILTS FARM PARK APPLICATIONS – There were no applications.

COMMITTEES:

Egg Hunt – The Egg Hunt will be held on April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Dilts Farm Park at 1 p.m.

Yard Sale – Judy Allen said this year's Yard Sale will be Saturday May 18 with a rain date of May 19. It should always be held on the third Saturday to develop continuity. In the event of rain on Saturday, individual sellers would decide whether to postpone their sales to Sunday and could post a sign to that effect.

Great Crate Race – July 4, 2019 – Steve said the possibility of a crate swap and trials event is under consideration.

Summer Recreation Program – Brian Sulewski said he will invite Summer Recreation Program Director Maegan Harrington to the next meeting to discuss this year's Program and establish a budget. The Program will run July 8 through the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Mini-Golf – Dates TBD

Community Block Party – October 5, 2019.

Holiday Decorating Contest – December 16, 2019 – Final Judging (December 15 if weather conditions on December 16 warrant.)

2019 RECREATION COMMISSION BUDGET

Members agreed that a 2019 fireworks event is pending finalization of the Commission's budget. Brian said he make an appointment with Ms. McDaniel about the budget.

DELAWARE TOWNSHIP SENIORS

Tim said he spoke with Sandra Krahling about the Township's Seniors Group and how the Commission might work with the seniors on various programs. He will attend the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting on behalf of the Commission.

OLD BUSINESS

Seasonal Ice Rink – Steve reported that the new ice rink liner will be installed at the School when weather is appropriate.

Dilts Farm Park – Members continued discussion about use of the Park year-round. They strongly felt that facilities should be open year-round and the gates unlocked and relocked daily. The signs stating the Park is closed should be removed. Tim moved, Linda seconded and members agreed to ask the Township Committee to open the Park year-round, recognizing that the parking lots will not be snow plowed. Brian will communicate this to the Township Committee and to DPW Director Jay Trstensky. Possible projects for Eagle Scout candidates at

the Park include bridge repair and fitness stations and restoration of the cemetery at the Sergeantsville Village Green.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 26, 2019

Tim Drew moved, Steve seconded and members approved the minutes from the special meeting on January 26, 2019 with an abstention by Tim Soltis.

#### DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL MEETING ON JANUARY 26, 2019

Steve reported on the survey results from attendees at the special meeting as follows:

With \$5 increments being the smallest amount you might use, if you had an extra \$100 to spend on parks and open space programs, how would you allocate the \$100 across the following categories? You may leave any items blank for no allocation, but please make

#### TOTALS    %

<b>\$70</b>	<b>10%</b> Add aquatics facility (pool, splash pads, etc.)
<b>\$70</b>	<b>10%</b> Add outdoor athletic fields and courts
<b>\$75</b>	<b>11%</b> Develop new parks on existing Township land
<b>\$40</b>	<b>6%</b> Acquire and preserve additional open space
<b>\$105</b>	<b>15%</b> Expand programs and activities (community events, summer camps, seniors activities, trips, etc.)
<b>\$85</b>	<b>12%</b> Increase trail and pathway connectivity
<b>\$245</b>	<b>35%</b> Make improvements and/or renovate existing amenities at parks and facilities (i.e. adapt existing fields for sports/activities, etc.)
<b>\$10</b>	<b>1%</b> Other (please specify) Community programs like the block party & fireworks_____
<b>\$700</b>	<b>100% TOTAL</b>

The focus of the discussion was the Dilts Park, in particular, repair of the walking path and its availability year-round. Tim will bring the survey to the Seniors meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Members agreed to include it in the upcoming Township newsletter and hoped for a community response. Judy will prepare a summary of the meeting to include in the newsletter as well.

#### NEW EVENTS

Judy asked whether the Commission could sponsor a weekly summer softball night for adults. Tim Drew said the Dilts Field is really not playable for this use. Members discussed pick up co-ed volleyball at the Park in the summer. Other suggestions included a shuffle board court and horseshoe pits.

### NEW BUSINESS

Steve reviewed an earlier discussion about honoring the late Jerry Hudzik who was instrumental in the development of the Field of Dreams. Tim Drew said opening day is April 13<sup>th</sup>. He thought a scoreboard would cost about \$3,500. DTAA would pay half of the cost. Members agreed to use Recreation Trust funds for the other half. The scoreboard would include recognition of Jerry and a plaque would be presented to his family. Brian moved to fund half of the cost of the scoreboard for the Field of Dreams at the Dilts Park with recognition to Jerry Hudzik for his instrumental role with the other half to be donated by the DTAA and to purchase a plaque for the Hudzik Family. Unveiling of the scoreboard would take place on Opening Day. Judy seconded the motion, and members unanimously approved the motion.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Next Meeting – Monday, March 4, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.