

Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – March 18, 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 March XX, 2019.

Flag Salute – Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Judy Allen, Connor Devlin, Tim Drew, Aidan Ricci, Julie Luster-Roell, Toby Ruttenberg, Steve Smotrich, Tim Soltis, Brian Sulewski, Linda Ubry, Joe Vocke

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of January 7, 2019 – Tim Soltis moved, Linda Ubry seconded, and members present approved the minutes as written from the meeting of February 4, with abstentions by Julie Luster-Roell and Joe Vocke.

REPORTS:

Teens – Aidan Ricci, Toby Ruttenberg and Connor Devlin reported that there was not a lot of interest in the proposed teen basketball tournament due in part to the distance some Hunterdon Central Regional High School students would have to travel to get to Delaware Township School and spring sports at Central have started. They now would like to designate it a DTS Middle School Tournament with a date to be determined. Members agreed. When they select a date, they will notify Judy who will amend the facility request to DTS and notify Township Clerk Jodi McKinney to arrange for insurance coverage. The referees are set.

DTS BOE – Linda Ubry said State aid was reduced by \$100,000 due in part because some students who had previously attended DTS through the Choice program had become residents, and the new Choice students enrolled after the October 1st State deadline.

DTAA

Tim Drew reported that DTAA Opening Day is April 13 at 9 a.m. for baseball and softball. The baseball/softball field Clean Up Day will be April 6 and March 30 for soccer. Two new fields will be lined to share Field A due to the closure and reseeding of Field B. The DTAA Spring Fundraiser will be on March 30. Tim said the new scoreboard for the Field of Dreams will be delivered on April 10. He described the scoreboard. It will include a memorial to the late Jerry Hudzik who worked so diligently with others to develop the Field of Dreams. The cost increased from the price quoted in the fall and will now cost approximately \$4,300. Mid Jersey Orthopaedics will be a scoreboard sponsor. Tim said the Dilts Farm Park is now unlocked daily. Brian Sulewski said that according to Charles Herman the Township Committee allocated \$19,000 for the Recreation Commission's 2019 budget including \$5,000 for DTAA. Julie said the Commission received \$19,700 in 2018.

Tim said the infield grass will be removed from the Seniors' baseball field and moved elsewhere to repair/improve drainage on other fields and the pitcher's mound removed. A temporary mound will be placed for baseball uses like the annual DTS Tournament. The adult church softball league can also use that field.

OPEN SPACE – Steve Smotrich said Township hired Catherine Fullerton as the new Open Space Coordinator and there are two new members on the Open Space Committee. 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 for the Commission to review and approve. Resident Park uses are approved by the Township Clerk.

COMMITTEES:

Egg Hunt – The Egg Hunt will be held on April 20th at the Dilts Farm Park at 1 p.m. Julie said she ordered the candy. Girl Scouts will stuff the eggs on April 5. Julie will purchase the prizes. She asked Tim to be sure there are no DTAA activities at the Park between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. during egg hiding and hunt time. She could use help that morning. Members anticipated Field XXX being fenced by that time during its restoration.

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 he met with Race Co-Chair Kathleen Herman. They submitted the Facility Request use to DTS. They have discussed the program book and whether or not to include it this year. The cost is expensive. The Race still needs the sponsorships previously listed in the program book. He cited potential sponsorship levels and ways to recognize them. Joe will check whether they could be recognized on the Township’s website as well as other ways. Steve and Kathleen plan a crate swap meet and track runs at DTS.

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.)

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 April meeting on behalf of the Commission.

2019 BUDGET

Julie said she has asked CFO Diane McDaniel for monthly Recreation Commission expenditures. The Township Committee agreed not to charge the port-a-potty charges to the Commission’s budget. It charged the Commission for the Summer Recreation Program insurance premium that was previously not done. She will ask Diane to reverse previous inapplicable charges to the Commission’s 2018 budget and deposit them to the Commission’s Trust Reserve and to provide monthly budget updates.

Tim Drew asked whether the Dilts Park well water has been tested. Joe said it was ordered. Tim asked that the bathrooms be opened by DTAA Opening Day. Members discussed moving some activities from the Crate Race to the Block Party. Members discussed the fingerprint requirement for Summer Recreation Program employees. Employee packets are needed from Diane McDaniel with the paperwork required for these employees. Joe said the Township has to advertise available positions for adult Recreation Counselors, but not for teen counselors. Members discussed the Recreation registration form. Legal advice from the Township Attorney is needed to address the registration's wording on accommodations for participants. That language could mirror what DTAA uses on its application. Members will determine the registration fee at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Seasonal Ice Rink – The ice rink season is over. It will be removed and stored at the Department of Public Works.

Dilts Farm Park – Joe said the Township Committee agreed to open the Dilts Park year-round except under certain conditions, like deep snow. Tim Drew said a plaque will be presented to the Hudzik Family when the new scoreboard is dedicated.

Bocce Court - Ethan Gillespie has proposed to construct a bocce court at the Dilts Park for his Eagle Scout project. Members agreed to visit the Park to select the most appropriate site. Ethan will request permission from the Township Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Next Meeting – Monday, April 1, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.