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Lower Saucon Township  
Parks & Recreation Board

Business Meeting

October 1, 2007

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1. **Meeting Called To Order:** 7:12 pm Municipal Building
2. **Roll Call:**

**Present:** Bill Ross, Chair; Dave Spirk, Vice-Chair; Scott Schanzenbach, Bernadette Fong, Michaelann Berger, members.

**Absent:** Tom Butera, Steve Zaharakis, members; Jack Cahalan, Council Liaison.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the Parks & Recreation Board meeting of July 30, 2007 were reviewed and approved. Minutes from the Parks & Recreation Board meeting of September 10, 2007 were reviewed and approved.
4. **Citizen Non-Agenda Items:** MJ Roche of Boy Scout Troop 319 appeared again before the board regarding his Eagle project. He would like to beautify a nature trail in the township. He is looking at a 2-year (maximum) timeframe, but would like to accomplish it in Spring 2008. His project would include clearing trails, signage, and identification of native flora and fauna. The board suggested that Heller Homestead and Polk Valley Park would both make good options. The board will inform council of the potential project and continue to communicate with MJ.
5. **Projects:**
  - **Town Hall Park** – Michaelann state that the mesh fencing surrounding the play area needs to be lowered. There are ‘holes’ in the fencing that toddlers could crawl through and/or under if parents are not paying close attention to the toddlers.
  - **Southeastern Park** – No new discussion.
  - **Steel City** – No new discussion.
  - **Heller Homestead** - No new discussion.
  - **Polk Valley Park** – The board discussed the need for adequate fencing at the fields before play can begin. The fencing along the woods at Community Park in Center Valley was used as a positive example. It was suggested that we look into ‘raisable’ net fencing o minimize the sight impact of the fencing, so that when games are not being played the fence can be lowered. It was also discussed that we will need to organize scheduling of the fields so that a schedule will be in place when the fields are open for use. This should be addressed as soon as possible.
  - **Kingston Park** – No new discussion
  - **Grants** - No new discussion.
  - **Volunteer Scout Projects** – See citizen non-agenda items.
6. **Old Business:**
  - **Polk Valley Park Update** – No update.
  - **Update on Southeastern Park Meadow** – No update.
  - **2007 Goals & Objectives** - No update.
  - **5-Year Plan** - No update.
  - **2008 Budget Requests** – The board discussed Saucon Valley Community Center programs for 2008. The board feels that weekend nights would be an appropriate (and needed) time for the

Teen Program, which could included dances, bands playing, etc... The board feels that a PlayStation or Wii would be an appropriate acquisition for the program. The board questioned the eligibility of Hellertown teens in the program, with the opinion that not only should they be allowed to attend, they should be encouraged. The board also discussed the Toddlers program, and suggested that we should offer 2-day sessions either instead of or in addition to 5-day sessions. It was noted that many parents sign up for 5-day programs, but only send their kids a few days, thereby taking (and not using) precious space in the program. If they only had to sign up for two days, they might not waste the other three, thereby opening up the space for parents and toddlers who really need it. Michaelann mentioned that we should look into how the Jewish Community Center in Allentown runs their programs, using a sponsorship plan to subsidize their programs with other agencies and/or classes (i.e. karate, music, gymnastics, etc...). Finally, it was discussed that we as a board should work closer with the SVCC to raise awareness and add possible new programs. Perhaps we could get articles in the Morning Call community section to promote the programs.

7. **New Business:**

- **Hellertown Pool** - The board supports the concept of a joint operation of the pool by both municipalities.
- **Hulet Minor Subdivision Recreation Fee** – No discussion was heard. It will be discussed at the November 5 meeting. Southeastern Park is the closest facility.
- **Acknowledgement of Service** – The board recognized and thanked Michaelann Berger for her years of service to the board and wished her well as she and her family move to Oklahoma

8. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

9. **Next Meeting:** The next Park & Recreation Board meeting will be on November 5, 2007 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

Submitted by Bill Ross.