

# RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 4, 2010

## In Attendance:

### Members

Ed Budzinski, Robert Dalle Pазze, Ed Fedorko, George Ferenchick, Stacey Gallagher, Jeff Kimmel, Bill Pitman, Chris Sawaski, Marie Tagliaferri, Zig Zegarski

### Staff

Council Liaison Greg Puliti, Steven Groeger, Superintendent

### Absent

Glenn Collins, Matt Calu, Program Coordinator

## Superintendent' Report (see attached)

- The Superintendent responded that the proposed budget while lower than the 2009 appropriated budget will permit 2010 services to remain at the same level as those offered in 2009.
- In response to a request for a status on the Dyson Tract the Superintendent indicated bids had been received within the last two weeks for the remediation work.
- The fencing at Twin Pines was purchased by Hopewell.
- Marie suggested that the Emergency Medical Services building might be suitable as a temporary site for senior programs during construction.

## Council Liaison Report

- Councilman Puliti gave a Budget update. The introduced budget for 2010 reflects a reduction in the surplus, staff layoffs, a 5 cent increase and a elimination of benefits for the appointed employees.

## Correspondence

## Old Business

- Twin Pines  
The Superintendent reported that final bid documents are being prepared and it is anticipated that the project will be advertised shortly with a projected bid opening by the end of February. The project will be bid to include as the base for Lawrence the construction of the two natural play areas and parking. Alternates will include irrigation, underground conduit and landscaping.

- Dog Park
  - The Superintendent has requested price estimates for the relocation of the Dog Park to a site within Village Park that is on property recently purchased from Ted Wilk. This will double in size the facility and provide a grassed surface. The cost will be compared to restoration of the existing site which has raised user concerns about surfacing, drainage, size, etc.
  - The Superintendent will meet with those interested dog owners to discuss what will be happening and how they can support the improvement including purchase of benches, equipment, etc.
  - Concerns were raised that we should not be spending potentially \$10,000 when people are losing their jobs.
- Sponsorships/Contributions
  - Thanks to the efforts of Ed Budzinski a request for \$20,000 to sponsor the fireworks was requested of Toyota. No response at this time.
  - A grant request was submitted to NJ Health and Senior Services for \$7,000 to fund the Mayor's Wellness initiative. This will include the purchase of several Wii Systems, CATCH and funding for the Tour De Lawrence. No response at this time.
  - A grant request was submitted to Bristol Myers Squibb for \$3,500 to fund Safety Town. No response at this time.
  - A grant request was submitted to Bristol Myers Squibb for \$20,000 to fund the Fireworks. No response at this time.
  - A grant request was submitted to Home Depot for \$1,500 to offset expenses for restoration/relocation of the Dog Park. No response at this time.
  - A grant request was submitted to Lowes for \$3,500 to offset expenses for restoration/relocation of the Dog Park. No response at this time.

#### New Business

- Recreation Brochure
  - The Recreation Brochure was sent to ETS for printing and then will be sent to SHM Mailers to be addressed and mailed. The printing is absorbed by ETS with postage (\$2,300) and SHM (\$1,000) paid by the Township. One of the areas of reduction to the Recreation Budget is \$3,000 for the Brochure to be mailed. Consideration will be to continue having ETS print the books but not to distribute by mail having them placed at strategic locations in town for pickup.
- Special Events
  - Tour De Lawrence
    - Scheduled for June this event to be held at Colonial Lake Park will focus on promoting bicycling as an activity for Kindergarten to third graders. The event

in the planning stages will include giveaways of helmets, safety checks and many other cycling related activities.

- Memorial Day Observance
  - In keeping with the subtheme of the families of those deployed to the Middle East, Linda Reith the wife of The Adjutant General and Chairperson of the Family Readiness Council has been invited to serve as the Grand Marshal and Principal speaker. Lawrence High School will serve as the start to this year's parade providing a significantly improved staging area with better parking. It will also provide easier transition from the conclusion of the parade for vehicles. Increased promotion is planned to make the public aware of the change as well as trying to provide transportation for the Tandem residents who generally are at Stonicker Drive.
- Dog Days of Summer
  - To be held in Village Park this September focusing on dogowners being active with their pets. Plans are to include demonstrations by the Lawrence Township K9 Shadow, other trainers and similar activities as the event held in 2006.
- Registration
  - The Recreation Department is tracking how registration forms are obtained. Those taken from the website have a nondescript "W" in the form. The electronic backpack forms have an "E", office forms are not, marked and the book will have a page number at the bottom.
- Park Tour
  - April 5<sup>TH</sup> at 6:00 pm

#### Next Meeting

- March 4, 2010 - 7:30 pm