

## **Doylestown Park and Recreation Board Minutes 1/14/2014 Submitted by Jan Suessenguth, Secretary**

### **Attendance:**

John Bray, Susan Reichwein, Jan Suessenguth, Blythe Kelly, Paul DiNella Youth Member, Emily Rehmet Visitors , Rick Colello , Stephanie Mason, Supervisor Ron Snyder, Joe Salvati

**Welcome:** John Bray extended welcome to the visitors and our new member Paul DiNella and new youth member Emily Rehmet.

### **Election of Officers**

Chairman – John Bray

Vice Chairman – Karen Sweeney

Secretary – Jan Suessenguth (mentioned job search, as long as available)

**Approval of Minutes from November 12<sup>th</sup> 2013** – Susan Reichwein, Blythe Kelly

**Kids Castle Update:** Given by Joe Salvati

Kids Castle Committee is having a meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January at 6:30 for the Preliminary Proposal for Phase 2. The group has come to an agreement on several inclusive pieces of equipment (wheelchair access) Also included in the proposal is the use of poured in place surface for the entire area, which gives the ability for the handicap to utilize the entire area and move around freely for interactive play. Joe stated that after the proposal then the fundraising efforts will be put in full force and that Karen Sweeney, although recuperating, is included in the process of all facets of the project. John Bray mentioned to the board that attendance that evening of the Park and Rec Committee would be important to show support.

**Sensory Enrichment Trail Update**– DFED Grant Received –The Board was extremely happy to hear the amount of the Grant that was awarded and the hard work that was done to secure it. Stephanie Mason mentioned that the design is complete, construction meeting has been completed and the trail is ready to go. Dick is ready for the bidding to go forward and get started. The trail will be asphalt for ease of access to the areas and the pod sites will be constructed after the asphalt work is done. The individual pod sites will be made out of wood with railings and then the pods would be secured to those deck structures. The trail will allow 10 pods and as the project gets underway, the committee and the township will need to begin gathering ideas and funds for the pod development. Rick mentioned that the Lions Club has already committed to a pod and just has to be given the green light. Emily mentioned and Stephanie agreed that it would be a great project for the high school to get involved with and possibly provide a pod.

**Dog Park Update** – No new news regarding the Dog Park, however Joe Salvati stated that they will be compiling video of some of the Dog Park Events and putting them up on the Website for residents to view and find out more information about the park and to possibly join.

In addition Joe Salvati from **Telecommunication Committee** also mentioned the purchase of a “go pro” camera for use around the township. The suggestion was made that the camera be used for Park and Recreation events to show the enjoyment of the activities offered and the beauty of the park itself (i.e. Bike Trails) It would be great to post on the website for more residents to see what Doylestown

Township has to offer. John Bray mentioned that he would like the Board to think about the upcoming events and how we could utilize the camera to best serve Park and Recreation.

**Amphitheater** – John Bray brought up the question of moving forward on the Amphitheater. Stephanie Mason stated that through the use of already accumulated funds, Karen Sweeney and herself and others were checking into pre-fab structures to be placed where the “showmobile” is usually parked for events. The structure would be permanent of nature.

Comments and questions regarding the possibility of the new prefab structure,

1. If it fits in with the “natural” scape of the park
2. The quality of the structure –would it match the quality/design that has been put into the re-building of Kid’s Castle.
3. Are we just getting this as a quick fix? Was the question brought up.

After discussion ensued regarding the need / desire of the Amphitheater it was decided that a utilization study needs to be launched to see:

1. What type of events could be held there? Plays, Concerts drama camps.
2. Other townships that already have an Amphitheater – how do they utilize it?
3. What type of revenue stream could it bring to the township that otherwise would not be available.
4. Study the events that we have held at that location and around the township – for numbers of attendees .

We reached a consensus that we move forward with the utilization research for the Amphitheater.

### **Sounds of Summer Update**

Stephanie Mason stated that everything is on track for the concert series (6 concerts) for summer 2014. Fundraising would begin when Karen Sweeney returns from extended leave.

Susan Reichwein mentioned that her Nephew is in a group that has become famous and would possibly be willing to come to Doylestown to participate in the Sounds of Summer concert series. Stephanie Mason mentioned the process and Susan will be providing the CD’s to the township for proper vetting as is required to be considered.

### **Other Business:**

John Bray mentioned that now that the elections of the new Supervisors is complete that he would like each of them to have a copy of the Master Plans for the park, so they are up-to-date when a reference is made to those plans. He would like them to be on a thumb drive that they could have and review when needed. Stephanie Mason said she would speak with Karen Sweeney about copying them onto the thumb drives. John mentioned he would donate the thumb drives.

Susan Reichwein asked about the Tennis Courts and if there had been any new news regarding the problem with the surface of the Tennis Court. It was mentioned by John Bray that the Contractor that did the re-surfacing does not recognize that there is anything wrong with the surface. John Bray said he would check in with Dick regarding the problem.

Adjournment: Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.

