New Britain Township Park & Recreation Meeting
September 30, 2008

An official meeting of the New Britain Township Park and Recreation Advisory Board was held at the New Britain Township Building on September 30, 2008 beginning at 7:07 p.m. In attendance were: Bob Ralston, William Jones, Regina Armitage, Jim Wall, Leslie Bilotta, Nancy Jones, Wayne Fultz, Scott Ambron, Angela Benner, and Jr. Member Courtney Gregor.

1. Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by William Jones, seconded by Jim Wall, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes from June 24, 2008.

2. 4th of July Review – Angela Benner reported that she didn't hear any complaints about the parade and thought everything went very smoothly. Wayne Fultz requested that next year we make sure the trailers for the tractors in the parade are not parked in the grass which is the right away to park cars after they complete the parade. Leslie Bilotta said that Scanlin Funeral Home made his facility available for our judges to use if they needed a restroom. It was mentioned during the meeting that there was only a few vehicles that where throwing candy and they were advised to stop. The committee was in agreement to keep having the form signed by all participants in the parade to help make everything more enforceable. Regina Armitage brought up the problem with us running out of food after the parade last year and Angela explained that she believes that people who where attending for the EMS Buildings Open House believed that the parade food was for the open house.

3. Santa House – Angela showed pictures of Perkasie Borough's Santa House and explained that she would like to start this out as something small and if it takes off then every year we can build upon it. Angela stated that she has got written approval from the management company for the Genuardi's shopping center and they have approved the Township to put up a Santa House in the Parking lot 2 different Saturdays in December in front of Hollywood Video. Leslie Bilotta brought up the idea of buying the Doylestown house and Angela said that that one is pretty large and would be hard for us to transport. Angela said that Public Works is going to build the house themselves and that way we can build it to be whatever we want. William Jones brought up that the Santa House had been done in years past and that there weren't always the biggest turnouts. Angela said that she believes with having the house at the shopping center will draw a large crowd especially with the certain stores that are right behind where the house will be. Nancy Jones motioned to approve doing a Santa House and Leslie Bilotta 2nd the motion. Angela said they will go over more details for the Santa House next meeting.

4. Report on Vertis Park – Angela reported that there was a public meeting earlier in the night at 6pm and that a couple people from the public showed up and their main concern was the fields being lighted and how that would effect the residents back in the subdivision behind West Branch Park. Ann Yost explained that with the technology today the lights shine right down on the fields and with the buffer of the tree's that are along the creek the lights shinning into the houses should not be an issue. William Jones read out an email that Angela received earlier from Paul Williams that listed something's he would like to see at the new park. These items included a sand volleyball court, Skate Park, short term parking lot for Septa, and a Dog Park. Bill said that at this time there isn't any room for those items at the new park. Angela said she could see a sand volleyball court going in at the Lexington Park when that becomes developed. Also in the email Paul Williams mentioned the vegetation, undergrowth and trees that he believes should be permanently removed across the street from Cedar Hill Road. Bill said he believes that with the trees and brush there that helps people slow down and if removed then people will be driving on that road faster than they already are. Wayne said he will take a look at it and if anything maybe they could trim it back a little bit, but would have to talk to Vertis because that is there property. Angela then said that the next Vertis meeting is at the end of October and stated that we should have the completed Master Plan presented to us by the end of the year.

5. 2009 Budget – Angela handed out the proposed Park & Recreation Budget for 2009 and went over it by line item. The total projected Revenue is $308,000.00 and the total projected expenses are $289,000.00. Bill talked about the new P&R building that we want to build next to the township building that the guys could use to store all their equipment and the cops could also use to park under. Wayne said that the building they are currently using is not big enough for them. Regina asked what the size of the building

would be and Bill said it is suppose to be 40ft wide by 60ft. long. Angela asked if anyone had any problems or concerns with the budget and everyone said they were fine with it.

6. Civicall – Angela informed everyone of a new feature on the website called Civicall. She explained how Civicall works and asked the committee members to spread the news to help residents become aware of the program.

7. Agility Trials at North Branch Park – Angela reported that High Octane Agility has requested to use a few of our fields for next year to hold Dog Agility Trials. Angela explained that there is an agreement with them that they would have to pay field user fee's and a $250.00 escrow in case that something is not cleaned up after their use or something is damaged. Everyone on the committee was in agreement that this would be a nice event to hold at the field and will help draw people out to our fields. Regina asked if this would be something where they would be selling food or if maybe we could sell food and make some type of profit. Angela said she would talk to them because she doesn't recall talking to them about selling food. Angela also said that recently Chris Florina the owner of Duck Deli approach her about running the snack bar. Angela said that because someone else has interest in the snack bar she contacted LVBaseball and found out that they are planning to not use the concession stand next year. However, softball might be interested. Since baseball is not going to be using the concession stand anymore we are suppose to be getting a list from baseball letting us know what in the concession stand is theirs that they want to keep. Once that is know Scott Ambron can clean out the concession stand and get rid of everything that isn't needed. Angela also let the committee know that the concession stand goes out to bid every year.

8. Traffic Calming – Wayne Fultz announced that there are now painted crosswalks at E Schoolhouse and Manor Drive, E. Schoolhouse and Tartan Terrace, E. Schoolhouse and Krista Ct, Park Avenue and Indian Creek, Park Avenue and West Fairwood Drive, Park Avenue and Sycamore Drive, and Park Avenue and E. Fairwoods Dr. Wayne said they also installed Traffic Calming signs at each end of E. Schoolhouse Road and on Park Avenue.

9. Other Business – Angela said that Jennifer Brogein contacted her in regards to geocaching. Jennifer would like to put a spot for geocaching in North Branch Park. Angela gave everyone the website address www.geocaching.com and also explained how it works. She said that people have a hand held gps system and they use that to track and search for a hidden item. There are approximetly 660,000 different spots throughout the United States and is a great leisure activity for those who participate. Angela asked everyone to take a look at the website and that at the next meeting they would decide if we would allow this at our park.

   Angela also brought up the topic of summer concerts again and said that Chalfont decided to not have a summer concert because they are doing a fall festival instead. Angela said she would look into different bands and their cost to help decide if this is something that we would still like to do next summer. Everyone thought it was a good idea to at least look into the pricing.

   Courtney Gregor asked if we were going to do a fall festival next year. Angela said that from asking around it sounds like it is a lot of work that has to start at the same time the 4th of July parade is being planned. Angela also said there are a lot of surrounding fall festivals to compete with, but she would still try and get to some of the fall festivals this year and scope them out. Regina said that she believes it would be hard to put on a fall festival if there are other festivals that take place around us throughout the fall that have been established over years.

10. The next regular meeting of the Park and Recreation was scheduled for October 28, 2008 at 7:00p.m. Being no further business; a motion was made by Jim Wall, seconded by William Jones and unanimously carried to end the meeting at 8:26p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Benner, Secretary

Bob Ralston, Chairman