



New Britain Township

Park & Recreation Board

MEETING MINUTES

May 21, 2024

A Meeting of the New Britain Township Park and Recreation Board was held on May 21, 2024, at the Township Administration Building, 207 Park Avenue, New Britain Township, Pa., and with the use of the Zoom Video Conferencing Platform, beginning at 7:04 p.m. In attendance were Jessica Young, Renee Steskal, Nancy Jones, and Brooke Newborn. Also in attendance was Bill May and Susan Gelb New Britain Township Staff.

- 1. Approval of Minutes from April, 2024:** A motion was made by Brooke Newborn seconded by Nancy Jones and carried unanimously the April 16, 2024, minutes were approved as written.
- 2. Introduction of Event Coordinator:** Bill May formally introduced New Britain Township's new Event Coordinator Susan Gelb to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.
- 3. Fourth of July Event Planning:** Susan Gelb informed the board of all current items that were confirmed for the Fourth of July Parade. She also informed of items still in progress. The elimination of the Township acquiring convertibles was also confirmed, and Township Supervisors are responsible supplying their own convertibles. Jessica Young volunteered to judge the floats and Brooke Newborn volunteered to help in staging. Prizes for the floats were also confirmed. Pretzels and water are to be handed out to parade participants at the staging area. The end of the parade route has not changed, all vehicles will drive past, any floats that need to break down will be guided into North Branch Park to do so. No added refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the parade. Nancy Jones inquired if there was a junior Parade Marshal elected. Sue informed that the Veterans Committee is in the process of nominating a junior Parade Marshal Nancy Jones had also informed that she also has a candidate if needed.
- 4. Other Business:**
 - TNT Softball Tournament:** Bill May had informed the board that Chris Haney from TNT softball has requested to host another scouting tournament at North Branch Park on the weekend of July 5th, 6th, and 7th. Then discussed that it would be identical to the tournament held last year around the same time. Bill May then proceeded to tell the board of how successful and courteous that this group was as there was no clean up required by the park and rec staff last year, and that several players from the Central Bucks area received scholarships because of the tournament. Jessica Young inquired of the outcome if it rains. Bill May stated that the teams have some leniency towards field use and if it is canceled teams receive a partial refund.

Motion:

A motion was made by Renee Steskal, seconded by Brooke Newborn, and carried unanimously to approve the TNT Tournament



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Lenape Valley Softball Dugout Proposal: Bill May introduced Jeremy Motley and Michael Orvat from Lenape Valley softball. He informed the board that they had contacted him about the possibility of installing dugouts on the three softball fields at North Branch Park. Mr. Motley and Mr. Orvat had stated that the previous plan for the approval for dugouts fell through and little information was available. They submitted a design that would keep any open line of sight through the park and still provide the players with protection from the elements, particularly the sun and drizzle. Lenape Valley informed everyone that the project would be completely funded by Lenape Valley and that they would be responsible for obtaining all required permits and inspections. Bill May asked, discussed, and assumed that future maintenance would fall on the responsibility of New Britain Township as it does with the existing baseball dugouts. It was agreed by all that it would be an upgrade to the park.

Motion:

A motion was made by Renee Steskal, seconded by Brooke Newborn, and carried unanimously to approve the Lenape Valley softball dugout proposal.

Brooke Newborn presented a question from the Environmental Advisory Committee concerning the fact if there were enough fields available to accommodate all teams that apply for use. Bill May replied that as of now there has been no issues with field use overlap.

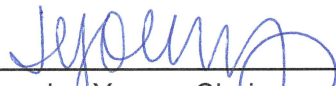
Jessica Young asked if there has been any outcome to reinstating advisory members. Bill Jones informed that they are not reinstating advisory members, but anyone is eligible to volunteer and attend meetings.

5. Public Comment: None

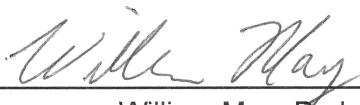
6. Adjournment:

- **Motion:** A motion was made by Nancy Jones and seconded by Brooke Newborn and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jessica Young, Chairperson



William May, Parks &
Recreation Coordinator

Next meeting – June 18, 2024