



New Britain Township

Park & Recreation Board

MEETING MINUTES January 18, 2022

A Meeting of the New Britain Township Park and Recreation Advisory Board was held on January 18, 2022 at the Township Administration Building, 207 Park Avenue, New Britain Township, Pa., beginning at 7:03 p.m. In attendance were: James Bender, Nancy Jones, Marco Tustanowsky, Cynthia Jones, Charles Maeyer, and Jessica Handschuh. Also, in attendance were: Bill May, Chelle Clancy, and Michael Walsh, New Britain Township Staff.

Reorganization

Appointment of Temporary Chair: Mr. Bender nominated Mr. Tustanowsky, seconded by Mrs. Nancy Jones, and unanimously carried.

Mr. Bender called for nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair. Mrs. Nancy Jones nominated Mr. James Bender for Chair, seconded by Mrs. Cynthia Jones, and unanimously carried.

Mr. Bender nominated Mrs. Kathi Sexton for Vice-Chair, seconded by Mrs. Nancy Jones, and unanimously carried.

- 1. Approval of Minutes of November 16, 2021:** Upon motion by Mrs. Cynthia Jones, seconded by Mrs. Nancy Jones the November 16, 2021 minutes were approved as written.
- 2. Santa House Event Recap:** Mrs. Clancy thanked Santa, the Chalfont Fire Co. and all the volunteers and employees who have taken part in helping at the event, including volunteers who weren't able to help the next day due to the cancellation from inclement weather. Santa was greeted by many visitors upon his arrival. The children loved the choice of goodies and were excited about all the treats the township was giving. The Township helped receive 214 pounds of non-perishables and monetary donations worth \$254.17. These donations were provided to the New Britain Baptist Food Pantry on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 7:30 a.m. Cyndi Fields, who manages the New Britain Baptist Food Pantry sent a letter thanking all who contributed for the donations that has helped locals in need. Since the cookies and hot chocolate were pre-packaged, the township included these in the donations due to the next day's event cancelation. For future township events, it would be a benefit for the Food Pantry to have representation both for interaction, education, and the ability to collect monetary donations directly. In addition, the list of most needed donations will also be added to event flyers as these worked out well during the event per Mr. Bender. Next year, Mrs. Clancy will contact choirs in September instead of October.
- 3. Easter Event:** The Advisory Board decided the Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, April 2 with a rain date of Saturday, April 9 starting time of 9:30AM for the Easter Bunny photo opportunity and the egg hunt at 10AM. The same set up as last year with hay bales at the Veterans Memorial area for children to have a photo opportunity with the Easter Bunny will still apply. Mrs. Clancy will reach out to the



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New Britain Food Pantry to see if a representative can be there on the day of the event and to inquire on a list of items to include in the flyer and newsletter as well. The Food Drive donation area could be found closer to the event area this year.

4. **North Branch Park Playground Accessories Proposal:** Advisory Board reviewed Lyons Recreation Playground Accessories Proposal from December 21, 2021 Reference ROO95211188 that includes one (1) inclusive seat with harness and two (2) tot seat accessories. The Advisory Board discussed the playground surface now the rubber mulch is removed and preparation for the playground installation due late Spring of 2022 is on its way. Mr. Bender also added to repurpose the removed swing bay to another Township Park which Township staff is reviewing a suitable location.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mrs. Handschuh, seconded by Mr. Tustanowsky, to recommend the accessories proposal to the Board of Supervisors with a condition to revisit the poured in place rubber surface for the North Branch Park Playground instead of the mulch that was in the previously approved proposal.

5. **Other Business:**

- a. **Sports Fields Seasonal Start and End Dates:** The advisory board reviewed the compilation of start and end dates captured from the various sports organizations with Lenape Valley Baseball requesting March 13 until August 31 in 2022. Mr. Bender discussed reviewing seasonal breakouts and fees for Parks & Recreation field and pavilion rentals across local areas to decide if the township rates and seasons are comparable. Mrs. Clancy volunteered to share a template with data collected previously in 2021 after the meeting. Mrs. Cynthia Jones shared the Advisory Board could help with the data collection. Mr. Tustanowsky also discussed recommendations for the township to stay within the constraints of set budgets for any future projects. Mr. Bender added the advisory board would benefit from understanding the budget details of Parks & Recreation when making recommendations. Mr. Maeyer noted these passionate discussions are most productive for both the advisory board and staff.
- b. **Proposed Baseball Field 4 Memorial Plaque Dedication in Memory of Chris DiLissio:** The proposed plaque was shared by Mrs. Clancy prior to the meeting for the Advisory Board to review. The only comment Mrs. Clancy had is the naming of the plaque on the first line. However, Mr. Bender mentioned the existing plaque found on another field is listed the same way.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mr. Tustanowsky, seconded by Mr. Maeyer, to recommend the Field 4 Memorial Plaque in honor of Chris DiLissio to the Board of Supervisors.



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2. **Public Comment:** None.
3. **Adjournment: MOTION:** A motion was made by Mr. Maeyer and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Bender, Chairman

Chelle Clancy, Secretary

Next meeting – Tuesday, February 15, 2022 @ 7pm