

CENTRAL BLAIR RECREATION & PARK COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING September 21, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joe Metzgar, Tim Brown, Wayne Hippo, Phil Ricco,
Erik Cagle, Marla Marcinko, Bill Neugebauer

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Hofer, Judy Irvin, Cory Geishauser, Dave
Salome, Jarrod Prugar, Dane Schick, Tom Boslet, Larry
Clapper, Bill Kibler

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by the Chairman, Wayne Hippo.

A roll call of board members was taken.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Erik Cagle made a motion to approve, as read, the board minutes from the May 18, 2017 board meeting; Joe Metzgar seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Joe Metzgar made a motion to approve the January through August, 2017 regular financial report; Erik Cagle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Executive Director's Report was next on the agenda. Mike said the Golf Tournament was held on Monday, August 7th and it was an extremely wet day. We had 32 teams registered and 26 or 27 showed up and 24 played. We will profit \$12,800 which is our highest profit to date. Wayne Hippo said he talked to Troy Monahan the Pro at Sinking Valley and he said that he is happy to work with the Commission and the event was extremely organized.

Mike stated that his summer was busy with training new staff at Prospect Pool, Concession stands and Programming.

Our 5th & 6th grade Flag Football program has only two (2) teams registered (Juniata & Pl. Valley) and that is not enough to have a league. We tried to get more schools involved but had no success. There is a tackle 5th & 6th grade football program, however, even with this program we usually had four (4) teams play flag football. There are new Athletic Directors at the schools and we feel they did not understand the process of getting students involved in our programs. Mike stated that we need to restructure the flag football program for next year. If the 5th & 6th graders are not interested in flag football then we need to find another activity/sport for them. Wayne Hippo and Marla Marcinko agreed that we need to do some kind of community needs assessment with strategic planning to help with programming and budget. Mike agreed and said we are going to be \$30,000 short on our 2018 budget by losing the Crossroads rental of the Sixth Ward basement and our program numbers are steady to declining because of all the options in the community. The 5th & 6th grade Flag Football program

will be cancelled; Mike will get with Phil to see if we can provide some type pick-up game or clinic for them this season.

New Business was next on the agenda.

- A. CBRC/AASD Code of Conduct & Sportsmanship Guidelines - Mike asked for formal adoption of these policies. Wayne Hippo made a motion to accept the CBRC/AASD Code of Conduct & Sportsmanship Guidelines as presented; Joe Metzgar seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.
- B. Dog Park – Mike presented his feasibility study to add a Dog Park in the back field of Garfield Park. Central PA Humane Society and PETCO are partners who would like to have a fund raiser for the Dog Park. BTW Corporation may be interested in partnering on this project also. There are some national grants like Pet Safe who offer new construction Dog Park grants every year; PETCO also has national grant money available for this type of project. There are also community grants available to apply for and fence sponsorships. Garfield Park does not offer running water or public restrooms. Another concern is the back field is close to the softball field, which foul balls may extend over to the Dog Park area. We could also consider membership fees and provide members with a combination to get into the Dog Park. Cost involved are \$21,680 for fencing, \$6,480 for benches and waste stations, \$2,000 for netting, \$1,040 for crushed stone (4 inch depth) for an ADA 8 foot wide walkway. Total cost is \$31,200 and Mike will be meeting with the Humane Society next week on a fund raiser. The Board then asked Mike to continuing working on the development on a Dog Park.
- C. Superintendent of Parks Position – The position was vacated at the end of June, 2017 and Tom Boslet (Parks Foreman) has stepped into the position. Mike said Tom has done a very good job and has done everything we have asked him to do. Erik Cagle made a motion to remove the interim title of Superintendent of Parks for Tom Boslet and pay him the budgeted amount for this position. Joe Metzgar seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.
- D. New Hire Secretary – Judy Irvin said that our current Secretary Beth Kessler has resigned her Secretary position. She would like to recommend for hire Diane Crile beginning October 3, 2017 at \$10.00 an hour. Joe Metzgar made a motion to hire Diane Crile as Secretary beginning October 3, 2017 at \$10.00 an hour; Erik Cagle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Board Comments – Erik Cagle asked if the Pickleball Courts are being used at Hamilton Park. Mike said they are being used daily, signs on how to play Pickleball will be put up soon and the BTW group will pay for the signage. We will not be offering equipment, participants will have to bring their own. Ribbon cutting at the Park has been delayed due to drainage issues. Joe Metzgar asked if we could offer a Strong Women type of program at the East Juniata building. Mike is looking into it and hoping we will be able to offer the program this winter. Mike asked the Board how we can go about asking each of the entities for more tax dollars to help with our 2018 budget shortfall. Marla said the letters should come from Wayne Hippo as Chairman of the Board.

Questions from the News Media was next on the agenda. Bill Kibler from the Altoona Mirror asked if we have attempted to replace Crossroads. Mike said we have not, we are waiting to see the condition of the space before we could consider that. He asked what the tax contributions are from the entities, City of Altoona \$286,688, Township of Logan \$56,512, AASD \$10,000. He asked what the salary of Tom Boslet was and what his salary is now; Mike said his interim salary was \$30,000 and his new salary is \$35,000. He asked when the construction may start on the Dog Park, Mike said summer to fall of 2018 if everything falls into place and the funds are raised.

The meeting was then adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Irvin
Administrative Assistant

K. Michael Hofer
Executive Director