

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
October 5, 2015

Members Present: Nichole Caravella, Bill Zickler, Alberta Alleva, Rob Jones, Rudy Steinthal, Tom Andrea, Bruce Vitcavich, Steve Hill, Terri Horgan
Also present: Denise Furfaro, Katie Frey, Dave Kohle
Excused: Simon Hardie
Absent: Larry Scienski

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Rudy Steinthal made a motion to accept the September 2015 Minutes and Alberta Alleva seconded. All were in favor.

Chairman's Comments: Tom Andrea mentioned that meeting in the conference room was too tight and he suggested that we move back to the Senior House. All agreed. Tom was at the last Council meeting and reported to council that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was receptive to looking into the idea of a skate park in town. The council will be forming an ADHOC committee. Tom Andrea will represent the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. If Simon Hardie would like the position Tom would yield to him.

Tom spoke briefly about the "No Dogs in Parks:" issue. A resident was asked to leave the Hoedown because he was walking his dog through the event. Tom said it was hit or miss on who was asked to leave. He said the Parks & Recreation Department and DPW did a great job organizing the event. It was asked if the department made money on the event or if we broke even. Katie replied that her and Barb were still working on the numbers but it looks like we might have made some money but we didn't lose any money. Rudy mentioned that there needs to be better communication at the Hay wagon post.

Council Report: Dave Kohl reported that the Hoedown was a great. He said that the Parks & Recreation Department received positive feedback on PV Park. Tom Andrea said that Denise was singled out by doing a great job, being on site often and providing a nicely run facility. Rudy would like to have the wooden dogs back on the beach to keep the geese away in the winter. Dave Kohle said that he asked that the Dogs in the Park ordinance be on the next council agenda.

Open Space Meeting: Tom Andrea did not have a report as they haven't met in a while.

Director's Report: Denise opened discussion on the skate park. She said that she is not opposed to the idea of having a skate park in town if all our existing facilities are up to snuff and all projects that have been put on hold are complete. She will get a list of projects that need completed for the next advisory board meeting. Bruce Vitcavich thought that the interest group was going to help fund the project but that's not the case. Rudy Steinthal suggested they get a corporate sponsor. Katie discussed her concerns regarding a skate park. She said that at the NJRPA conference they talked about how towns in NJ were looking for ways to get rid of their parks. Fair Lawn lost their grant

money for a skate park because they couldn't meet requirements quick enough. Now a vacant lot sits there. Dave went with Jordan Galiano to Chatham to look at their skate park and there were two kids leaving at 11am. They went to Livingston to see their facility at 11:15am and there were three kids at the facility. Katie talked about funding and that there is grant money available through the Tony Hawk Foundation if the ADHOC wants to look into it. Terri Horgan asked Tom to relay the advisory board's feelings to the ADHOC.

Denise talked about the "No Dogs in the Park" ordinance. She reported to the board that prior to the Hoedown the department sent out an email blast informing the public to please leave their dog home along with the not allowing bikes through the park at the event. She discussed having dogs in our parks, in general, and felt that it was not a good idea. Have dogs in Washington Park, Greenview or Hillview Park while activities are going on is not advised. Rob Jones mentioned he was at Woodland Lake eating lunch with his grandchildren and witnessed a gentleman get out of his car with his German Sheppard. The dog ran right into the water resulting in the people fishing getting upset. Terri said that she is a dog lover and if she lived by Greenview Park she would like to walk her dog through the park and doesn't see a problem with that.

Dave Kohl recommends that the ordinance remain the same but with better signage. Denise said that additional signs were given to the DPW to install at Greenview Park and Woodland Lake. The board will recommend to council that the ordinance be changed slightly to also allow dogs, on leash, at Aquatic Park. We will specify at Foothills Park in the Bark Park only. We should add to the ordinance that we will allow service dogs in the parks. Tom took a poll and the following members were in favor of the changes: Tom Andrea, Rob Jones, Alberta Alleva, Bill Zickler, Steve Hill, Nichole Caravella, Bruce Vitcavich. The following members would like to see the ordinance changed to allow dogs, on leash, through the parks: Terri Horgan and Rudy Steinthal.

New Business: The Halloween Party is scheduled for Saturday, October 24th from 12-1:30pm at Greenview Park. We are looking for people to participate by decorating their trunk & offering candy.

Board Ideas and Input: Tom Andrea asked if we wanted to continue the discussion from last meeting regarding the DPW and our relationship and how quickly requests are being taken care of. Denise stated that this is not something the advisory board should be getting involved with.

Alberta Alleva said that the Ranger report was well done and nice to see.

Alberta Alleva made a motion to adjourn and Rudy Steinthal seconded. All were in favor. The meeting ended at 8:05pm

Pequannock Parks and Recreation Department
Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, October 5, 2015
Regular Meeting, Town Hall Conference Room

AGENDA

Minutes of Previous Meeting
Chairman's Comments
Council Report
Open Space Report
Director's Report
Old Business
 Hoedown
 Skateboard Park
New Business
 Ordinance 129.02.070 Dogs in Parks
 Halloween Party
Board Ideas and Input
Correspondence
Adjournment