

Parks Board Meeting – Alamo Township Museum

Tuesday February 28, 2012

Present: Tim Britain, Lou Conti, Jack Landon, Stephen E. Podewell, Dan Knight

Guests Present: Dick Bennett (Ranger), Newt Covault, Jim Endres, Kurt and Thomas Finch

I. Call to Order - Lou. Meeting started promptly at 6:00 p.m.

II. Modifications to Agenda – Addition of Meeting Minutes.

III. Modifications to January 31, 2012 Meeting Minutes –

The submission line date should be revised to January 31, 2012

Tim made a motion to approve the January 2012 minutes as modified – second Stephen – approved by all.

IV. Financial Report:

Account balances

Restricted Account - \$397.82

Electric Account - \$420.45

Operations Account - \$357.94.

A \$40 Winter Fest printing reimbursement was made to Jack.

Lou described his presentation of the letter from the Parks Board to the Township Board requesting balance be restored to the restricted account at the February 13th 2011 Board Meeting. Letter was read to the Township Board by Lou with little reaction, response or subsequent actions from board members.

V. Rangers Report:

Dick stated that patrols have been routine. On three occasions Dick approached visitors with dogs not leashed. Dogs immediately leashed dogs without incident. All wildlife boxes are clean and in good repair and all had nests from this season. Dick removed downed white pines from the trail. Dick described evidence of snowmobiles on trails. Dick requested an additional perimeter sign be installed where snowmobiles are entering. The sign will be a graphic representation indicating no snowmobiles allowed. Hours invested

Bird houses maintenance– 4 hours

Tree clearing – 6 hours

Monthly patrols – 8 hours total

Dick estimates \$100 per year for gas.

Ranger Lee - not present.

All volunteer hours will be accounted for on an annual basis. All members are to keep track of volunteer hours outside of board meetings and report back to the Parks Board on a monthly basis.

VI. Old & New Business:

1. Restricted Fund:

Discussed the fiscal year carry over issue related to budgets. The Parks board will request that remaining funds at the conclusion of the fiscal year be transferred from Electric and Operating Accounts to a newly created **Park Capital Improvement** account. The Parks Board requests that this policy be implemented beginning this fiscal year. Requiring the funds to be “used or lost” encourages short term planning and reactive expenditures.

2. Project List:

- a. Rustic Foot Bridge (Eagle Scout Project) Thomas Finch would like to be involved in the reconstruction of the footbridge. Lou reviewed collected bids (Home Depot and Woodwork Specialties) and recommended accepting the bid from woodwork specialties which was lower. Thomas is considering the bridge project and will return to the Parks board to formally request permission should he decide to take on the project.
- b. Trees Project around Ball Fields. Stump grinder to remove stumps around ball fields. Will seek tree donations from the community.
- c. Jack, motion – The Parks board will request funds to rent a stump grinder for removal of stumps from adjacent to ball field. The board will also solicit bids for and make recommendations to the Township Board for a tree mover service to replace trees using donated tree stock. Second Steve. Approved by all.
- d. Volunteer day should include - Clean up of trash west of 5th street near old no trace camping area.
- e. Work day – 17th (Tentative Participants – Newt Covault, Jack, Steve, Dan, Jim Endres)

VII. New Business:

1. Historic Homes Tour museum project (Brian Smith) – Ladies Symphony Association hosting an Historic Homes Tour in Alamo Township. Lou requested formal support from the Parks Board. May 18-20 tour dates. May 17th Gala will be supported by the Parks and Museum Board. The Gala will feature a reception/refreshment/music tent north of the museum.

VIII. New Business:

2. Historic Homes tour museum project (Brian Smith) – Tim, motion - The Alamo parks board supports the Historic homes tour. Second Steve, Approved – All

IX. Board Member Comments: None

IIIX. Citizen Comments:

Mr. Covault – expressed concern about the Township Board action in searching for Parks Board candidates without consulting Parks Board. Mr. Covault also expressed concern that the Township Board did not ask the board incumbents if they intended to serve another term. Mr. Endres concurred with Newt's comments.

X. Adjourn: Steve, motioned – Jack, second - all supported.

Respectfully submitted this 29th day of February, 2012.



Timothy A Britain