

Franklin Township Advisory Recreation and Parks Board
April 4, 2023- Minutes

The Franklin Township Advisory Recreation and Parks Board met on the above date at the Franklin Township Administrative Building. Board members present were Fred Kemmerer Jr., Robert Correll, Officer Christopher Lekka, and Brenda Cressley, Secretary. A list of others in attendance is attached. Chairman Kemmerer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the meeting in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chris Lekka made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2023 Franklin Township Advisory Recreation and Parks Board Meeting. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports-

The Board of Supervisors approved the two requests that the Recreation Board recommended one was the movie night at the Phifer Ice Dams Park on May 21, 2023 and they also approved the ordering of the three ultra-violet lights to try and keep the geese away from the park.

Brenda Cressley reported the three (3) "Away with Geese" Solar Powered ultra violet lights were ordered, received and put in the three (3) ponds at the Phifer's Ice Dam Park.

Franklin Township's Road Foreman Kim Hunsicker asked the secretary to inform the Recreation Board that he removed the floating dock, it needs repairs. He asked if he should repair the dock and place it back where it was. The Board said yes.

He also said the playground area needs the special mulch purchased when we received the grant for Phifer's Ice Dam and also the wooden playground needs to be removed. He would like to see the lights at the playground and parking area in working order.

Fred Kemmerer reported that Bobby Correll, Robert Maholick, and Tom Zellner walked around the Phifer's Ice Dam and took inventory on what needs improvements. He stated the following: Covered Bridge- loose wires; (the road crew began repairs at the Covered Bridge they were fixing the ramp and did some back filling); outlet boxes that are broken; three (3) posts need to be replaced; tree removed along the driveway; and new light bulbs.

Robert Correll from the Franklin Township Lions Club said the shed needs a new roof, there is actually a hole in the roof, and weeds are growing out of the spouting.

Officer Lekka suggested to add signage such as NO SWIMMING, PARK HOURS, and most importantly the lighting needs to be fixed. He commented that lighting will serve as a deterrent for criminals, also proper lighting will help to create a safer environment.

Fred Kemmerer said he would like to begin with short term repairs such as moving forward with replacing the outlet boxes and Light Posts, and changing all bulbs to LED Bulbs . (2 dozen)

Discussion

A discussion was held regarding the scheduled movie night for Sunday, May 21st. The members decided to change the movie night to Friday, May 19th pending the Franklin Township Board of Supervisors' approval. They also decided to show the movie "FINDING NEMO" and they decided to change the date due to Sunday night being a school night.

They also decided to choose Friday, June 16th to show the second movie. It was suggested to have the kids decide what the next movie to be shown will be.

Officer Lekka suggested to eventually allow other non-profit organizations hold fundraising events and have a portion of the profit go to their organization and a portion go to the Phifer's Ice Dam Park. Lekka commented this will create a positive vibe for the area. Fred Kemmerer agreed he would definitely like to see the Park be used for the entire community.

Township Resident Jay Barry was in attendance to present to the board his ideas of what he would like done at the Christman Ballfield. He has already donated money to the Franklin Township Athletic League to proceed with some of the drainage work needed at the Babe Ruth Ballfield. The money that is left from his donation, he would like to be used to pave the driveway, stone the parking lot, and have micro-grading done to the infield at the girls softball field. Unfortunately he said after discussing the project with engineers and groups like DCED and DCNR he concluded that we will need a lot more funding to proceed further. We would need the support of the Township and Little League to apply for grants. He said we would need a significant amount of money just for an engineering study to be completed. He has already spoken to a grant writer. It is too late to apply for the DCNR and DCED grants for this year. Mr. Barry spoke to a woman (Christine) from DCNR and was told she would be willing to help Franklin Township obtain a grant. She suggested we apply for a DCED grant first, then we can use that grant funding as a match to apply for a larger matching grant. He feels we will need approximately \$75,000 - \$100,000 to complete the project.

He would like to set up a meeting with the Supervisors, Franklin Township Athletic League, a representative from DCNR, and himself to discuss a long range plan for the future of the Christman Ballfield. (Meeting tentative April 18th at 5:30 p.m.)

Fred Kemmerer said anyone who is willing to give his own money and own time is very admirable and he has his full support.

Next meeting will be May 2, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Officer Lekka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Fred Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Cressley, Secretary
Franklin Township Advisory Recreation and Park Board