

Saturday, September 27,

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The Bainbridge Township Board of Trustees met in special session at the Bainbridge Town Hall on September 27, 2014. Those present were trustees Mrs. Lorrie Sass Benza, Mr. Christopher Horn, and Mr. Jeffrey S. Markley. Fiscal Officer Mrs. Cherianne H. Measures was absent. Mrs. Benza presided and called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

WORK SESSION

Mrs. Benza explained that the reason for today's special meeting is to discuss the arrangements between Kenston Community Education (KCE), governed by the Auburn Bainbridge Recreation Board, and Bainbridge Township as it relates to facility and field use and future scheduling and any other issues that are identified.

Unfortunately, our three representatives were unable to attend this morning. Those in attendance include the Board of Trustees, KCE Director Ms. Jennifer Holztheimer, Service Director Mr. Jim Stanek, Park Board Member Mr. Henri Preuss, resident Mr. Ted Seliga and reporter Ms. Joan Demirjian.

The goal is to identify issues that need to be addressed for 2015, such as field usage and accessibility, maintenance and field rentals. During 2011, there was a written agreement between KCE and Bainbridge Township. Those terms continued in 2012 and 2013, even though the written agreement was not renewed. In 2014, there were some communications issues that were identified recently.

Discussions continued regarding maintenance expenses and responsibilities. The items discussed include field usage, improvements, and control of such items. Discussions ensued regarding the standard level of care in order to identify at what level the township will maintain its parks and what the passionate parents and volunteers can do above and beyond while still giving the township the control over its parks.

Mr. Markley's goal of this meeting was to understand the parity of the three organizing bodies; Auburn Township, Bainbridge Township, and Kenston Local Schools. Ms. Holztheimer explained that monetarily there will never be parity among the three organizations due to the differences between them. However, overall the three entities contribute proportionately their fair share. The idea of a joint recreation district was mentioned, since the structure is primarily in place already with the Auburn Bainbridge Recreation Board, which could place a levy on the ballot to maintain parks in both Bainbridge and Auburn Townships.

Communications between the groups, specifically our appointed representatives, needs to be improved moving forward. Due to changes over time, as well as the evolution of the various boards, expectations have changed regarding what the board of trustees expect from their representatives. Changes in expectations have been conveyed to all three of the representatives, and the attendance of at least one of our representatives is expected at the Bainbridge Township Park Board meetings and at the Board of Trustees meetings the second Monday of each month.

In 2015, KCE resident recreation organizations will not pay field user fees. However, profitable travel organizations outside of the KCE umbrella will still be charged to use the fields. KCE and Bainbridge Township staff will craft a policy or practice statement on how and when field usage fees will be paid. They will also determine the baseline of expenses to identify Bainbridge's responsibility for field maintenance and KCE's responsibility for "above and beyond" expenses for their desired setup, within the limits and approval of the township.

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A master plan should be created over the winter months and in place before the Spring of 2015. Go through the Spring, Summer and Fall of 2015 and revisit the plan in September of 2015.

The next KCE Summit should be planned by Ms. Holtzheimer, which will be discussed at the next KCE meeting to be held on Sunday. The three governing bodies need to get together soon after the first of the year.

The matter of facility scheduling of the township buildings will be discussed at another time.

Since there was no further business to come before this meeting of the Bainbridge Township Board of Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 11:02 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cherianne H. Measures,
Fiscal Officer, Bainbridge Township

Date

Date

Date

Minutes Read: _____

Minutes Approved: _____