

BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP PARK BOARD MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 2010

Members Present: Marty Sfiligoj, Chairman; Mitch Fakadej; David Jones; Dennis Martin; Linda Spiros; Clyde Whaley and David Mitchell, Property Superintendent

Mr. Sfiligoj called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENTATION BY THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS.

Representatives from the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps. met with the Park Board regarding the use of Centerville Mills Park for a two week school from July 9, 2010 to July 24, 2010. A power point presentation was given about who they are and it was noted that the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps. was founded in 1958 by the Navy League of the United States at the request of the Department of the Navy. The USNSCC is a U.S. Navy based non-profit youth organization that serves to teach individuals ages 13-18 about the sea-going military services, the importance of community service, citizenship, as well as an understanding of discipline and teamwork. A younger version of the NSCC exists for youths between the ages of 10-13, the Navy League Cadet Corps. (NLCC). The National Headquarters of the NSCC is located in Arlington, Virginia. This is the Akron Battalion which is part of Region 4-5 which includes the Cleveland Division, the Pittsburgh Battalion, and the Erie Battalion and as of January 9, 2010, there are approximately 9,500 youth enrolled in the USNSCC both in the United States and abroad. The Akron Battalion is a Seabee Construction Unit with cadets ranging from ages 13 to 18 and the current cadets reside in the Akron and surrounding areas, including Auburn Township, Aurora, Barberton, Canal Fulton, Canton, Chippewa Lake, Cuyahoga Falls, Hudson, North Canton, W. Lafayette, Medina and Wadsworth. The Akron Battalion seeks to establish a mutually beneficial relationship with Bainbridge Township and surrounding local communities to broaden the exposure and benefits of their program to the youth and communities of local areas into which the program has not previously explored. They stated in their presentation that they are in pursuit of a base location in which to pursue their goals and the Centerville Mills Park and the parks of Bainbridge Township presents some unique and viable opportunities that are well matched to the future plans and goals of both their battalion and the USNSCC program.

They presented a request which is the use of the Centerville Mills campground and facilities to house a two week national training curriculum that would include the following three advanced training schools:

- Leadership Academy
- Marksmanship
- Seabee Construction School

The training is comprised of approximately 22 lessons conducted in a classroom environment over the course of seven to nine days. It was noted that at no time will there be any discharge of weapons within the park areas. The Seabee Construction School is a two week curriculum that highly emphasizes construction and carpentry tool and equipment safety and practical application and the cadets will be highly supervised during the practical application portion of the training and will result in construction and aesthetic improvements to the facilities, grounds and trails. The representatives stated that what they need to be successful is that Bainbridge Township consider and approve their request for affordable accommodations and the use of the following facilities at Centerville Mills Park.

- Dining hall for all chow times (3 meals per day)
- Lodge
- 30's Cabins
- Nature Center
- Infirmary
- Bath House
- Classroom Building (next to Nature Center)

They noted that the NSCC presence for training will not impede the public's use of the park, nor will it disturb the surrounding residential areas. "Although our presence will be apparent, it will not be disruptive to the on-site childcare program". There will be no interference to local dog walkers, parent pick-up or drop-off of children for the childcare center, or any attempt on the part of the personnel, cadets, or training evolutions to discourage the public from enjoying the park grounds. The Akron Battalion can also assist in community events such as July 4th, Veteran's Day, Memorial Day festivities, VOA active participation and Assistance to VFW & American Legion posts and establish and coordinate Flagship competitions in the township parks.

The representatives stated that the Seabee Construction School training can provide Centerville Mills Park with tremendous assistance in its restoration initiatives with approximately 25 cadets, providing approximately 2,400 man-hours in a two week period and Bainbridge Township could potentially realize an approximate \$30,000 savings in man-hours. The supplies will be accumulated through a combination of local business donations to the USNSCC (not to Bainbridge Township) and the USNSCC National Headquarters training budget. They said they would like the facilities as reasonable as possible but they will give back man-hours. The weapons will not be visible and they will only use red training weapons. The representatives said they would like to build a relationship with the community and are looking forward to a long term relationship with Bainbridge Township.

The meeting was recessed at 8:05 P.M. and reconvened at 8:10 P.M.

MINUTES

Mr. Whaley made a motion to approve the meeting minutes dated December 16, 2009 as written.

Mr. Jones seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Mr. Martin made a motion to retain the same Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2010 as in 2009 which are Mr. Marty Sfiligoj and Mr. Henri Preuss respectively.

Mr. Whaley seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Sunshine Law and Meeting Schedule

Mr. Whaley made a motion to adopt and support the Sunshine Law as provided in the O.R.C. and to set the meeting schedule as the third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 P.M.

Mr. Martin seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

By-Laws

The board was in agreement to retain the recently approved By-Laws.

Term Limits

The board acknowledged the recently re-appointed board members by the Bainbridge Township Board of Trustees to three year terms commencing on January 1, 2010: Marty Sfiligoj, David Jones, Linda Spiros and Mitch Fakadej.

PROPERTY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Mitchell reported on the long term rental agreements and the lawn maintenance bid.

The board members discussed the Naval Sea Cadet Corps. presentation.

Motion

Mr. Jones made a motion that the Bainbridge Township Park Board is interested in pursuing an examination of the proposal by The United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps. and that Mr. Mitchell will work to come up with a possible scale of fees and cost analysis against possible man-hour work that could be done by them at Centerville Mills Park.

Mr. Martin seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

SPORTS FIELD PROPOSAL UPDATE

Mr. Jones reported on the sub-committee's recommendations on the use of Township Sports Fields. A discussion followed regarding rental fees, maintenance and lining the fields. Mr. Mitchell reviewed the costs to the township from last year regarding wages for park maintenance.

Motion

Mr. Jones made a motion to present the following proposal to the Bainbridge Township Board of Trustees.

Mr. Sfiligoj seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Further to the Park Board meeting of Wednesday 20, 2010 and with the aim of fair and equitable use of Bainbridge Township fields, the Park Board recommends and adoption of the following to the Board of Trustees;

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. All teams and leagues wishing to use Township fields for practice and/or competition must consist of at least 80% Bainbridge/Auburn residents. All teams will submit a roster of all participants identifying name, address and contact telephone number. Teams violating this rule will forfeit the privilege of field use for the duration of the current season.
2. A five hundred dollar (\$500) deposit will be required from the leagues for each sport for each season in which they are fielding teams. The deposit will be refunded after the season less any amounts assessed against the league and/or its member teams for damage to the fields other than normal wear and tear, and/or litter clean up. Litter clean up and repair will be assessed at a rate of \$50 per hour. If the deposit has to be used for the above reasons, the league will be expected to replenish the deposit amount on receipt of invoice.

3. Traveling teams can only book fields for competition when it is a home game.
4. All requests for use of fields will be submitted on the appropriate form to the Parks Supervisor by January 15 of each year for Spring/Summer sports and May 15 for Fall sports.

FIELD RECOMMENDATIONS

1. All fields to be brought up to minimal standard of fully grassed and free of obstructions to mowing.
2. Township fields will be closed for organized activity from October 31 to March 31 unless permission has been granted by the Parks Supervisor.
3. If fields have not recovered sufficiently for use, the Township may institute one or more of the following actions to protect the quality of fields. Recovery time could take the form of;
 - a. fewer sessions scheduled on a daily basis,
 - b. rotation of field availability,
 - c. closing of specific fields for all practices,
 - d. closing of specific fields for a season, and/or delay the start date for rental for each season.
4. The Parks Superintendent will determine whether fields are playable due to weather and/or to prevent damage to the fields.
5. The Township will begin an investigation into the creation of two (2) additional general purpose fields to be developed over the next three (3) years. These fields will be allocated as need exists at the time of completion.
6. Fields will be available for recreational use by Bainbridge residents at times not allocated for practice or competition. To meet the resident needs, any field cannot be allocated for team practice or competition for more than 35 hours per week.
7. Because of the high maintenance factor of the baseball/softball fields, these fields will be used for baseball only. The use of the outfields by other sports is not permitted during any season.

OPERATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The Park Board recommends that the Board of Trustees adopt the following options for overall management of sports fields in the Township.

The Township will be ultimately responsible for the scheduling of all Township fields and will do so through negotiation with user groups.

The Township will be responsible for initial field preparation and will maintain a minimal quality standard which will include but not be limited to;

- (i) Mowing of fields and spectator area
- (ii) Fertilizing of fields
- (iii) Aerating of fields annually
- (iv) Collection of trash from bins

The Township can provide additional field preparations such as and not limited to marking, alternative cultivation, and/or field repair at the cost of the renter requesting these additional services.

All teams, coaches and team members must, at all times, meet existing Township rules for field use.

The rental fee for 2010 will be \$30 per hour for all fields with the option of a \$20 fee for full field preparation for each time this service is required. Full preparation would include line marking and other procedures needed for match preparation. The fields will be fully marked once at the commencement of the season at the cost of the Township with subsequent requests for full preparation at the fee stated above.

The option exists for teams and leagues to undertake full preparation with their own personnel at their cost. The personnel will, however, be required to complete a training session with the Park Superintendent prior to their first event.

All leagues and teams agree to abide by a structure that would penalize individuals, teams and leagues, and sports for inappropriate use of the Township fields. Infringements may include but are not limited to;

- Unscheduled and/or unauthorized use of fields for team practices or competitions.
- Damage to fields over and above expected normal wear and tear.
- Failure to leave the area in good condition in relation to cleanliness.
- Failure to meet Township rules of use for fields.
- Inappropriate and excessive blocking of fields preventing fair access to other teams and/or leagues.

Penalties for the above infringements may include but are not limited to;

- Letter of warning re the issue at hand.
- Recoup of costs incurred by the Township to rectify any damaged caused by the issue at hand.
- Being considered as a non-resident team and/or league with the limitation for booking.
- Suspension of use of Township fields for periods ranging from one week to a full season until the situation is rectified and assurances gained that the issue at hand will not be repeated.
- Removal of all rights of usage of all Township fields.

All leagues and/or teams will sign a contract agreeing to all rules and rulings made by the Township.

A dispute process will be established to arbitrate issues and rulings at the following levels;

- Issues between individuals, teams and/or leagues in the same sport will be referred to the Park Supervisor and then the Park Board of Bainbridge Township.
- Issues between teams/leagues in different sports will then be referred to the Park Board of Bainbridge Township.
- If resolution is not attained by the aforesaid processes, it will be referred to the Board of Trustees.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Sfiligoj referred to the remaining agenda items which are a proposal by Ms. Spiros and the 2010 Project List and noted that those items will be delayed to the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held February 17, 2010.

Since there was no further business, Ms. Spiros made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Fakadej seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Zimmerman
Secretary to Park Board

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: February 17, 2010 - 7:00 P.M.