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## West Amwell Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

Feb 3, 2015

**Attendance:** Joe Petrucci, Sam Jefferis, Heidi Tomenchok, Porter Little, Brian Tumler, Zach Rich (Township Comm liaison)

Members absent: Karen Atwood, Peter Buschbaum

December meeting was Christmas tree lighting tour; no meeting in January due to inclement weather.

### Current Activities

#### Hewitt Park

- Security codes for door – these have been reassigned so that each sport will have their own code; these will be changed at the end of the season. Contractors will have a separate code. Park and Rec Comm will maintain a master code. Variety of codes will allow committee to determine who is accessing the building. Instructions on how to open/close the doors with security in place will be provided to the committee.
- Sam has obtained quotes for the door/windows replacement in the announcer booth; to be completed prior to games being played
- Electric work awarded to Meskill; work to be completed by March 1 includes: 1) outside light timers, 2) wiring in well and 3) lighting fans in the bathroom; quote was \$785.
- Fence gate and top of fence materials; Parks and Rec will purchase materials; LWAYSBA will be asked to install prior to games; Brian Tumler to coordinate
- Holes in T111 on the upper part of the structure have been repaired by Randy Hoagland
- Signage of “Keep off the Grass” and “Park open Dawn to Dusk” will be replaced; Zach to work with Randy Hoagland to finalize
- Tree near the soccer field has been removed
- Hinges on the doors need to be replaced with commercial grade hardware; quote to do this will be obtained
- Benches in playground area need to be leveled; will be done in conjunction with mulch
- 2-3 loads of screenings need to be added to bring the dugouts closer to level with field; Parks and Red to purchase; baseball volunteers to spread; Brian Tumler to coordinate
- Playground mulch is needed for the playground; this will be done closer to spring; mulch will be purchased from Sweet Valley

The committee requested Zach to consider assigning a township summer helper/intern one day a week to Hewitt Park during the May-Oct timeframe, this was previously mentioned to George Fisher prior to the liaison change; George was in favor of this during the initial discussions.

#### Hewitt Park – soccer fields

The current soccer fields have considerable drainage issues and need to be raised 1-2 feet as part of the fix. Zach to discuss with local contractor who specializes in this type of work and report back to the committee in March on feasibility and cost. Soccer fields are in big demand and the ability to use both fields would greatly reduce the challenges with finding field space.

#### Open Spaces – active recreation

Discussion about the use of the land around the current township building was raised; there was previously a plan for active recreation; Zach to explore the options.

Request was made to find out if any of the Open Space money can be used to fix up the soccer fields/establish active recreation in the township. Additionally, is grant money available? Zach will follow up and report back to the committee in March.

#### Hewitt Park – basketball court

It was decided that this court is never used due to the poor condition; the poles will be removed and for now, the base left intact.

#### Hewitt Park – Gary Bleacher Memorial bench

The current location of the Bleacher Memorial bench is between the first base side of the baseball field and the pavilion; many do not know it is there and the committee felt a different location should be explored. The potential of moving it to the area of the current basketball court was discussed; this would provide a solid base. It was also discussed that if moved, landscaping around the bench would be a nice addition; local community groups, such as the Boy Scouts, would be asked if they would be interested in this as a community service project.

JCP&L contributions

JCP&L is required to plant trees within the township as a replacement for those removed for the new substation. Discussion about having JCP&L provide grass seeding for the baseball field or other work at Hewitt instead of additional trees was held; Zach will discuss with JCP&L representatives as these items are currently in need by the township.

South County Park

Nothing new to report; Sam is the official liaison representing West Amwell.

Meeting schedule

Parks and Rec will meet the second Monday of each month at 7:15 pm at the township building; the Township Clerk has requested the meeting date schedule. Joe will provide this information to Lora Olsen.

The next meeting scheduled is Monday, March 9 at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Tomenchok