



WARRINGTON PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

Minutes of the Meeting September 24, 2009

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** In the absence of Chairperson Carol Rice, Vice-Chair Robert McNulty called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Park and Recreation Board members present were; Ruth Schemm, Secretary; Michael Richino, and Lori Halber. Also present was Township Supervisor Michael Lamond. Staff present were Trevor Dane, Parks and Facilities Foreman and Carolyn Hanel, CPRP, Director of Parks and Recreation
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. McNulty led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
 - 3.1 **Bradford Greene** . Ron Clear and Pauline Kelly were present to inquire about the status of a pedestrian bridge to link the Bradford Greene development to the Bradford Reservoir Trail in Lower Nike Park. Staff advised that the bridge, with an estimated cost of \$175,000 was on the 5-year capital plan. Mr. Clear and Ms. Kelly asked how the funding priorities are established for capital projects. Staff replied that the 5-year plan serves as the ranking of the projects, but in the event that grant funding is obtained, the project will move up. Ms. Kelly also inquired about the maintenance of the open space area on Songbird Court. Staff explained that the area was the Township's responsibility and the Department of Public Works would be advised of the concern.
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - 4.1 **Warrington Soccer League:** Representatives of the Warrington Soccer League updated the Park and Rec Board on their attempts to secure additional fields for the fall and lighting for fields. On motion by Ms. Halber, seconded by Mr. Richino, the Park and Rec Board voted 4-0 to permit the Warrington Soccer League to use the lower field in King Park II and use portable lights and generators to light this field. This use is from October 1, 2009-December 19, 2009.

Rick Weiss also mentioned that the tractor that was being used to cut the fields at IPW Park is not appropriate for athletic fields and leaves the grass too long. Staff will solicit cost estimates to have this area mowed by a private contractor and compare that cost to the purchase of an additional mower allowing the Parks Department to do the mowing.

4.2 Warrington Day: The Park and Rec Board commended staff for the excellent job at Warrington Day. There was some discussion regarding the new venue and the reaction of the vendors and those who attended. On motion by Ms. Schemm, seconded by Ms. Halber, the Park and Recreation Board voted unanimously to recommend that Warrington Day be held at Valley Square in 2010. In a separate motion, the Park and Rec Board also extended compliments to the Warrington Township staff for a great job Supervisor Mike Lamond said that he would convey this recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

4.3 2010 Budget Update: Staff provided copies of the draft 2010 operating budgets for the Swim Club and Parks and Recreation funds. Ms. Hanel also announced the tentative agenda for the adoption of the 2010 budget:

October 27 . the Preliminary Budget will be presented to the Board of Supervisors;

December 1 . adoption of Final Budget

5. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS)

5.1 Eagle Scout Project – Gradwell: George Gradwell presented a proposal to repair and restore the path at Palomino Park. The scope of the project includes replacing the stone with pea gravel, eliminating the weeds and invasive plants, removing debris and old concrete, repair washouts, trim briars and branches, clearing the path entrance from Palomino Farms, repair the bench near the play equipment and general clean up. Parks Dept. staff will assist with the application of an herbicide for weed control and order the appropriate stone. The Park and Rec Board were very supportive of the project and suggested that Mr. Gradwell commence as soon as possible. On motion by Ms. Schemm, seconded by Ms. Halber the Park and Rec Board unanimously approved the project as presented.

5.2 Camp Friendship Proposal: Dr. Harvey Ziff and Julie Ziff from Camp Friendship presented the attached proposal for sharing the facilities and staff at Twin Oaks summer camp. Dr and Ms. Ziff reviewed the proposal. The Park and Recreation Board advised that they would discuss the proposal and advise them of any questions or comments.

5.3 Arbor Ridge Open Space: Mrs. Hanel reported on a resident issue in the Arbor Ridge development regarding dog waste in the open area adjacent to the storm water basin. The issue was addressed by placing a small trash can in the area. On motion by Ms. Schemm, seconded by Mr. Richino, the Park and Recreation Board unanimously endorsed the placement of the trash can at this location.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

6.1 July 30, 2009: On motion by Ms. Halber, seconded by Ms. Schemm, the Minutes of the July 30, 2009 Meeting were approved as presented.

7. WORK SESSION - The Park and Rec Board began their Inventory and evaluation of open space; beginning with northeast quadrant (east of 611, north of Street Road)

8. FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- ✓ Dog Park
- ✓ Status of the Soccer Fields
- ✓ Continued discussion of open space

9. ADJOURNMENT: There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Hanel, CPRP

**Camp Friendship Proposal for Summer 2010 to
Warrington Township Department of Parks & Recreation
Re: Use of Facilities at Twin Oaks Day Camp**

Summary

Camp Friendship is a summer camp program owned and operated by Julie and Harvey Ziff. For the summer of 2010 we are seeking permission for the shared use of the facilities at Twin Oaks Day Camp to run our summer camp program.

History

Camp Friendship, established in 2004, is a specialized summer camp program primarily designed to meet the needs of children with underdeveloped socialization skills. From our inception in 2004, through summer 2008, the program operated as a four week, half-day Camp. Held at our offices in Doylestown, PA, for those years the one acre grounds was serviceable as the outdoor space, while the offices of our psychology practice were used as indoor facilities, providing use as bunks and for rainy day facilities.

Guided in part by input from the parents of previous camper attendees, as well as our experience, each year the program grew and evolved so as to best meet the needs of our camper population. By the summer of 2009 we essentially out-grew our modest facilities. In order to meet the needs of the now full-day, six-week program and a growing camper population we sought the use of summer camp facilities to operate our program.

In 2009 we obtained permission from a private local camp to operate on their premises. The arrangement proved to be a success, but the facility was not able to meet our needs from the stand-point of rainy-day facilities and in-door space.

Camper Participants

The children who attend Camp Friendship are often shy or socially isolated. They typically come to prefer activities where the risk of social rejection is all but eliminated. For many of our attendees, previous attempts to attend summer camps or engage in group activities have resulted in poor experiences. As a result, they will reject most group involvement, thereby reinforcing on-going social discomfort and a sense of failure. This pattern and cycle of behavior and experience will often leave their parents with few options to consider for summertime activities. Camp Friendship was created to meet this need.

At Camp Friendship, each camper is carefully screened to determine if they will be a match to our program, its goals and structure. We will not accept any camper who we believe will be disruptive to camp activities, or non-cooperative and without adequate self-control.

Camp Structure and Program

Our camp day and camp program is structured in the same way as a typical, traditional camp day. We operate within the same hours, run the same activity period intervals, and follow the same daily and weekly structure.

The primary difference pertains to the focus and orientation of our goals, and the training of our professional staff and counselors that facilitate the striving toward those goals. With input from parents and staff, each child has two or three daily/ weekly goals established. Every morning each camper meets with their primary counselor to check-in and to discuss their personal goals for the day. In addition, parents provide morning check-in feedback forms to inform staff of pertinent information. At the end of each camp day each camper's goals are assessed and feedback is provided. Parents also receive feedback about their child's progress at the end of each week.

A Parent group meeting is also included as part of the program and is facilitated by the directors and held at our Doylestown office during evening hours. This is an important component to support the goals for their child and provide a way to transfer their learning into the home and community environment.

Each day children participate in several professionally-led clinical activities. They include Social Language Group, Music Therapy, Art/Craft Therapy, Therapeutic Nature Walks, Stress and Anxiety Management and Relaxation, or Goals Group. Cooperative play activities are also incorporated in the form of games to teach sportsmanship, teamwork and wholesome competition.

Camp Friendship Summer 2010 Proposal

Camp Schedule	6 (or 8) Week Summer Camp Program begins June 21 st , 2010
Camp Hours	approx. 9am - 3:30pm
Transportation	Parents provide daily drop-off and pick-up from Camp
Number of Campers	18 to 30
Campers/Age Range	Boys and girls ages 7-14
Camper/Staff Ratio	2 ½ : 1 campers per staff (approx.) (3-4 Professional Staff consisting of Ph.D. or Masters level, individuals specializing in child development & related fields; 4-6 Assistant Staff consisting of college level and higher in related fields.)

Facilities Usage

<u>Pool & Lifeguard</u>	Morning & Afternoon Recreational Swim Periods (Camp Friendship staff on duty to supervise)
<u>Activity Fields & Courts</u>	Basketball, volleyball, gaga, baseball, soccer, etc. Nature & Hiking trails Fishing/Boating Art/Crafts

(Camp Friendship will provide own equipment and supplies as needed.)

Lunch & Snacks

Shaded Picnic area / dining area; can provide own tent (see Bunk Facilities below)

Bunk Facilities

Seeking two adjacent bunks (1 boys, 1 girls) for changing areas, storage for camp supplies, field equipment, bunk activities/meetings arts/crafts, etc.

- Would like opportunity to erect 2 or 3 10x10 tents to provide shaded activity areas, rain shelter, snack area, etc.

Rainy Day

Secure indoor space for shelter in severe weather conditions. Would also use our assigned bunks as needed for rainy day activities.

Usage Fees

Proposing usage of two bunks and facilities as outlined above @ \$1000 per week

\$8000 for 8 weeks (or \$6000 for 6 weeks)