

Mt. Lebanon Sports Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2015 - 8:00 p.m.

Municipal Building Room 107D

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chris Curran called the meeting to order and David Donnellan called the roll. The meeting was attended by Board members Brian Auer, Dale Cable, Chris Curran, Scott Foor, Dave Franklin, Stacey Franklin, Chris Heck, Walt Henry, Dave Klasnick, Jim Menegazzi, and Joy Pajak. The meeting was also attended by Recreation Director David Donnellan.

Chip Dalesandro and Don Gavett were absent.

2. Welcome New Board Members

The new board members were recognized and include David Franklin, representing Mt. Lebanon Lacrosse Association, and Chris Heck, representing Mt. Lebanon Aqua Club.

3. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

4. Approval of the September 3, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted.

5. Sports Related Improvement Projects

David Donnellan updated the board regarding the status of the projects. He said that he, Walt Henry and Don Gavett attended the October 26 Commission Discussion Session to present the project list to the Commission. They focused on the top two priorities from the list: tennis center improvements and platform tennis replacement and expansion. Mr. Donnellan said no decisions were made that evening regarding the projects. He added that on November 1, 2015, the 2016 Manager's Recommended Budget was released and is posted on the municipal website. Two sports related improvement projects were placed 'above the line' and recommended by the municipal manager to receive funding. The two projects are Tennis Center Improvements and Golf Course Cart Path Improvements. Mr. Donnellan said the budget will be officially approved by the

Commission on December 8, 2015 and all items are subject to change. He added that the Commission is considering the option of replacing two of the platform tennis courts and not adding a third court, in order to save costs.

Mr. Donnellan told the board that the Commission was interested in possibly funding some smaller projects, including the hitting/kicking wall. He said the Mt. Lebanon Lacrosse Association committed up to \$2,500 to help fund this project. Mr. Donnellan said he will move the cost of the tennis center hitting wall project into the tennis center operating budget for funding. The kicking wall will most likely be located at Brafferton Field.

Mrs. Franklin suggested the tennis center gazebo painting project would be suitable for a community service or Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Donnellan discussed the top two projects for the recreation department. These included the replacement of the ice rink lobby flooring and finding a solution to address heaving of the studio rink ice floor. He said a portion of the slab under the ice in the corner of the studio rink has raised up a few inches. The ice is level, but the underlying problem still exists. Mr. Donnellan stated he is working with consultants to find a solution to present to the Commission.

Chris Heck suggested a pedestrian crosswalk be installed between Greenhurst Drive and Hollycrest Drive on Cedar Boulevard. There is parking available on both sides of Cedar Blvd. for the Tennis Center and Mr. Heck said crossing can be difficult and unsafe. The board members agreed it would be unlikely to get a mid-block crosswalk approved between the two streets. They suggested making the crosswalk at Greenhurst Drive more prominent, and possibly converting a few spaces in front of the tennis center to a drop off zone.

Mr. Donnellan reported he is working with Musco Sports Lighting to update the cost to light Wildcat Field only. He said it will be difficult to install some of the poles at the site. He said the current poles can't be utilized.

6. Park Basketball Court Improvements

Mr. Donnellan distributed photos of the basketball courts taken that day. He reported that the Public Works Department cleaned the backboards with a special product and although they are improved, he believes the cloudiness is due to UV degradation as opposed to dirt. The padding on the poles was also installed. Mr. Cable secured a price quote to resurface the courts that runs \$18,000-\$20,000.

Mr. Donnellan said the court closest to Morgan Drive is in fairly decent shape with a few hairline cracks. The other court has a significant crack running the width of it, but it is still playable.

Chris Curran suggested reconditioning the benches with composite wood.

Mr. Donnellan pointed out that light poles were rusted, and noted that the park lighting project was not funded in the 2016 Manager's Recommended Budget.

The board discussed adding basketball court improvements to the sports related improvement project list in the future. Depending on the scope of work, it would be classified as a large or small project.

Stacey Franklin suggested soliciting donations from the community for improvements, with naming rights attached to them. Dave Franklin added that a list could be developed, with prices, and published in the magazine. He suggested small items under \$2,500, and that the improvements could be run through the Endowment.

It was agreed that basketball court improvements would be added to the list, including new benches, backboards and court resurfacing.

7. Recreation Feasibility Study

Mr. Donnellan reported that Ballard King, the same company that provided the feasibility study for Upper St. Clair's recreation center, estimated the cost of a preliminary study at \$30,000-\$40,000. He said the study would provide analysis for site selection. A statistically valid survey is another possible component of a study.

The board discussed the possibility of collecting information from other local sports facilities regarding facilities inventory and the overall cost of construction. Several members volunteered to survey specific facilities and to report their findings back to the board.

Mr. Curran asked if there are any municipal indoor basketball courts. Mr. Donnellan replied that there are not. The Mt. Lebanon Recreation Department uses the school district's gyms exclusively for their programs.

The board agreed to add the feasibility study to the capital project list.

Mr. Franklin encouraged board members to support the SAB recommended projects by attending upcoming Commission budget discussions.

8. New Business

Mr. Donnellan said he consulted with the SAB Board Chairman (Chris Curran) and the Commission Liaison (John Bendel) to determine the 2016 SAB Meeting schedule, which will be very similar to the 2015 schedule.

Mr. Donnellan announced the following board members' terms expire in March of 2016: Brian Auer, Chris Curran, Scott Foor, Jim Menegazzi, and Joy Pajak. They can choose to serve another term if approved by the Commission.

9. Announcements

Mr. Henry announced Mt. Lebanon Municipal Manager Steve Feller's retirement, and that a consulting firm has been retained to conduct a national search to select a replacement. Municipal Planner, Keith McGill, is the interim municipal manager.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.