

Cascade Township Parks Committee  
February 21, 2017  
Minutes

Community Development Director Peterson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Members Present: Sara Homeyer, Alan Rowland, Dawn McDonald, Supervisor Beahan. Others present: Sandra Korhorn,

**Article 1. GR amateur astronomical event request**

Peterson explained that the Township has received another request to be in the Cascade Recreation Park after hours for an astronomy event March 11 or 12. This group has done this before and we have never had an issue. The Parks Committee recommended approval of the event. The Parks Committee also suggested the use of Peace park for such an event. Beahan said he would contact the group and let them know that Peace Park could be used in the future.

**Article 2. Update on lights in Tassell Park.**

Korhorn informed the committee that she continues to work on this project. She has discussed with Forest Hills Business Association as well as Cascade Community foundation in hopes of finding some financial partners.

The DDA will be discussing at their meeting tonight so we may have a plan shortly. Korhorn indicated that this would probably be a project that would take place over a couple of years. The idea is to create some interest in the area and hopefully have people stop by and enjoy the park and the restaurants and shops in the area. Homeyer suggested creating some sort of event in the park that would also attract people to the park. Korhorn indicated that we have received some interest in getting Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus at the park and maybe we could coordinate with the lighting ceremony at the Museum Garden.

**Article 3. Update on Library gathering space project**

Korhorn updated the committee on the planning process for the library property. Korhorn indicated that the DDA will be making another recommendation to the Township Board now that we have done another public input process. Korhorn indicated that the response was very positive from all of the public input sessions. Beahan did add that the hesitation from the Township Board was probably due to the

fallout from the Township Hall project. The Parks Committee felt that this would be a positive project.

#### **Article 4. Update regarding Burton Park Gate at Windcrest**

Peterson informed the group that the Township has been monitoring the use of the driveway going through the park. Although not a lot of traffic is on the road we have noticed some very late trips on the road. Although hard to tell if these are unauthorized users or people from 6801 Burton St we have repaired the gate at Windcrest and will be locking the gate at night. This should address any unauthorized use of the drive as the home at 6801 Burton will be able to gain access from Burton.

Peterson also mentioned that our code enforcement person will be monitoring the use of the drive with a trail cam and will be stepping up enforcement of the off-leash dogs in Burton Park.

#### **Article 5. Discussion regarding Burton Park garage**

Peterson informed the group that the infrastructure committee has asked for a cost estimate for adding heat to a portion of the building. This would allow the grounds crew to work on equipment without having to go all the way to Station 2 on Buttrick. It would also give the township some more eyes on who is coming and going from the park and allow for better enforcement of the park rules. Given that the building was once heated it does not appear that it will be very expensive to make any necessary repairs. The building is broken up into three different areas and the area that seems to make the most sense is the west side of the building. It already has a heater and a floor drain.

McDonald commented that building may last longer if it is heated. Some work will need to occur around the south side of the building to improve access.

Beahan did mention concern from some neighbors regarding township use of the building in the past and issues like time of day or unnecessary trips should be monitored and that the Township should be sensitive to those concerns.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Minutes recorded by –  
Steve Peterson  
Community Development Director