

Tuscora Park Board Meeting December 6th, 2023

Meeting called to order by Park Board President Jan McInturf at 12:04 pm

Members Present: Tom Farbizo, Jan McInturf, Bill Morgan, Jim Range, Courtney Shalosky, & Phil Tidrick

Excused Absences: Dave Frantz & Denver Gallentine

Guests: Mayor Joel Day, NP Service Director Ron McAbier, Park Superintendent Rod Miller, Asst. Park Superintendent Adam Fulton, Councilman Mitch Pace, NPCS Athletic Director Tim Fortney, Kris Kreinbihl, Joe Petrullo, Rich Geib, & Greg Rees

Guest Kris Kreinbihl spoke & requested Park Board approval for improvements to be made to the varsity soccer fields at the Southside Park. The improvements will be highlighted by fencing and gates that will surround the fields, limiting access to the fields to only those who have authorized use.

Improvements will also include signage at the fields, explaining the usage rules / policy.

Motion for Approval of Field Improvements: 1st / Phil Tidrick 2nd / Jim Range Vote / Unanimous Approval (6-0)

Park Director Report:

Director Miller reported that fall cleanup was wrapping up at Tuscora Park. Mr. Miller also said there was a leak in the diving tank at Tuscora Park & that efforts were being made to identify the exact problem and get it repaired.

RTY Update:

Rich Geib & Greg Rees discussed repairs and updates being made to the rides at Tuscora Park for the 2024 season.

Mr. Rees reported the Ferris Wheel which suffered from a damaged axle in the summer of 2023 - forcing it to be closed for the remainder of the season - will need repairs costing between \$108,000 & \$150,000.

Mr. Geib & Mr. Rees also said that both the train and the train tracks were being replaced for the Summer of '24. Additionally, maintenance has been done to both the roller coaster & merry-go-round.

Mr. Geib added that a new kiddy Ferris wheel had been purchased.

Mr. Rees & Mr. Geib concluded their report by telling the Park Board that the rides and concessions operations turned a slight profit in 2023, an improvement over 2022 when they lost money.

Tuscora Park Foundation:

Jan McInturf said that Christmas in the Park was scheduled for December 17. Mr. McInturf added that Christmas ornaments were being sold during CITP by the Tuscora Park Foundation with the proceeds going to purchase a new cotton candy machine for use at Tuscora Park in the summer of 2024.

Old Business

Tom Farbizo updated the Park Board on the progress being made on the updates and improvements at the varsity baseball field at Tuscora Park. Farbizo said the new scoreboard was up & the next step would be to replace the fencing.

On a different subject, Farbizo told the Park Board that the shelter by the pickleball courts had been "squirrel proofed". Since the opening of the courts, there have been some issues with animals having access to the shelter.

Service Director Ron McAbier said work was underway on renovation of the restrooms next to the pickleball courts. Mr. McAbier said Benchmark Construction was doing the work.

Jan McInturf updated the board on Lacey PAC Dance Studio's request to install communication boards at Tuscora Park.

Motion for Approval of Communication Boards: 1st / Jim Range 2nd / Tom Farbizo Vote / Unanimous Approval (6-0)

Mitch Pace provided the Board with information on two different topics: a) the 2nd Annual Trout Derby will be held on April 27th, 2024.

b) improvements being made to the baseball / softball fields at Waterworks. Specifically, Pace said new dugouts were being placed at Field 5 & a field groomer for WW had been acquired from Willandale.

New Business

Mayor Joel Day told the board that a \$50,000 check was received from the Kimble Foundation to use towards Phase 2 development at the Southside Community Park. Mayor Day also said that multiple grants had been applied for that would also be used for Phase 2 development if they were received.

The Park Board also reviewed a Use Agreement between the City of New Philadelphia & the New Philadelphia City School District.

Motion to Approve Use Agreement: 1st / Tom Farbizo 2nd / Phil Tidrick Vote / Unanimous Approval (6-0)

Motion To Adjourn: 1st / Courtney Shalosky 2nd / Bill Morgan Vote / Unanimous (6-0)

Meeting Adjourned at 1:18 pm.

~ Meeting Minutes submitted by Bill Morgan