



## **TOWN OF EASTON**

P.O. Box 520  
Easton, Maryland 21601

### **Park Board minutes**

April 22, 2013

#### **Attendees:**

Mr. Mike Weise – Chairperson

Mr. Otis Sampson

Mr. Jeff Parks

#### **Others:**

Mrs. Lorraine Gould – Director of Parks and Recreation, Town of Easton

Regular Park Advisory Board meeting brought to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Mike Weise. Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

Items from the Director of Parks and Recreation:

Mrs. Gould has submitted her budget. A chain link fence to run parallel to the by-pass at Moton Park at approximately 700 feet long and 4 to 5 feet high and a new foot bridge for the Rails to Trails was among the items submitted in the budget. New trash receptacles for the Rails to Trails and as needed in parks was taken out due to tightening of the budget. We will just have to make do and repair what we presently have.

A grant written by Planning and Zoning Department for the Rails to Trails Spur Lane extension was approved and should be moving forward.

Mrs. Gould has contacted a plumber to repair or replace the drinking fountain in the play area in Idlewild Park. A replacement of a single fountain instead of the present three tiers may need to be made. This would stop the standing on and jumping from the fountain. There will be an MS bike ride through Talbot County on June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Idlewild Park has been chosen as a rest stop. Mrs. Gould should remain in close communication with the Police Department making sure all paperwork and approvals have been made.

There will be rules and cement walkways placed at the entrances to the tennis courts in Idlewild Park. The strike wall is in need of being re-pointed. Mrs. Gould will get this to the appropriate persons.

Sports Complex: New roofs to the dugouts have been completed. Mr. Chris Jordan, Mr. John Compton, Mr. John Harrison, Mr. John Glass and Mr. Tim Kerns worked on this project. The materials were donated by Superior Distribution on St. Michaels Road. Mr. Len Foxwell (Vice President of Easton Little League) suggested presenting these gentlemen with a plaque from the Comptroller's Office in Annapolis as a "thank you". Members of the Park Advisory Board thought this would be a great idea. Mrs. Gould will let Mr. Foxwell know.

Members of the Park Advisory Board suggested coaches and parents at the sports complex should remain vigilant when people are tossing balls against the dugouts and concession stand buildings. This is becoming a problem and need to be addressed.

Doors at the sports complex have been three tier keyed. Coaches have access to the restrooms only, concession stand vendor has access to the restrooms and concession stand, and President and Vice President of Little League have access to entire building. Mrs. Gould reported between her and staff members they found two old keys on the ground near concession stand. The building had not been re-keyed since 1991. A list is being kept on who has a key and they will be returned at the end of their sports season.

Brian Femi baseball camp will be at the sports complex this year. Mr. Femi will contact Mrs. Gould with dates. Sign up will be at Town Hall on Harrison Street.

Mrs. Gould reported still having problems with kids riding bikes and defacing the rules sign at the skate park. One of the staff reported being threatened and harassed by the bikers when told they had to leave on the bikes. One of the Park Advisory Board members reported the same. He stated the kids actually tried to surround him to provoke a fight with him at the skate park. In both instances the police were called. The Advisory Board suggested Mrs. Gould ask the police department to stop in at times just to show their presence. This may help enforce the rules and would be a great help. The Board stated they do not want staff or anyone to get hurt or put anyone in any danger. The police department should be called and not to hesitate making the call.

Shingles need to be replaced on the pavilion at Golton Park. Public Works will take care of it.

Mrs. Gould reported the Rails to Trails clean up held on April 6<sup>th</sup> went well. There were thirty one volunteers for the day. The volunteers divided in two groups going to both ends of the trail in an effort to cover the entire trail. Mrs. Gould stated next year most of the effort may be placed in area of the foot bridge and the northern end of the trail.

The grass at the RTC Park is not quite ready for sports activity yet. Goals have not been placed there yet. A dog station will be placed inside of the park. The park is getting a good amount of activity. Mrs. Gould stated she is looking to have an opening of the park in the future. She will let the Board know soon as possible so they will be able to save the date.

Mrs. Gould and the Board members discussed the letter from the Mid Shore Challengers for a free concert in Idlewild Park. Mrs. Gould reported to the Board that June 15<sup>th</sup> was available and she would work with the group for another potential date. There is a concern over the time frame of being out of the park by 10 pm. It is a rule to be out of the parks by dusk. Mrs. Gould will need to let the group know vendors will need to have appropriate licenses and a list is to be given to her prior to the event, liability insurance naming the Town of Easton as an additional insured must be obtained and the declaration sheet given to Mrs. Gould prior to the event and a public assembly permit obtained from the police department. Mrs. Gould will get in touch with the contact person.

Activities in the parks:

Multi-Cultural Festival will be in Idlewild Park on May 4<sup>th</sup>

Free Community Band will be in Idlewild Park on May 18<sup>th</sup>

Bark in the Park is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup> in Idlewild Park

Other reports:

Mr. Jeff Parks reported Talbot County has hired a new Director of Parks and Recreation. His name is Mr. Preston Pepper. He is set to start in late May.

There will not be a meeting in May since our meeting day falls on Memorial Day. The next scheduled meeting will be June 24, 2013 at noon.

No more business brought before this meeting. Meeting closed at 12:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Gould  
Director of Parks and Recreation  
Town of Easton