



TOWN OF EASTON

P.O. Box 520
Easton, Maryland 21601

Park Board minutes

November 27, 2017

Attendees:

Mr. Michael Weise, Chairperson
Mr. Otis Sampson
Mr. Ken McFadden
Mr. Michael Brophy

Others:

Mrs. Lorraine Gould, Director of Parks and Recreation, Town of Easton
Mr. Cory Fink, President of Easton Little League

Excused:

Mr. Jeff Parks

Regular Park Board meeting brought to order by Mr. Weise. Upon motion by Mr. McFadden, seconded by Mr. Brophy and carried unanimously, minutes of the October 23, 2017 meeting were approved.

Mr. Cory Fink addressed the Board concerning erecting an indoor baseball facility at the sports complex. He said he already talked with the Mayor and with the Town Manager who thought it was a good idea and they identified several other parcels in Easton they thought would be ideal places to place a larger facility for multi-use. Mr. Fink said he did not think it made good practical sense to place the facility at another site. He thought the facility should be in the area where the kids are. It would be safer. If there is significant rain or inclement weather and the fields could not be accessed, the indoor facility could be used. The facility would be a 100 foot X 50 foot pole building with interior lights that have already been donated for it. The building will be 16 feet high, turf floor, three batting cages and retractable nets. It will not be heated or have air. He said he originally looked at the spot where the existing skate park is now, but after carefully looking at it, there is a good amount of traffic in the area and may not be safe for kids walking to and from the facility using the pathways. The spot where the existing outdoor batting cage is located is too small and the facility would take up the walking path which goes toward the Rail Trail. There is a grassy area behind Easton Club Field that could be an ideal spot, but the existing play structure would have to be moved in order for the facility not to block visual access to it and a grassy area near Hatcher Field near the other existing play structure, which is

Mr. Fink's first choice. Mrs. Gould thought if either play structures were moved, maybe they could be added together or take time to locate a suitable place in the complex where it would be visible. Mr. Brophy asked about thoughts of a multi-sport indoor facility. Mr. Fink is prepared to move forward with the baseball facility if approved. Different sports would require different things. Such as, the turf will be lined for baseball. Mr. Fink will not do any fund raisers until this has been approved. The Park Board voted this project should have complete approval from the Town Engineer before anything is to move forward. Park Board would like to have the Town Engineer look at the grassy area near Easton Club Field for the location of the facility. If this is approved by the Town Engineer, Mrs. Gould can move forward with the following recommendation. Upon motion by Mr. McFadden, seconded by Mr. Weise and carried unanimously, the Park Board voted to proceed with the a recommendation to allow Easton Little League to place a 100 by 50 foot pole building in the grassy area between Easton Club Field and the Rail Trail to use as an indoor baseball facility to the Mayor and Council. After further discussion it was decided the Planning and Zoning Commission will need to see this as well.

Items from the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Park Advisory Board:

- 1) Mrs. Gould advised that \$975.00 received by the Town of Easton for dog park brick orders and contributions have been reimbursed.
- 2) Mrs. Gould thanked members of the Park Advisory Board for getting their recommendations in to the Mayor and Council in timely by November 1st.
- 3) Restrooms in Moton, Idlewild and the sports complex have been winterized.
- 4) Irrigation at Thompson, Memorial Bricks and the sports complex has been winterized. Garden Club will have the irrigation in Idlewild Park children's garden done soon.
- 5) Mrs. Gould met with Ms. Wade in Matthewstown Run Park concerning the Little Free Library location. The area Ms. Wade was looking at was closer to the street, not actually in the park. The Park Board advised Mrs. Gould to let her know of their recommendation is to place the library near the hatched area of the parking lot. Safety is a concern.
- 6) Talbot Youth Basketball League sign up is moving very slow. May be able to have Saturday games at the high school.
- 7) Mrs. Gould and Mr. VanEmburch met with contractors and have proposals to do the resurfacing of basketball courts in Idlewild and Moton Parks.
- 8) Mrs. Gould shared a letter received by a resident requesting to be able to walk her dog through the Idlewild Park. After discussion, Park Advisory Board stated, "rules are posted and will be followed."

Next meeting scheduled January 22, 2018 at noon.

No more business brought before this meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Sampson, seconded by Mr. Weise and carried unanimously the meeting was closed at 1:04 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Gould, Director of Parks and Recreation, Town of Easton