

June 18, 2009

To: Bob King, Chairman, Mt. Airy Board of P&R  
From: Patrick Ronan, Secretary

**Subject: MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2009 MEETING OF THE MT. AIRY BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION HELD AT MT. AIRY HALL.**

Attendance: Gary Nelson, Bob King, Patty Williamson, Steve Mullinix, Pat Ronan, Steve Adams, Drew Heck

Staff: Mary VanMetre

Press: Michelle Cook (Mt. Airy Messenger)

-Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

--The minutes for the April meeting as submitted were approved.

--Patrick Ronan was nominated to be the new Secretary for the Board. The nomination was seconded and accepted by Mr. Ronan. He was then voted in as the new Secretary unanimously.

--Drew Heck was nominated to continue as Vice President of the Board. The nomination was seconded and accepted by Mr. Heck. He was then voted in as the Vice President unanimously.

--Bob King was nominated to continue as President of the Board. The nomination was seconded and accepted by Mr. King. He was then voted in as the President unanimously.

#### **Steve Adams Report on Movie Night at Twin Ridge:**

Steve Adams discussed the first public use of the new movie projection/screen system at Twin Ridge Elementary and noted that it was a big success. The setup took about one hour and the tear down took about 45 minutes. It takes about 2-4 people to set up.

#### **Movie Projection/Screen System Discussion:**

There was then a short discussion of the fee to charge for the use of the system. It was eventually agreed that the fee would be \$100 per use for a non-profit organization and a \$200 per use fee for anyone else. As for any "for profit" organizations, decisions on fees and use would be made on a case by case basis. Also, it would only be leased to entities or residents based in the Town Mt. Airy, or an out of town organization as long as there was at least one town resident in that organization. It was also agreed that the system would be used within the town limits and that any licensing for the movie to be shown would be the sole responsibility of the organization leasing the system. Further, it was agreed that Steve Adams will store the system for now, but that Gary Nelson may also

store it at his home in the future, if necessary. There is currently no town storage facility for the system.

Gary Nelson agreed to draft an Agreement Form to be used when leasing out the system for use. It was decided that there could be special exceptions to the requirements concerning use of the system, but such exceptions would have to be approved by the Board.

There was also a discussion and tentative agreement by the Board that Scout (i.e., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies) use of the movie projection system would be handled as equitably as possible, and perhaps even making a special exception to allow use by a troop or pack based outside the town limits.

Gary Nelson was also granted permission, by vote, to purchase a spare bulb for the projector at an anticipated cost of several hundred dollars.

Mr. Nelson also agreed to check on the possible purchase of a protective tarp for the system and report back to the Board.

### **Movie Night Discussions:**

The Board agreed to have a free movie night on June 12 at Watkins Park to test out the new system and so that other Board members could be trained on how to set up, use and tear down the system. It was agreed that the Board would communicate by email to select a movie to show and then Pat Ronan would attempt to get the appropriate license to publicly show the movie.

There was also a brief discussion on the possibility of getting a banner to display messages regarding town functions in the future. A motion was then approved permitting Gary Nelson to purchase such a banner, using his own discretion, at a reasonable price.

### **Gary Nelson Report:**

The Shakespeare Factory had requested to return to Mt. Airy and perform a Midsummer Night's Dream. After discussion the Board approved by motion to offer the dates of August 1 and August 8 for the performance. It was also approved that the Town would pay a \$200 fee to the group and also allow the group to take donations from the audience at the performance.

The Mt. Airy Lions Club has agreed to pay for two recycling bins that Cub Scout Pack 460 will deploy at Watkins Park and Prospect Park, but no specific time frame was set for it.

Steve Mullinix was to check on getting running water from the main at Parr's Ridge and have it run to the Dog Park area for regular use.

The **Sports Complex** issue was discussed at some length. The Town Council's majority opinion right now is that such a complex is not needed in the town. The Board members

strongly disagreed with this and it was agreed that a concerted effort would be made to mobilize the members of the local youth sports organizations to have them attend the July Town Council meeting and have their voices heard on this issue.

Mr. Nelson discussed a property that the town is looking into right now and has an opportunity to purchase at a price of \$1.6 million with a loan that would be interest free for the first five years. We have well over \$300,000 for a down payment on the property.

The **Skate Park Fee Proposal** was offered as detailed on Mr. Nelson's accompanying handout. It was noted that children were still skating at Cold Storage. Drew Heck wanted to have more information from Mr. Nelson as to who is using the Skate Park and when and he would then make a more detailed proposal on hour of operation.

After some discussion, the following **fee schedule was approved for the Skate Park, effective July 1, 2009:**

--Daily fees:

--\$4.00 for resident/\$6.00 for non-resident

--Season pass from July 1 through October 31, 2009

--\$25.00 for resident/\$40.00 for non-resident

**The fees effective January 1, 2010 will be as follows:**

--Daily fees:

--\$5.00 for resident/\$8.00 for non-resident

--Season pass

--\$50.00 for resident/\$80.00 for non-resident

The hours of operation will be fine tuned later and will be worked out directly with the Mayor.

There was a request to pull electric to the fields at Watkins Park, but the town will not do it.

The **Teen Center** is temporarily not operating, but will start up again when an appropriately large space is secured for the center. There has been some communication with the Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire company to use their facility on Main Street, but no agreement has been reached as yet. There is also a great need for volunteers.

An \$86,000 grant has been given to the Town for the **Rails to Trails Program**.

Mon money has been estimated in the FY 2010 Town Budget for **Land Acquisition and Development**. \$320,000 has already been approved for a **Sports Complex** in Frederick County.

The May 16 concert, the **Second Annual Food Fest**, was very successful. Mary VanMetre, town staff, was to make sure that the stage fee was paid for its use at the May 16 concert.

The meeting was then adjourned.