

**WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING  
September 15, 1999**

**Attending:** Dan Dixon, Kathy McDevitt, Michael Pillagalli and Ed Smith

**Township Representatives:** Ken Lehr and Kent Wise

**Friends of the Park:** Holly Niemeyer and Peggy Niemeyer

**Meeting called to Order:** 7:05 PM by Vice-Chairman Dan Dixon

After a review of the minutes submitted for the August 18, 1999 meeting, a motion was made by Kathy McDevitt to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was second by Michael Pillagalli and passed.

The Financial Report dated August 31, 1999 was reviewed. Dan Dixon indicated that the report would be easier to read if the numbers could be displayed in a larger font. Ken Lehr indicated he would follow-up on this request. There were no other questions or comments pertaining to the Financial Report.

**Parks:** Kent Wise reported that the crews are busy cutting grass 5 days a week. Additionally, the crews have spent time over the past 2 weeks preparing for and cleaning up after this year's Community Day activities. Kent Wise informed that Shady Tree Service is currently working at Coopersmith Park thinning out and cutting down some of the larger trees. The crews are helping with the clean-up effort by chipping up the branches removed during this process. The areas surrounding the new parking area at the Community Park have been graded and seeded. A trencher is currently being used to install the new electric lines that will power the lights at the new parking area. The installation of the lights is scheduled to be completed within the next few weeks. Kent Wise indicated that the block mason that did the original work at the Community Park has been contracted to perform the work required to install the new letter signs. The new signs should be installed during the week of September 27th. The new letter sign for the Township Building should also be installed during the week of September 27th. Dan Dixon indicated that the signs and banners advertising this year's Community Day were placed in excellent locations. Dan Dixon asked if there was an update on the cause of the odor coming from the bathrooms at the Community Park. Kent Wise indicated the odor was coming out of the bathroom exhaust vent and that this condition has existed all summer. Kent Wise reported that he would look into this issue as soon as possible.

**Recreation:** Dan Dixon distributed copies of the 1999 Summer Camp end of year report prepared by Al Roth to all members of the Park and Recreation Board. The report will be reviewed during the October Park and Recreation Board meeting on October 20th.

**Friends of the Park:** Holly Niemeyer reported that the Friends made \$1,084.00 in soda sales (\$765.50 after expenses), \$277.82 in the donation jug and \$86.00 in profits from selling chances for the Washington Bus Trip at this year's Community Day. The Friends also raised \$3351.00 in donations that more than covered the cost of Loni Gamble (Motown Band). There were 53 volunteers supporting this year's Community Day activities. Holly Niemeyer informed that 26 Crafters participated in this year's event. Over 1,245 of the Kids Crafts were completed during the day (1/2 were projects and 1/2 were Sand Art). The Friends were able to sign-up 80 new members, a total that is down from last year. Holly Niemeyer asked what the Friends should do with large number of Kids Crafts left over from Community Day. Michael Pillagalli suggested letting Al Roth use the remaining Kids Crafts during next year's Summer Camp program. Dan Dixon asked Holly Niemeyer to keep the remaining Crafts at her home and indicated that a decision on how to utilize the remaining Crafts should be finalized during the Community Day wrap-

up meeting. Finally, Dan Dixon stated that the Friends did an excellent job preparing for and supporting this year's Community Day event.

**Old Business:** Ken Lehr reported the following attendance figures for the 1999 Summer Music series:

Children's Concert (June 13th) - 375 attended.  
Mardi Gras Night (June 27th) - 325 attended.  
Swing Band Night (July 11th) - 400 attended.  
Classical Night (July 25th) - 200 attended.  
Night at the Islands (August 8th) - 275 attended.  
Country Western Night (August 22nd) - 250 attended.  
Community Day (September 12th) - 475 attended.

Dan Dixon indicated that he would like to have the Summer Music series sub-committee meet in November to begin preparing for next year's program. Kathy McDevitt asked the Township to consider having the local Irish Rock-and-Roll band "Black Thorn" perform during next year's Summer Music series.

Kathy McDevitt reporting on Community Day informed that an estimated 3,000 to 3,500 people attended this year's event. The weather was great and a good time was had by all. Kathy McDevitt offered thanks to the Friends including Kelly Cifone, Holly Niemeyer, Peggy Niemeyer and Pat Kelly for their "Fund Raising" efforts as well as their support of the activities and crafts presented at this year's event. Special thanks also went to Joe Waters and Kelly Cifone for coordinating the logistics for this year's event. Finally, Kathy McDevitt thanked the members of the Park and Recreation Board, Sharon Lynn, Kathy Hahn, Al Roth and Kent Wise and his crew for the great job they did in supporting this year's event. Peggy Niemeyer indicated that the Friends will need to go in a different direction next year with the soda sales. Michael Pillagalli asked if the Friends could look into the possibility of using a soda tap and selling sodas by the cup. The 1999 Community Day wrap-up meeting has been scheduled for on Thursday, September 30th at 7:30 PM in the new Township Building. Ken Lehr indicated that a completed budget for Community Day will be available at the wrap-up meeting. Finally, Kent Wise reported that Pony Rides did not clean-up their area inside the girls softball field after this year's event.

Ken Lehr reported that 60 tickets have been sold for the Radio City bus trip scheduled for Saturday, November 13th. The bus will depart at 11:00 AM and return at 11:00 PM. Ticket sales for the planned October 3rd bus trip to Washington have been slow (15 tickets sold). Dan Dixon asked if the trip would be canceled if additional tickets are not sold. Michael Pillagalli suggested running an add for the Washington bus trip on the Hershey's Mill TV station. The bus for the October 3rd Washington trip will depart from the West Goshen Township coffee shop at 8:00 AM and return at 8:00 PM.

Michael Pillagalli reporting on Harvest Day informed that he has a call into Phil and Linda Hicks to determine if the Township can use their Hay Wagon at this year's event. Ken Lehr confirmed that he has booked "Makin Music" to perform during this year's festivities. Ken Lehr reported that Sharon Lynn is in favor of having the Township supply the pumpkins for Harvest Day. Ken Lehr will contact various pumpkin vendors to obtain the best price. The Township spent \$510.00 on pumpkins to support last year's Harvest Day event. Holly Niemeyer informed that there were no permanent markers left over from this year's Community Day. The Township will need to obtain markers for the pumpkin decorating activities planned for this year's Harvest Day. Kent Wise asked if it would be possible to line up a second Hay Wagon to reduce the wait time for the Hay Ride to the pumpkin patch. Dan Dixon will contact Sonny Hicks to see if a second Hay Wagon can be lined-up. Kent Wise indicated that he would have to secure a second tractor if the additional Hay Wagon is available. The Harvest Day sub-committee will meet to finalize the plans for this year's event on Thursday, October 7th at 7:00 PM in the new Township Building. Harvest Day activities will again be held at Coopersmith Park on Sunday, October 24th from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. There is no raindate scheduled for this event.

The topic of putting limits on the number of people allowed at picnics held at the Township Parks was discussed. Dan Dixon suggested putting a sub-committee together to discuss this item and come up with alternatives that can be presented at the November Park and Recreation Board meeting. Ken Lehr stated that Sharon Lynn should be included in any meetings on this topic. Michael Pillagalli suggested that we should get some type of direction from the Board of Supervisors on this issue prior to holding any sub-committee meetings. Dan Dixon will ask Joe Waters to contact the Board of Supervisors prior to the October Park and Recreation Board meeting. The goal of the sub-committee would be to develop a pricing strategy that would offset the cost of the clean-up effort for the larger picnics.

**New Business:** Dan Dixon asked if anyone would be interested in serving on the budget sub-committee for the year 2000. Dan Dixon will meet with Ken Lehr to come up with the preliminary numbers. The budget sub-committee will meet in the October 12th time frame to finalize the year 2000 budget. Dan Dixon will contact the members of the Park Board once the actual meeting date has been determined.

Dan Dixon indicated that the next meeting of the Central Chester County Recreation Consortium is scheduled for Thursday, September 16th at the West Whiteland Township Building located on 110 West Boot Road.

The West Goshen Township annual staff picnic will be held on Friday, September 17th at Coopersmith Park. The picnic will begin at 5:00 PM.

The Goshen Fair Corporation will be hosting their annual Fair banquet on Saturday, October 16th at the Fire Station on Park Avenue. The banquet will begin at 6:00 PM.

Ed Smith stated that he would like to discuss options for staffing the Community Park Concession Stand during the October Park and Recreation Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 20th.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Smith