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Plainfield Township

Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

June 3, 2025

- I. CALL TO ORDER Chair, Brianne Kemmerer
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL Brianne Kemmerer

Brianne Kemmerer – Chair	Tony Borger – Vice Chair- Absent
Dean Parsons-Late	Tammy Slayton
Ryan Stull	Talia Curtolo

1. Approval of Previous Minutes

- A motion was made by Ryan Stull, second by Tammy Slaton to approve the May 6, 2025, minutes.
 - o All in favor 4-0

2. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

3. New Business: Community Park Master Site Plan

- Introduction of Master Site Plan Discussion: Jason and Dave will discuss redoing the master site plan for the community park. Previous attempts to create a master plan were not followed.
- Existing Park Features (Phase 1A Completed):
 - Three practice soccer fields
 - Parking lot
 - o Two baseball fields
 - Stormwater retention
- Proposed Disc Golf Course:

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- o A proposal for disc golf was received at the last supervisor's meeting.
- The disc golf course would go through a 13-acre field and a 6-acre field, including some trees around the tractor pull area.
- NPDES Permit: An NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit is required for over an acre of earth disturbance. While currently an agricultural field, converting it for disc golf (e.g., tilling, ripping out trees, reworking ground surface) would trigger the need for an NPDES permit. Simply mowing would not require a permit.
- Current Permit Status: There is no NPDES permit on the property currently.
 A previous NPDES permit for a pavilion and septic system expired.
- Cost and Timing of NPDES: Obtaining an NPDES permit is an 8-month process after submission, with significant upfront testing and design work. It is more cost-effective to include all planned disturbances in one permit application rather than multiple submissions.
- Placement Considerations: The disc golf course is ideally suited for the
 northern field, which is flatter and lacks power lines. This area is currently
 mostly meadow and grass, which is suitable for disc golf due to desired
 undulations and trees. Minimal disturbance (tee boxes, posts) might keep it
 under an acre, avoiding an immediate NPDES permit.
- Integration with Walking Trails: Disc golf can be incorporated with walking trails, as seen in other parks.
- Maintenance: Warm season grasses and wildflowers could be planted, requiring less mowing (only strips for holes). This also prevents erosion and allows water infiltration.
- Community Involvement: Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts could assist with planting trees for free labor and materials if included in the master plan.

Potential New Baseball Fields:

- There is interest in adding two more baseball fields, ideally on the upper, flatter field.
- These fields could be multi-use, with removable pitcher mounds for softball,
 Little League, or Major League.

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 Lighting and Parking: Adding lights for baseball fields would be costly and could impact neighboring residences. Increased parking would also be necessary, potentially requiring paved lots instead of grass areas due to stormwater issues.

Pavilion:

- o A previous plan included a pavilion, but its NPDES permit expired.
- The proposed location had issues with soil compaction for the septic system, requiring it to be 800 feet away, which is costly.
- A master site plan allows for relocation of the pavilion to an area more suitable for septic systems (avoiding water tables and shallow bedrock), even if soil modification and a four-year waiting period are needed.
- The cost of the pavilion structure itself is relatively cheap compared to utility installation (electric, plumbing).
- Grant money is often sought for pavilions.
- The pavilion could be used for renting out for events, potentially generating revenue, and could accommodate food trucks.

Other Amenities and Considerations:

- Pickleball Courts: Pickleball was not a known sport in 2006, highlighting the need for an updated master plan to include new trends.
- Walking Trails: Incorporating walking trails, especially within the disc golf area and around existing fields, would enhance safety and usability for residents. Stoned trails are low maintenance and relatively cheap to install.
- Stormwater Management: The 2006 master plan's stormwater management provisions are outdated due to changed regulations, meaning more land might be needed for stormwater.
- o **Grant Money:** A master site plan is crucial for securing grant money.
- Community Input: A new community survey is recommended to gather input on desired amenities, as the 2019 survey lacked sufficient feedback.
 The survey could be a Google form on the website or included in the newsletter.

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- Parking: The current grass parking areas are problematic in muddy conditions. A stone parking lot is a good initial solution, with future paving as funds allow. Consideration for parking for large events like the annual summer event and disc golf tournaments is needed.
- Building Upgrades: The existing block building in the farmer's grove has bathrooms that are not typically open to the public, likely due to an old septic system. This could be an issue for winter events when water is turned off.
- PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit: A PennDOT Highway Occupancy
 Permit would be needed for access drives if a new parking lot is put in on the north side, as it is a state route.

Next Steps for Master Plan:

- o Compile a "wish list" of desired amenities and uses for the park.
- o Conduct public outreach through a survey to gather community input.
- Jason can then design a plan to maximize the space based on the compiled wish list.
- Consider phasing the development (e.g., north side for passive recreation like disc golf and walking trails; south side for active recreation like baseball fields).

4. Christmas Decorations in Farmer's Grove

- Discussion about decorating the walking trail in the Farmer's Grove for Christmas.
- Ideas include getting groups like Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, or businesses to decorate individual trees.
- The fire department expressed interest in helping.
- Possibility of a "dollars a vote" donation box for favorite decorated trees.
- The fire company could have Santa Claus and take pictures at the end of the walkway, collecting donations.
- Some lights from the 2012 250th celebration might still be available.
- Using the existing bathroom in the block building for public use is questionable due to age and potential water issues in winter.



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5. Other Items

• A letter of recommendation was written by Paige for Izzy, acknowledging her good work and consistent attendance at meetings.

6. Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn was made by Dean Parsons and second by Ryan Stull
 - o All in favor 4-0
 - o Adjourned at 8:04.

Respectfully submitted by Brianne Kemmerer