### TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON

# (4) PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

May 6, 2015 7:00 P.M.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL:** 

SPIEGELMAN - FARREN, SR. - SCHREIBER - SANCHEZ -

JONES, JR.

Township Manager LEFEVRE

Assistant Township Manager WEHMEYER

**Township Solicitor CLARKE** 

Director of Parks and Recreation WENDELL

#### **MINUTES:**

Motion to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2015 Public Affairs Committee Meeting.

Parks and Recreation Report - Call on Doug Wendell

**EDC General Report Presentation – Call on Doug Callantine** 

PAL Site Presentation Report - Call on Chief Kelly

# PA1. PAL Building Site Approval

Motion to support Crestmont Park as the future location of the Abington PAL Activity Building for fund raising purposes. Final approval of the use will be dependent on zoning and land use approvals, the financial viability of the project and community support. The exact location of any building on the property will be determined after fund raising targets are attainable and additional input is received from surrounding residents.

# **BOARD ACTION REQUEST**

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

May 6, 2015

**DATE** 

PAI
AGENDA ITEM NUMBER

DEPARTMENT

**AGENDA ITEM** 

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER** 

Parks & Recreation

**PAL Building Site Approval** 



#### **PREVIOUS ACTIONS**

Master Plan for Crestmont Park approved by the Board of Commissioners at their May, 2007 Board meeting.

## **RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION**

Motion to support Crestmont Park as the future location of the Abington PAL Activity Building for fund raising purposes. Final approval of the use will be dependent on zoning and land use approvals, the financial viability of the project and community support. The exact location of any building on the property will be determined after fund raising targets are attainable and additional input is received from surrounding residents.

#### **COMMENTS**

In 2007, the Bureau of Parks and Recreation along with Commissioner Wayne Luker, had multiple meetings with the residents regarding the future plans for Crestmont and Evergreen Manor Parks. As a result of the study, it was determined that not only was there a need for a community building in Crestmont Park but there was also interest in this from the neighborhood.

Since that time, Abington PAL has been investigating many locations throughout the Township for a PAL Activity Center. After much consideration, the PAL Board has determined that Crestmont Park has the appropriate amount of space for a center to be constructed.

A narrative is attached.

# Public Affairs 5/6/2015 Approval of Crestmont Park as P.A.L. Building Site

Abington PAL, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization sponsored by the Abington Police Department. Their mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of young people and contribute to the overall quality of life in Abington Township. The Abington Police Athletic League provides a place for our youth to become stimulated by participating in a variety of programs and activities. By providing free educational, athletic, recreational and cultural weekend and summer programs in a safe environment, PAL prepares children and teens to become productive citizens. All PAL activities are supervised by Abington Police Officers, Adult Volunteers and Staff, who provide an opportunity for nurturing strong and positive relationships with kids, their community and the Police Department.

Since Abington PAL was founded in 2001, by Chief Kelly and a group of Community Leaders; they have always maintained the hope of a permanent facility. For the last 3 years, this pursuit has gained momentum.

Recently, Abington PAL expressed interest in Crestmont Park as an ideal location for their home. Members of PAL, including Chief Kelly have held several community meetings, visited the surrounding neighbors and have engaged in serious discussions with local leaders.

Because the Crestmont Park Master Plan includes a building, Abington PAL would like to acquire site approval for a facility to be located in the Park as a first step in making their plans.

