

TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON

(4) PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

October 4, 2017

7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Vice Chair BOWMAN - SPIEGELMAN (scheduled absence) -
SCHREIBER - ROTHMAN - KALINOSKI

ALSO ATTENDING: Township Manager MANFREDI
Township Solicitor CLARKE

MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2017 Public Affairs
Committee Meeting.

PA1.
(PA-100417-01)

Mr. Frans Griet field naming request for Roslyn Park Soccer Field

Mr. Fans Griet field naming request for Roslyn Park Soccer Field. It is the hope that this request will be approved as it has the support of Commissioner Thomas Bowman, Parks & Recreation Director Andrew Oles, over 800 former players, past and current residents of the Roslyn Community. This request was brought forward by Roslyn Boys & Girls Club.



PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

BOARD ACTION REQUEST

10/4/2017

PA-100417-01

DATE

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER

Planning & Zoning

DEPARTMENT

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost > \$10,000.

Yes

No

PUBLIC BID REQUIRED

Cost > \$19,700.

Yes

No

AGENDA ITEM:

Mr. Frans Griet field naming request for Roslyn Park Soccer Field.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Please see the attached Staff Memo dated August 10, 2017.

This request conforms to all of the requirements of the Policy on the Naming of Township Facilities.

Began coaching in 1970 and coached until his death in 2012.

Activities Biography attached.

Petition attached.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTIONS:

None

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION:

It is the hope that this request will be approved as it has the support of Commissioner Thomas Bowman, Parks & Recreation Director Andrew Oles, over 800 former players, past and current residents of the Roslyn Community. This request was brought forward by Roslyn Boys & Girls Club.

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: RICHARD MANFREDI
FROM: MARK A. PENECALE
SUBJECT: FRANS GRIET
DATE: AUGUST 10, 2017
CC: COMMISSIONER THOMAS BOWMAN, ED MICCIOLO & ANDY
OLES

Dear Richard,

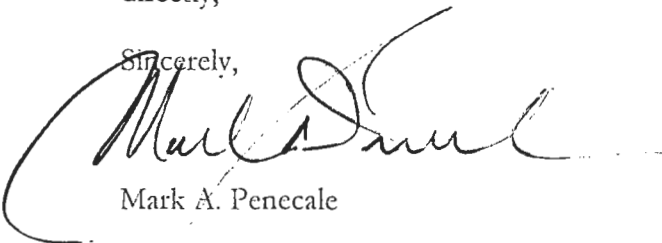
This memo is sent to request you start the review process for the naming of the soccer field at Roslyn Park after Mr. Frans Griet. Frans was a long time coach at Roslyn Boys & Girls Club, a lifetime member of the Roslyn Community and a past employee of the Township of Abington.

The reason I have requested this honor be considered is due to the man that Frans was. As a coach he not only taught the game of soccer but taught respect for the game and your opponent. As you will see from the bio I have attached, Frans spent most of his adult life teaching the youth of Roslyn, Willow Grove and the surrounding communities. He devoted countless hours to the teams he coached and the fields his teams played on. I have already discussed this request with Commissioner Bowman and the Director of Parks & recreation Andy Oles and I have their support in this matter.

I have attached the follow information for your review. A copy of the naming policy of the Township of Abington, a brief biography on Mr. Griet, a petition signed by over 400 residents, past players and coaches. In addition I have attached two photographs of Roslyn Park. One of the conditions for consideration is that the applicant be deceased at least three years. Please be aware that Mr. Griet passed away on November 30, 2012. In the event that this request is approved by the Board of Commissioners, Roslyn Boys & Girls Club will assume the cost for the installation of the sign mounted at the entrance to Roslyn Park.

If there is any additional information you may need, please feel free to contact me directly,

Sincerely,



Mark A. Penecale

ABINGTON TOWNSHIP

POLICY ON THE NAMING OF TOWNSHIP FACILITIES

PURPOSE:

The naming/renaming or dedication of municipal property, buildings, park elements, streets and facilities is important for public awareness, promotion and emergency access. The purpose of this policy is to establish a systematic and consistent approach for the official naming of municipally owned lands, parks, trails, recreation areas, buildings, streets and other facilities.

OBJECTIVES:

- Aid in the geographic identification of municipal property, buildings and park element to assist in emergency response situations.
- Ensure that given names to public land, parks, recreation areas, streets and other facilities are consistent with the values and character of the area or neighborhood served.
- Encourage public participation in the naming, renaming and dedication of public land, park, recreation areas, streets and facilities.
- Avoid confusion, name duplication and similar sounding names.
- Encourage the donation of land, parks, recreation areas or other facilities and resources by individuals and/or groups.
- Ensure proposals or requests for commemorative naming comply with established policies as described herein.
- Discourage proposals or requests for renaming of existing facilities. The renaming of such assets carries a greater burden of process, as tradition and continuity of name and community identification are reflective of important community values.
- As a general guideline, no facility shall be considered for naming in honor of an elected official or Township employee until a minimum of three (3) years after their death.

PROCEDURE:

- A request for the naming of a municipally owned facility, or property the Township expects to take ownership of, shall be submitted in writing to the Township Manager. The following supporting information should be provided at along with the naming request:
 - o The reason for the naming/renaming.
 - o The contribution or other factors for which the person is being memorialized.
 - o To what extent the facility has been financed by the suggested honoree.
 - o To what extent the impacted neighborhood supports the proposal.
 - o Any other factors which might support the request.

- The review by the Township Manager shall be guided by the following considerations;
 - o Significant historic contributions
 - o Significant material contributions
 - o Significant financial contributions
 - o Persons of historic service to the community
 - o Persons of outstanding civic service to the Township
 - o Documented community support
 - o Responsibility for any cost associated with the naming, including planning, design, construction, utilities, signage and maintenance.
- If the naming proposal appears appropriate, the matter will be forwarded to the ward Commissioner where the facility is located for his/her input.
- After receipt of the ward Commissioner's input, the naming proposal will be listed on the next Public Affairs Committee meeting for discussion and public comment.
- Upon the recommendation of the Public Affairs Committee, the naming proposal shall move to the full Board of Commissioners for consideration, while providing additional opportunity for public input. The Board of Commissioners shall have final authority over the naming/renaming of all Township facilities.
- The initial requestor will be notified via letter by the Township Manager of the Board's decision. The letter will outline, if applicable, those areas of the proposal that did not meet the criteria of this policy.
- Any signage associated with an approved name of any Township facility must be approved by the Township Manager's office before installation. The Township would be receptive to contributions by the initial requestor towards the cost of any signage.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2017.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYNE C. LUKER, President

ATTEST:

MICHAEL LEFEVRE, Secretary

Frans Griet Soccer Coach Biography

- 1970 Started coaching intramurals at Roslyn School as an Assistant Coach, mentored by Joe Marsden and Roy Radzai. Steve just turned 5 years old.
- 1971-1973 Head coach intramurals at Roslyn Elementary School. Coached Vivian at age 6 on the boys' team.
- 1974 Started coaching Roslyn boys' travel team (U11) at Roslyn School. ICSL league. Coached team with Roy Radzai. Steve was 9 yrs old. Team won 1st place.
- 1975-1990 Head coach. No assistant coach. Roslyn boys' team won 1st place consistently. Started participating in tournaments in many states.
- 1977 Head coach. Took Roslyn boys' team to play in Europe (Holland, Germany, Luxemburg, Belgium and France). Personally arranged for the team to play games in all countries except France. Acted as interpreter and spoke all languages fluently. This year also began coaching Vivian's Girls' soccer team and started Steve as an assistant coach (12 yrs old).
- 1978 Became assistant coach for All-Star ICSL Team. Participated in numerous tournaments in many states. Also coached Vivian's girls' soccer team.
- 1979 Continued as assistant coach for All-Star ICSL Team and took this team to Europe (Holland, Germany). Personally arranged for the team to play several games in both countries. Acted as interpreter and spoke all languages fluently. Also coached Vivian's girls' soccer team.
- 1980-1982 Head coach with Roslyn Boys' Junior team and Senior Men's team. Participated in many tournaments over the years. Also coached Vivian's girls' soccer team.
- 1982 Began coaching April's U12 girls' team and continued coaching Boys' and Men's team. Steve was an assistant coach for girls' team.

- 1983-1989 Head coach Roslyn Men's Senior team. Attended all of Steve's Temple soccer games. Head Coach of April's girls' team which placed 1st consistently in all years.
- 1989-1994 Head Coach Roslyn Men's Senior Team and April's Women's Senior team. Attended all of April's Temple soccer games.
- 1992 Stopped coaching Roslyn Men's Senior team and Steve continued to play senior ball with various Roslyn senior players.
- In this year, he pioneered and launched the Women's Summer Soccer league and continued coaching Women's Senior team.*
- 1992 Took April's Women's Senior team to Europe (Holland, Belgium, Germany, England and France). Personally arranged for the team to play in Holland, Belgium and Germany. Acted as interpreter and spoke all languages fluently.
- 1993 Began coaching a new U12 girls' team as Head Coach. April was Assistant Coach.
- 1995-1999 Head Coach of girls' team which placed 1st, consistently in all years. April was assistant coach. Entered the team in dozens of tournaments over the years. Also continued to coach April's Women's Senior team and run the Women's Summer Soccer League.
- 1996 Took April's Women's Senior team AND girls' team to Europe (Holland Belgium, Germany, England and France). Personally arranged for the team to play several games in Holland, Belgium and Germany. Acted as interpreter and spoke all languages fluently.
- 2000-2012 Continued coaching Women's Senior team. Many players from the younger girls' team moved up and on to play on the Women's Senior team to remain under his coaching expertise. He began coaching yet another girls' team, but for only a couple of years. He continued to run the Women's Summer Soccer League which has since been renamed: **"Frans Griet Women's Summer Soccer League"** in his honor. This League is now run jointly by his son, Steve, and Richard Tompkins. April

continues playing and coaching the Women's Senior team to carry on his legacy.

The Secret to Frans' success:

Frans had an undying passion and commitment to the sport of soccer and wanted to share his knowledge and expertise with anyone and everyone who shared the same passion that he did! Being on the field was his happy place!

He held practices every day in the summer at Roslyn Park! That was the key to each team's success! Over the years he became a well-respected mentor to his players, their parents, and to future coaches. He was dedicated to not just the team, but to each individual player, both on and off of the field. He acted as father figure to those who needed guidance, and always was mentor to every single player he coached.

He was never motivated by money, politics or personal gain. He was always ethical, exercising the kind of sportsmanship that he instilled in all his players and NEVER SCOUTED PLAYERS!!!! He always and only ever wanted to teach his players how to be great at soccer and at life!

It is immeasurable to try to explain to what degree or extent this amazing man has impacted the lives of all he touched. Some have known him for only one soccer season, but most have known him for many years of soccer seasons, even decades! He IS unforgettable and each player, parent, friend and family member remembers him in their own special way.

The stated meeting of the Public Affairs Committee of the Board of Commissioners of Abington Township was held on Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with Commissioner Spiegelman presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 8:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners SPIEGELMAN, BOWMAN, SCHREIBER, ROTHMAN, KALINOSKI

Township Manager MANFREDI
Assistant Township Manager WEHMEYER
Township Solicitor CLARKE

Also Present: Commissioners LUKER, KLINE, MYERS, HECKER, FARREN, SANCHEZ, DiPLACIDO, ZAPPONE, GILLESPIE

MINUTES: Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2017 Public Affairs Committee Meeting.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Ordinance No. 2141, Amending Chapter 8, “Economic Development Committee,” Section 2, “Membership”

Commissioner Spiegelman made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to adopt Ordinance No. 2141, amending Chapter 8, “Economic Development Committee,” Section 2, “Membership.”

Manager Manfredi noted that previously, the Board instructed Township Solicitor to amend this ordinance and that was done, and there will also be the appointment of former Commissioner Markman to the Economic Development Committee.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any comments from Commissioners. There were none.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, expressed concern that she feels “developers should not be developing, they should be answerable to the people in the community,” and she recommended that, in the future, the “Economic Development Committee should have representation from every ward.”

Commissioner Schreiber referred to Ordinance No .2141, and said she thought in the past it was a nonvoting member position.

Solicitor Clarke replied that is the way the current ordinance reads. The only change was removing the Greater Glenside Chamber of Commerce as it no longer exists and added another at-large seat.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Commissioner Spiegelman noted that as previously discussed and directed by the Board of Commissioners the following agenda item will be on the Thursday, September 14, 2017 regular public meeting:

Consider motion to appoint Michael Markman to the Township Economic Development Committee to fill the term expiring December 31, 2018.

Commissioner Spiegelman asked for any general comments relating to Public Affairs.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked why is the motion to appoint listed under unfinished business, not being done tonight?

Commissioner Kline replied because committees do not have binding votes.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager/Secretary

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