

## Centennial to study fee reduction of its facilities

By Gary Weckselblatt Staff Writer | Posted: Tuesday, October 14, 2014 10:30 pm

The Centennial School District will review its policy that allows organizations to request reduced fees when renting school facilities.

The issue was raised Tuesday night when school director Andrew Pollock sought to table an appeal by Warminster Parks & Recreation to cut its cost to use the Log College Middle School pool for its fall community aquatics program by 50 percent, a \$315 savings. Pollock asked for the formation of a committee to study the issue.

“I want to find out how much money we’re waiving in fees and who these organizations are,” Pollock said after the meeting. “These things come up and we approve them. We have no idea what the totals are. I just want to get a handle on it.”

Joyce Mundy, the district’s superintendent, told the board the administration has had internal discussions about the fee structure and recommended having the policy committee look at it.

Jane Schrader Lynch, the board’s president, liked the idea and said the directors didn’t want to prevent community children from using facilities this fall. Ultimately, Warminster’s request passed 7-1, with Pollock as the lone no vote. But the issue received significant debate.

“This doesn’t make any sense, Dr. Pollock,” David Shafter said. “As each item comes up we can vote on it.”

Michael Hartline said “I don’t see a reason to hold this up, but I understand what Dr. Pollock is getting at.”

Lynch said while she “understands what people are thinking,” there is no way she was “going to jeopardize this aquatics program.

“You people should drink some more tea. I am not doing it.”

Kati Driban suggested a committee make recommendations this spring that would be enforced next school year to avoid having youngsters not participate in events.

Lynch favored Driban’s “softer approach.”

Later, Driban agreed with Pollock that there should be a mechanism that checks the reduction in fees. “I’m concerned this isn’t something we’re looking at.”

“Let’s see if our fees are in line with other school districts,” Pollock said. “I want information.”