

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting

Parks & Recreation Committee Members: Commissioner and Committee Chair Nicholas O. Scull, Commissioner Kip McFatrige, Commissioner Cheryl Lockard, Patrick T. Stasio, Director of Parks & Recreation Department

- I. **Call to Order:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Scull called the meeting to order following the conclusion of the Finance & Administrative Committee Meeting.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Scull, Commissioners McFatrige and Lockard and Patrick T. Stasio, Director, Parks & Recreation Department. Also present: David A. Dodies, Township Manager, and Jennifer Prior, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Presentations/Announcements** - Nothing to report.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - March 18, 2019: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports** - March 2019:
 - A. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report - Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
 - Seasonal workers are being hired for maintenance and facilities at Masons Mill Park and Veterans Memorial Park.
 - Summer programs are planned and registration has begun.
 - Athletic fields are being prepared and safety surface has been added under the playgrounds.
 - A new playground will be installed at Blair Mill Park in May 2019.
 - B. Library Board of Trustees Report: Margie Peters, Executive Director, Upper Moreland Public Library Board of Trustees, provided the following updates:
 - A Seed Library is available as of Earth Day, April 22, 2019. Seeds have been donated from community members, seed saving organizations, and purchased by the Library. Patrons can borrow flower or vegetable seeds with the intent to save some seeds and return them to the Library by harvest time, which is approximately nine months.
 - The Environmental Advisory Council was commended on a successful Earth Day & Energy Conservation Fair held at Masons Mill Park on April 13, 2019.
 - Friends of The Library will host a Beads & Books Fundraiser on April 27, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the Outdoor Environmental Presentation Space at the Library.
 - Friends of The Library is seeking to fill a Treasurer position. Meetings are held in the Community Room on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., except for July and August. Interested candidates can call or visit the Library.
- V. **Old Business:** Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
 - A. Consideration of a centerpiece at the entrance to Veterans Memorial Park (water feature, clock and statue are under consideration as options):
 - Met with a contractor to discuss concepts and estimates on a water feature and will present a follow up at a future Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting.
 - Commissioner Spearing recommends carefully reviewing the specifications of a centerpiece and take into consideration the placement of the holiday tree.
 - B. Masons Mill Parking Lot and Water Conversion:

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- Area is being cleared for the new parking lot with removal of some trees and stumps. Trees are planned to be replaced and added. Every year, 20-40 new trees are planted in the parks and areas throughout the Township.

C. **Master Trail Plan:**

- First meeting with the consultant and Steering Committee was held on April 1, 2019. The first public meeting will be held on May 8, 2019 to solicit input on the Trail Plan.
 - Commissioner Spearing commended PennDOT for their presentation regarding the Warminster Road Bridge. Commissioner Spearing suggested including the beautification of the abandoned Fulmor Train Station that is adjacent to the Pennypack Creek and extending an invitation to SEPTA for participation.

VI. **New Business:**

A. **Friends of Farmstead Park Management Agreement:**

- Commissioner Scull invited Alan Sentman, President of Friends of Farmstead Park, to the podium to comment on the renegotiation of the Management Agreement terms. Commissioner Scull proposed that Farmstead Park's attorney work with the Township Solicitor.
- Mr. Sentman stated that he fully supports working with the Township to update the Agreement which can help both sides achieve the Park's goals.
- Commissioner McFtridge stated that an Agreement should be completed by October 2019 to include in the 2020 Budget review process.
- Mr. Stasio recommended that the Parks and Recreation Department work with the Friends of Farmstead Park on the Agreement.

VII. **Other Items:**

A. **Summer Camp Registration:**

- Mr. Stasio stated that camp registration began the week of March 25, 2019 and, in the first half hour, 280 registrations were processed and over 300 registrations were received by the end of the day. Online registration is successful and it is easier to administer payments. Kate Kollar and Lisa Pearsall were thanked for their assistance.

VIII. **Visitor Comments:**

- Mr. Sentman thanked the Township for splitting the cost of the chimney repair at Farmstead Park.
- Mr. Sentman stated that on May 11-12, 2019 there will be a fundraiser at Farmstead Park with the production of "Escape Shady Pines", based on the Golden Girls.

IX. **Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner Spearing suggested an evaluation process for grant submissions.

X. **Adjournment** - There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.