

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting

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

- I. **Call to Order:** Commissioner and Chair Scull called the meeting to order following the conclusion of the Finance & Administration Committee Meeting at 7:15 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Chair Scull and Commissioner Lockard, and Mr. Stasio. Absent: Commissioner McFatrige. Also present: David A. Dodies, Township Manager, and Sean Kilkenny, Esquire, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - March 19, 2018: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports:**
 - A. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report - Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
 - Newsletter was delivered near the end of March and feedback has been positive on the new format.
 - Attended a Community Block Development Grant Seminar at the County level for moderate to low income areas to research funding opportunities.
 - Adult softball co-ed and men's leagues are actively playing.
 - Golden Age Club has 450 paid members and anticipates 600 members by year's end.
 - Registration is open for Summer playgrounds.
 - Maintenance has been behind with storm cleanup and removal but athletic fields will be ready for youth groups and leagues by the end of the week.
 - Commissioner Spearing inquired on the status of a dedicated 70-foot baseball field. Mr. Stasio stated that there are no current plans; however, groups use Terwood Park and bring a portable mound. North Willow Grove Park is also an alternative location.
 - B. Library Board of Trustees Report - Anthony DelVecchio, a member of the Upper Moreland Library Board of Trustees, introduced himself and provided the following updates:
 - Two signs will be installed by next Wednesday, April 25, 2018, at the drainage swale and at the rain barrel as part of the Upper Moreland Outdoor Environmental Education Center.
 - 2018 Upper Moreland Free Public Library Strategic Plan Community Survey is available online at www.umfpl.org/survey and by hardcopy. The feedback is used to set up Library programs.
 - "7th Annual Beads-N-Books" fundraiser sponsored by Friends of the UMFP Library, Saturday, April 21, 2018, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - Second annual "2018 Roll-N-Stroll" the Pennypack Trail in partnership with the Rotary Club of Willow Grove at Masons Mill Park, will be held Saturday, May 5, 2018, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
 - Library trustees will attend the Office of the Commonwealth of Libraries Regional Trustee Workshop at Montgomery County Community College and the keynote address will be on "Active Sustainability - Thinking For The Future Libraries".

- C. Quarterly Friends of Boileau Report - Alan Sentman, President of Friends of Boileau Farm, provided the following updates:
- Annual "Spring Event" will be held on May 5, 2018 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Boileau Park and will include colonial demonstrations, herding, pony rides, food, music, soldiers and cannons.
 - \$3,100 was received from Pennypack Questers and Fairwold Questers to perform restorations to the entry doorway and one or two of the second-floor windows.
 - There are plans to repair deficiencies in the barn including masonry work, railings and structural issues.
 - A park cleanup will be performed on Saturday, April 21, 2018.

V. **Old Business:** Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:

A. Masons Mill Park Parking Lot Expansion:

- Mr. Stasio stated that the Township Solicitor drafted a long-term lease agreement to use Masons Mill Business Campus parking. Mr. Stasio briefly summarized the agreement's estimated costs, which includes sidewalks, crosswalks, maintenance, security and lighting.
 - Commissioner Scull commented concern over the expense and long-term investment.
 - Commissioner Lockard stated that building a parking lot would be safer.
 - Commissioner Spearing stated that he favors building the parking lot; however, a relationship should be maintained with the Business Campus that allows use of their parking lot for major events.
 - Mr. Stasio stated that major events are rare and notification is given to the Business Campus.
 - Mr. Valenza stated that he is in favor of building a parking lot but commented concerns on sufficient funding needed for other Township improvements.

B. Masons Mill Park Water and Sanitary Sewer Conversion:

- Mr. Stasio stated that the UMHJSA confirmed in a letter, that they are agreeable to the sewer connection plan with a conversion estimated by October/November, 2018.

C. Veterans Memorial Park Fountain – Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:

- James Faber, Township Landscape Architect, McCloskey & Faber, is preparing options and soliciting vendors for estimates to restore the Fountain.

VI. **New Business:**

A. Pennypack Trail Extension c/o Montgomery County – Pat Stasio will forward Anton Kuhner's April 11, 2018 review letter to Montgomery County for feedback and discussion at a future Committee meeting.

- Mr. Stasio stated that at no cost to the Township, Montgomery County is extending the Pennypack Trail to cross Byberry Road, continue along the train tracks to County Line Road and connect to the Newtown Trail Extension. Montgomery County requests a resolution be drafted by the Board of Commissioners to approve the signalized crossing of Byberry Road and is also asking the Township to take dedication of the signalized crossing and perform any maintenance.
- Mr. Stasio stated that McMahon & Associates prepared a letter with thirteen (13) recommendations for consideration by the Board of Commissioners.
 - Commissioner Scull inquired on maintenance costs. Mr. Stasio stated that it should

**Upper Moreland Township
Committees Meetings
April 16, 2018 - Meeting Minutes**

be minimal but it depends on the type of repair. Commissioner Lockard commented that the Township is always seeking grants from the County and should share its maintenance.

- Commissioner Lockard inquired on signal maintenance. Mr. Dodies stated that signals are typically assigned to one municipality but it is a good suggestion to share costs on projects like this involving multiple entities.
- Mr. Stasio recommends the letter from McMahon & Associates be sent to the County with the Township's recommendations. Mr. Dodies suggested obtaining another municipality's agreement for reference. Mr. Stasio will invite a representative from Montgomery County to a future Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting.
 - Commissioner Valenza inquired on who controls the trail at County Line Road. Mr. Stasio stated that the preliminary design plan shows a traffic signal on New Street and County Line Road which will be the responsibility of Southampton Township.
 - Commissioner Spearing commented in favor of maintaining the trail signalization.
 - Mr. Sentman, a resident, inquired if Montgomery County follows a specific maintenance program. Mr. Stasio stated that municipalities take ownership of the crossings; however, he will investigate the agreements and the average annual expense.

B. DVRPC – TCDI Grant Application for Master Trail Planning – The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners at their May 7, 2018 Regular Meeting, move for action a resolution to authorize the submission of Transportation and Community Development Initiative application.

- Mr. Stasio stated that the focus is on transportation planning to enhance community development which includes non-vehicle, walking and bicycling with a 20% match.

VII. Other Items:

A. Summer Camp Registration:

- Mr. Stasio stated that online registration for supervised playground camps was filled to 90% by the end of the first day. For information on registration, visit uppermoreland.org or uppermorelandrec.com to link to the registration pages.

VIII. Visitor Comments - Nothing to report.

IX. Commissioner Comments - Nothing to report.

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

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.