

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 Commissioners McFatrige and Lockard, and Mr. Stasio. Also present: David A. Dodies, Township Manager, and Sean Kilkenny, Esquire, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - April 16, 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:
 - Master Trail Plan grant application was prepared and submitted.
 - Men's and co-ed softball teams are doing very well and leagues are almost full.
 - Drama-Rama end-of-program show in April, presented at the Middle School auditorium, was a successful event. A new program will continue for the Summer.
 - Safety surfaces were replenished at all playgrounds.
 - Fertilizing and seeding has begun in all parks.
 - B. Library Board of Trustees Report - Juan Suarez, Vice President of the Upper Moreland Public Library Board of Trustees, provided the following updates:
 - Hard copy of the 2018 UMFPL Strategic Plan Community Survey was available at each of the UMT polling locations with over 200 residents completing the survey and others taking a survey to complete and return at their convenience. The survey is available online at www.umfpl.org/survey. Input is being collected regarding services and resources from regular users and non-users in order to create new goals for improvements.
 - Department of Environmental Education mini-grant project was completed by holding field trips to the Outdoor Environmental Education Center for the Intermediate School and also holding a Stormwater Management Program at two Library Learning Stations and four Veterans Memorial Park Learning Stations. Educational signage will be installed at additional learning stations as more grant funding becomes available.
 - Roll-N-Stroll the Pennypack held on May 5, 2018 raised \$1,250 for Library and STEAM programs including outdoor environmental education activities.
 - Friends of the Upper Moreland Free Public Library held the 7th Annual Beads-N-Books on April 21, 2018 and collected \$585.
 - “A-Ha Kits” have been created to introduce patrons to specific hobbies or interests. The first two kits available are a hiking kit and a ukulele kit.
 - Commissioner Lockard stated that she attended Roll-N-Stroll and commended the event on their activities.

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- Katrina Nuss, art teacher at Upper Moreland Intermediate School and E-Club Coordinator, introduced Nicoleen Worthman, a student who participated in the field trips of the Outdoor Environmental Education Center. Miss Worthman stated what she learned about stormwater management, the rain barrel and how construction work can affect the quality of water. She made suggestions to include before and after pictures of the rain garden and drainage swale to understand why these measures were installed. Mr. Stasio reiterated Mr. Suarez' statement that additional educational signage will be installed in the near future as more grant funding becomes available.
- Ms. Nuss commended the current signage and stated that Stephanie and Margie, from the Library staff, made it a good learning experience for the class.

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

- A. Masons Mill Park Parking Lot Expansion and Masons Mill Park Water and Sanitary Sewer Conversion:
 - Mr. Stasio stated that both the parking lot expansion and sanitary sewer conversion have been combined to save on costs and therefore, are delayed due to obtaining the necessary permits and bids. Both projects are estimated to be completed by end of April/early May 2019.
- B. Veterans Memorial Park Fountain:
 - Mr. Stasio stated that he is working with James Faber, Township Landscape Architect, McCloskey & Faber, to prepare options and solicit vendors for estimates to restore the Fountain. An update will be provided at a future Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting.
- C. Master Trail Plan Grant Submission:
 - Mr. Stasio stated that the granting agency requested that Upper Moreland and Hatboro Township submit a joint application to fund similar work and save on costs. The award will be announced by the end of June.
- D. Pennypack Trail Extension c/o Montgomery County:
 - The Committee approved for action at the June 4, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners to consider a resolution to authorize application to PennDOT for a new Rapid Flashing Beacon to be located on Byberry Road at the intersection with Pennypack Trail.

VI. New Business:

- A. Request from Truth United Ministries for a function at Mill Creek Park on September 9, 2018 between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.:
 - The Committee approved for motion at the June 4, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners to consider the request from Truth United Ministries to make use of Mill Creek Park on September 9, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., subject to final approval from Mr. Stasio, Director of Parks and Recreation.
 - Joshua Noriega, Pastor at Truth United Ministries, 3101 Mill Road, stated that the event's purpose is to introduce their many programs that assist the community. Food, games and music will be provided. Prior to the event, flyers will be created and distributed by Truth United within the community.
 - The Commissioners discussed the Special Event Large Group Policy with Mr. Stasio.

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- Commissioner Spearing commented that a previously requested event by a veterans group was declined because it was not properly organized but, has taken opportunities to invite the group to return at another time.

B. Request from Friends of Boileau to operate a Food and Beverage Garden Program in Boileau Park:

- The Committee approved for action at the June 4, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners, to consider the request from Friends of Boileau to operate a Food and Beverage Garden Program between September 20 and September 30, 2018.
 - Allen Sentman, President of Friends of Boileau, stated that during the Fall program series, the purpose of operating a food and beverage concession is to attract visitors and generate revenue that benefits the historic structure.
 - Commissioner Scull inquired on the insurance liability of selling liquor at the event. Solicitor Kilkenny will review the matter and provide feedback.
 - Commissioner McFatridge suggested creating an ordinance that provides guidelines for liquor at future events in any of the Township parks.
 - Commissioner Spearing supports the request by Friends of Boileau Park and for setting criteria for future events that want to provide liquor.

VII. Other Items - Nothing to report.

VIII. Visitor Comments - Nothing to report.

IX. Commissioner Comments:

- Commissioner Spearing inquired on the policy to use community fields. Mr. Stasio reviewed the policy on reservations and stated that he manages all requests for any outdoor fields owned by the Township and School District.

X. Adjournment - There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.