

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting

Parks & Recreation Committee Members: Commissioner and Committee Chair Nicholas O. Scull, Commissioner Kip McFatridge, 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 at 8:20 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Scull and Commissioners McFatridge and Lockard. 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** - September 24, 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:
 - Touch A Truck Event, held on September 15, 2018, was a successful event.
 - Fall programs are ongoing.
 - Basins are checked by maintenance crews and Mr. Stasio once a week. Vegetation is growing along the basins to stabilize the banks and absorb water.
 - Spotted Lantern Fly was reported at the Library and at Buehler Park. Maintenance staff are trained to know what to look for, how to remove the insect and to kill the eggs.
 - Commissioner Lockard stated that information is posted on the Township website as well as the Department of Agriculture and Penn State Extension websites.
 - Commissioner McFatridge, on behalf of the Veterans Committee, thanked the Parks & Recreation crew for assisting to clean up Veterans Memorial Park from the dedication ceremony.
 - B. Library Board of Trustees Report: Anthony DeVecchio, a member of the Upper Moreland Public Library Board of Trustees, provided the following updates:
 - Two options are being offered to patrons to provide feedback on improving Library services:
 1. Answer questions with "yes" and "no" stickers in the Library, across from the children's room, on the topics of technology, materials and programs; or
 2. Patrons can attend one of the following five focus groups to answer questions:
 - Parents of Young Children - October 26, 2018, 10:30-11:30 p.m.
 - Teenagers - October 26, 2018, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
 - Adults 30-49 years old - October 27, 2018, 2-3 p.m.
 - Young Adults 20-29 years old - October 27, 2018, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
 - Older Seniors 50+ - November 3, 2018, 10-11 a.m.Seating is limited and participants must RSVP either at the Library or on the website.
 - A Fall email was sent to all patrons who chose to receive news announcements on

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events occurring at the Library. Interested patrons can visit the Library's administrative desk or go to the website to sign up.

- Bux-Mont Art League has an exhibit on display in the Library during October.
- Canopy, a new streaming service for movies and shows, is offered free to patrons. For assistance with Canopy, call the Library at 215-659-0741.
- An unsolicited thank you email was received by the Library expressing appreciation for all their services, amenities and staff that serve the community.

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

A. Downtown Fountain Area Options:

- There is nothing new to report on a fountain.
- A vendor was located who supplied a clock rendering, installation details and costs. The clock and installation is estimated between \$33,000-\$36,000, but that does not include removal of the existing fountain or hardscaping the area.
 - Commissioner McFatridge stated that this is an option that many municipalities have, which requires refurbishing approximately every ten years. He stated that a fountain would add a unique feature to the Township.
 - Commissioner Spearing stated that funds should be budgeted to move forward and finish the project.
 - Sue Worth LaManna, a resident, inquired on the cost to rebuild the fountain. Mr. Stasio stated that, two years ago, it was approximately \$100,000.
 - Don Warner, a resident, commented that clocks are found everywhere and additional ideas should be considered to perhaps install a statue.
 - Commissioner Scull commented that the community should be involved and solicited for ideas. He suggested applying to grants or holding a fundraiser.

B. Master Trail Plan Request for Proposal:

- Request for Proposals for the Master Trail Plan Grant, in collaboration with Hatboro, were submitted and are awaiting feedback from Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission and the Manager of Hatboro. Once comments are received and if the Township is awarded the grant, a Steering Committee will be created. An award announcement is expected in February 2019.

C. Masons Mill Parking Lot and Water Conversion Progress:

- Gilmore & Associates submitted permit applications to agencies and awaiting feedback. Contractor bids will be awarded in March 2019 with work performed in April and May for completion by Summer 2019.

VI. **New Business:**

A. The Committee directed the Township Solicitor to draft a resolution for consideration by the Board of Commissioners at their November 13, 2018, listing necessary waivers from Code, which must be approved by Board of Commissioners in order for the Environmental Advisory Council to schedule all activities they propose for Earth Day Fest in April 2019:

- Lynette Saunders, EAC Chair, discussed the plans in Masons Mill Park to include:
 - Food truck; music with a DJ;
 - Briar Bush to bring native animals with a one day program;
 - Pavilion with tables;
 - Workshops on birdhouses, planting native seeds, building rain barrels, etc.;
 - Car dealership to bring an electric car;

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- Demonstrations on solar panels, geothermal and other energy efficient items;
- Interpretative nature hikes through the Pennypack trails;
- Awards at the Library for writing and poster contests.
- Mr. Stasio stated that permits will be required for the food trucks, animals and DJ in the Park. Commissioner McFtridge confirmed with Mr. Dodies that these issues will need a resolution drafted and approved by the Board of Commissioners.
- Commissioner Scull inquired if the event could be held at Boileau Park. Ms. Saunders stated that there is less parking, no pavilion, and is a smaller area with less walking trail options.
- Mr. Stasio will provide the Township Solicitor with the EAC's proposal to draft a resolution.

VII. Other Items:

- A. Mr. Stasio stated that Pumpkins On Parade is Saturday, October 20, 2018, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. In case of rain, call Masons Mill Park at 215-659-3388, an announcement will be posted on the uppermorelandrec.com website, and a message will be texted and emailed. Tickets are required and can be purchased at the Parks & Recreation office.

VIII. Visitor Comments - Nothing to report.

IX. Commissioner Comments:

- Commissioner Spearing commented that LED lighting be considered for all Township parks. Mr. Schaible stated that the Township is working with Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission to install lighting throughout the municipality as well as all their parks.
- Commissioner Scull commented that the Veterans Memorial Park helicopter dedication ceremony was a a very emotional event and that veterans fought for our citizens to freely express opposition to issues.
- Commissioner McFtridge thanked the Commissioners, everyone involved in the installation and the dedication, and everyone who contributed to the \$400,000 for the Veterans Memorial Park helicopter.
- Commissioner McFtridge stated that the Veterans Administration would like to obtain an estimate for a security camera at the helicopter. Mr. Stasio will follow up with an estimate.

X. Adjournment - There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.