

**Upper Moreland Township
Committees Meetings
January 25, 2021 - Meeting Minutes**

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

Parks and 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 Nicolas O. Scull called the meeting to order via Zoom following the conclusion of the Finance & Administrative Committee Meeting.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Scull, Commissioners McFatridge and Lockard and Mr. Stasio. Also present were Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager, and Alex Baumler, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Presentations/Announcements** - Nothing to report.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes - November 23, 2020** - The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- V. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports:**
 - A. Parks and Recreation Monthly Report - Nothing further to report.
 - Commissioner Spearing commented that he anticipates an increase in this year's outside activities, which will potentially employ additional staff and keep the parks up to par.
 - Commissioner McFatridge commented on improving park maintenance this year. Mr. Stasio explained that he anticipates hiring; however, the current reduced maintenance staff have been performing an increased amount of work.
 - Commissioner Whiting reminded that the safety of employees and park visitors is foremost during the pandemic. Mr. Stasio replied that the crew are equipped with masks and sanitizers and park visitors are encouraged to follow safety protocols. Mr. Stasio stated that there is pending tree work in the parks that will be addressed in the coming months.
 - B. Library Board of Trustees Report - Dave Hakes, Treasurer, provided updates:
 - The Library will continue 60-minute time limits with a maximum of 20 patrons in the building.
 - The Library is circulating new Nintendo Switch games to patrons.
 - AARP Tax Preparation Assistance will be offered in the Community Room from February 3, 2021 to April 14, 2021, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Appointments are filled; however, it is recommended to call the Library to check for cancellations.
 - The lobby refurbishment project is nearing completion and a new electronic bulletin board will be installed for posting announcements.
 - The FEMA Grant was awarded to the Library in the amount of \$4,767.08, which will cover 75% of the costs incurred from March to August 2020 for the purchase of sanitizing and personal protective supplies.
 - The CARES Grant was awarded to the Library in the amount of \$1,400.00 to be expended between April to September 2021 for COVID-related expenses not covered under the FEMA Grant.
 - Donations of used books will resume abiding by a strict policy, which is by-appointment-only, quarantining materials for 72 hours, and managing a limited amount of storage space.

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- Patrons forwarded comments of thanks for offering the virtual teen painting program, and a homeless patron was grateful for a safe location to work on employment applications, which resulted in finding a job.
 - The Board of Trustees thanked the Public Works Department for hanging holiday lights in preparation of the New Year's Eve Luminating Event.
 - Friends of The Library raised \$2,450 for the Library and thanked corporate sponsors of the New Year's event.
 - Margie Peters, Director, expressed condolences on behalf of the Library to the Lavalle Family and the Board of Commissioners on the loss of Commissioner Joseph Lavalle.
- C. Friends of Boileau Park – Treasurer’s Report:
- Mr. Stasio stated that a report will be provided at the February 22, 2021 meeting
 - Commissioner Scull amended the title to "Farmstead Park".

VI. Old Business:

A. Friends of Boileau Park Agreement:

- The Committee will continue a discussion at the February 22, 2021 meeting.

VII. New Business:

A. A discussion led by Anton Kuhner on Power Line Trail:

- Mr. Kuhner reviewed details of the preliminary concept plan pictures.
- Commissioner Spearing discussed the dimensions and expense of bridges, sidewalks and trails, and suggested adding a concrete ford. Mr. Kuhner will follow up with crossing treatment options.
- Commissioner Spearing and Mr. Kuhner discussed grant opportunities that are available for the project, which include Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA), Pennsylvania Department of Commerce and Economic Development (DCED) and Pennsylvania Department of Commerce and Natural Resources (DCNR).
- Mr. Candland inquired on the cost estimate of \$2 million and Mr. Kuhner explained that the project would be broken up into segments with separate grant applications.
- Mr. Stasio inquired on the grant matches. Mr. Kuhner stated that the TASA requires an up-front cost for engineering and permitting, DCED is a 70%/30% match and he will confirm the DCNR grant.
- Commissioner Valenza requested to confirm the responsibility of the grant matches and installation of lighting for safety.
- The Committee directed Mr. Kuhner to prepare a funding plan, which includes potential funding sources.
- The Committee will continue a discussion at the February 22, 2021 meeting.

B. Friends of Boileau 5-Year Plan:

- The Committee will continue a discussion at the February 22, 2021 meeting.
- Commissioner Scull commented that Friends of Boileau is in the process of changing their name at the State level to Farmstead Alliance.

C. DCNR Grant – Farmstead Park:

- Mr. Stasio discussed the grant process with a match of \$115,000. The deadline to submit the application is April 2021 and award decisions will be made in October/November 2021 timeframe. The project is anticipated to begin in Summer 2022.
- Commissioner Scull commented that Farmstead Alliance (Friends of Boileau) continues to

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seek a \$100,000 match to fund repair of the roofs. He added that saplings growing in the wetlands are Willow Trees.

- The Committee directed Mr. Stasio to prepare the grant application.
- The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the February 1, 2021 Regular Meeting.

D. 2021 Capital Projects:

1. Brooks Street Park Playground Replacement - \$40,000:
 - Mr. Stasio stated that the playground has reached its service life of 20 years.
 - The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the February 1, 2021 Regular Meeting.
2. Masons Mill Park Pavilion Replacement (1) - \$30,000:
 - Mr. Stasio stated that it is one of the original pavilions.
 - The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the February 1, 2021 Regular Meeting.
3. Hard Court Resurfacing - \$370,000, plus Engineering Fees:
 - Five (5) Tennis, Six (6) Pickleball with lights, One (1) Volleyball and One (1) basketball
 - Mr. Stasio reviewed details of the improvements and cost estimate.
 - Mr. Candland commented that he recently visited the park and observed how intensely the courts are used.
 - The Committee directed Mr. Stasio to work on reducing costs with Gilmore Associates and provide a follow up at the February 22, 2021 meeting.

D. Proposed Shade Tree Commission Discussion:

- Commissioner Spearing stated that there will be a presentation at the March 15, 2021 meeting.

VIII. Other Parks and Recreation Items - Nothing to report.

IX. Visitor Comments - Nothing to report.

X. Commissioner Comments:

- Commissioner Scull extended his condolences to the Lavalle Family and noted that he had know Commissioner Lavalle for a long time.

XI. Adjournment: There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.