

## **Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting**

**Parks and 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 Alex Baumler, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Presentations/Announcements** - nothing to report.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - October 21, 2019: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports** - October 2019:
  - A. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report - Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
    - Kate Kollar and Lisa Pearsall are coordinating the Fall recreation programs schedule.
    - The maintenance crew is currently collecting leaves in Township parking lots and parks.
    - An audit of all the parks is being conducted to remove dangerous branches and trees.
    - Seasonal maintenance workers concluded their employment in mid-October.
  - B. Library Board of Trustees Report: Lisa Quinn, Vice President, provided the following updates:
    - A meeting was held with Margie Peters, Director - UMFP Library, Mr. Dodies and Matt Candland, Township Manager Designee, to determine that the 2020 Keystone Grant application will be used to fund Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements to the Library's two emergency doors. The Board is seeking the Committee's input and approval to submit a non-binding Letter of Intent which is due December 20, 2019 to the Commonwealth of Libraries. The estimate on the project is \$97,031 and the Township's match would be \$48,516. The grant application is due April 2020 and awards will be announced in October 2020 for projects to be completed by March 2022.
      - The Committee agreed to authorize that the Township support the Library and Ms. Peters will provide the draft letter to Mr. Dodies office.
    - The Library staff and trustees participated in the Hatboro Holiday Parade held on Sunday, November 24, 2019.
    - Library is partnering with the Census Bureau who is sending a worker to assist applicants applying for temporary Census positions.
    - Creative Bug and Miss Humblebee's Academy are new computer applications which are available to kindergarten children on the Library's website under the E-Library link.
    - The November community collaboration activity is 550-piece puzzle.
    - The Friends of the Library are having a fundraiser offering a luminary craft kit at the cost of \$10.00. The Friends also sell tote bags, pens and bookmarks year-round to raise

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money for the Library.

- The Friends will hold a family-friendly New Year's Eve Party as fund-raiser from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. with refreshments, trivia games and dancing. Thanks was given to the Public Works Department for hanging the holiday lights at the Library.
- Commissioner Scull commended the Library for their November 19, 2019 presentation about Louis Armstrong.

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

A. Downtown Fountain:

- Mr. Stasio meet with a contractor who recommended removal of all the current equipment and installation of a new in-ground vault that houses the pumps and salt purification system. The contractor's total project estimate would range between \$60,000 to \$100,000.
- Mr. Stasio will consult the Township Engineer and Township Landscape Architect for bid specification plans, costs, and references on the contractor. Commissioner McFatrige suggested working together with the developer from the opposite side of the street to share with costs. Mr. Stasio suggested that building a new fountain on Memorial Park Drive would be less expensive to operate.
  - Commissioner Valenza commented concerns on overall costs of the project.
  - Commissioner Scull stated that grant options or an interested developer could help with funding.
  - Commissioner Scull commented that the fountain would create a focal point that emits pride and compliments the new development in the area.
  - Commissioner Spearing stated that he opposes moving the fountain and suggested that in-house employees could prepare the site for construction of a new fountain, which would defer some of the cost.
  - Commissioner McFatrige commented on ideas to relocate the fountain and suggested that an art installation could be proposed as well.

B. Masons Mill Parking Lot and Water Conversion Status:

- The new parking lot and septic system is in use. There are problems with drainage of the raingarden and the contractor will need to return to amend the soil.

C. Master Trail Plan:

- There have been two public meetings and four Steering Committee meetings. Currently, a draft plan of trails is being reviewed for connections with neighborhoods to economic areas that can reduce transportation. A survey was available to residents of both Hatboro and Upper Moreland for input that will be used to establish a baseline, formulate plans and generate grant applications.

D. Friends of Boileau Park Agreement:

- Commissioner Scull stated that the Friends of Boileau does not have an active attorney and directed Mr. Stasio to contact Horsham Township and Whitpain Township to learn more about their agreements and arrangements with services associated with their historic buildings and parks.

VI. **New Business:**

A. Cameras in the Park:

- Commissioner Scull stated that lights and cameras in Woodlawn Park were discussed with residents during a Ward 1 meeting.

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- Mr. Stasio stated that the Township does not own the Woodlawn Park building. Currently, there is security lighting at the basketball courts, the Police are aware of unwanted activities, and they are patrolling the area. Mr. Stasio is working with Matt Hocker, Director of Information Systems, to obtain information on cameras, accessibility to internet, lighting and costs, and will provide an update at a future Committee meeting.

VII. **Other Items** - Mr. Stasio provide the following updates:

A. Pumpkins on Parade Event – Saturday, October 26, 2019:

- The 28th annual event was successful despite the weather. Thanks was given to volunteers and the Parks and Recreation staff for all their work. Approximately 150 non-resident and 300 resident tickets were sold.  
Commissioner McFatrige commended the event and staff for all their work

B. “Fowl” Shooting Contest Recap:

- The “Fowl” Shooting Contest, held on November 22, 2019, was a successful event and a middle school student won a complete Thanksgiving turkey dinner. Thanks was given to the Parks and Recreation staff for all their work.

VIII. **Visitor Comments** - nothing to report.

IX. **Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner McFatrige thanked the Parks and Recreation staff for their assistance with the tree lighting event on November 23, 2019 at Veterans Memorial Park.
- Commissioner Spearing thanked Mr. Stasio, Commissioner McFatrige, Kiwanis Club, Robert Mathers, Michelle Young, and the Willow Grove Fire Department for their assistance with the tree lighting event.
- Commissioner Scull stated that the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting has been canceled for December.

X. **Adjournment** - There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.