

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 and Recreation Department.

- I. **Call to Order:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Nicolas O. Scull called the meeting to order.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Scull, Commissioners McFatridge and Lockard and Pat Stasio, Director of Parks and Recreation. Also present were Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager, and Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Presentations/Announcements** - Nothing to report.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes - February 22, 2021** - The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- V. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports:**
 - A. **Parks and Recreation Monthly Report** - Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
 - Families have expressed interest in donating trees and benches to the Department and one family has made a contribution towards purchasing a park bench and plaque in memory of someone.
 - The Spring Newsletter is posted online at uppermoreland.org and uppermorelandrec.com and hardcopies will be mailed out to residents in a week.
 - Playground equipment has been ordered for Brooks Street Park, Masons Mill Park and Fair Oaks Park, which will be installed sometime in May.
 - Kate Kollar, Program Coordinator, will meet with the Golden Age Club to discuss planning for 2021, in accordance with CDC guidelines.
 - The School District is working with the Parks and Recreation Department on summer education sessions for students to catch up from the past year of online classes.
 - The maintenance crew is performing daily routine work and will begin to catch up on backlogged work starting April through June, with seasonal staff.
 - B. **Library Board of Trustees Report** - Moureen Wenik, provided the following updates:
 - Maximum capacity is now 35 patrons with nine staff members available during hours of operation.
 - Community Room reservations are requested through the Township Manager's Office for groups of 15 people or less.
 - One hour library visits and computer sessions are now available.
 - Length of quarantined Library materials has been reduced to 48 hours.
 - Social distancing protocols continue, allowing only one patron to sit at a table.
 - The website has a tab for free community events that include ALA literacies. Three Amazon Fire Tablets with hotspots and apps are being circulated for patrons.
 - The Environmental Advisory Committee's Zoom book discussion on "Nature's Best Hope" is scheduled for March 21, 2021 and March 23, 2021. Copies are available at the Library and those who complete the two-part series will receive a coupon to redeem a plant at the Earth Day event.
 - Library staff will be available during the Earth Day event on April 24, 2021 at Masons Mill Park to assist patrons with obtaining Library cards.

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- The Historical Association's monthly Zoom speaker series' next presentation will be held on March 23, 2021.
- One Book, One County: A Discussion with David Baldacci will be held on April 29, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets will go on sale on April 5, 2021 at MontCoLibraries.org.
- Commissioner Scull commented support for using Zoom technology and hybrid meetings conducted in the Community Room and suggested researching a budget and requesting assistance from the Township.
- Ms. Peters discussed proposed landscape drawings that will be added to the Keystone grant application. Drawings for the side yard are being reviewed by Gilmore & Associates to create bid specifications.
- Mr. Candland explained that Gilmore & Associates will meet with Federal Realty to coordinate a design that connects the streetscape from the Library to the shopping center.
 - The Committee recommends the Community Development Committee continue a discussion at the April meeting.

VI. Old Business:

A. Power Line Trail Project - Grant Opportunities:

- The Committee agreed to table this agenda item for discussion at the April meeting.

B. 2021 Capital Projects:

- Mr. Stasio discussed budgets for Masons Mill Park court's repaving, lighting at the pickleball court and recommended a transfer of funds from the Fair Oaks Basin project to offset the Masons Mill Park improvements. Grants are also anticipated to offset costs.
- Commissioner Prousi asked to clarify the cost of lighting. Mr. Stasio explained that the original estimate was \$18,600, but the company declined the project. He received a verbal quote from a different company and is awaiting the written confirmation.
- The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action for the improvements at the April 5, 2021 Regular Meeting.

C. Friends of Boileau Park Agreement and 5-Year Plan:

- Alan Sentman, Chair, stated that more information needs to be acquired and requested that the Agreement item be tabled to the April meeting.
- The Committee agreed to table the Agreement item for discussion at the April meeting.
- Commissioner McFtridge commented various safety concerns from the results of the structural survey and measures need to be implemented on the Springhouse. Mr. Sentman stated that efforts were made to help secure the building.
- The Committee reiterated structural safety and funding concerns for the Springhouse. Commissioner Scull recapped reasons to save the building and explained that it has been placed on the Level 2 List of State Eligible Properties for the National List of Historic Places, which are tied together for submission of the grant application. Mr. Sentman replied that he would like to discuss the concerns with Paul Purtell, Director of Code Enforcement, and work out a long-term plan. Commissioner Spearing suggested seeking private funding to help with improvements.
- The Committee agreed that a discussion continue concerning the Agreement, the 5-Year Plan and the Springhouse at the April Committee Meeting.
- Commissioner Prousi explained that there are types of historical preservation classifications that dictate how a structure can be manipulated for improvements, and he recommended that the Friends of Boileau review them to determine its category.
- The Committee directed the Friends to contact Mr. Purtell for safety recommendations, install a fence around the property, seek out in-kind services, and modify their 5-Year Plan.

D. Downtown Celebration Event:

- Sharia Wallace, Coordinator, explained that plans are proceeding for a Juneteenth celebration and a private property will be utilized in the vicinity between York Road and Moreland Road. She invited all the Commissioners to attend and more details about the event will be provided at a future meeting.
- Mr. Stasio stated that he has been working along with Ms. Wallace on planning the event.
- Commissioner Scull inquired about the event areas. Ms. Wallace explained that the areas include her boutique property, a food truck stationed at the church, an art exhibit on display behind the school, and activities for children at Cherry Street Park. There will be an online app site to pre-register, share pictures, connect to social media, and have a raffle drawing.

VII. New Business:

- Dr. Lynnette Saunders, Chair of the Environmental Advisory Council, reiterated a request to have an animal show, music, and prepackaged food for purchase at the Earth Day Event on April 24, 2021.
- Commissioner Valenza recommended advertising a flyer on the Township's website.
- The Committee recommends amending the ordinance to process requests through the Parks and Recreation Department for animal shows at the Earth Day event, and Mr. Kilkenny will review the ordinance in preparation of a future public meeting.
- The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action on a resolution at the April 5, 2021 Regular Meeting.

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

IX. Visitor Comments:

- Susan Worth LaManna, Member of the Historical Commission, suggested that the Commission manage the planning of community events in conjunction with the Semiquincentennial, which is the 250th Anniversary of the 1776 establishment of the United States of America.
- The Committee agreed to have the Historical Commission plan the event.

X. Commissioner Comments - Nothing to report.

XI. Adjournment: There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.