

## Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

**Parks and Recreation Committee Members:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Nicholas O. Scull, Commissioner Cheryl Lockard, Commissioner Anthony S. Prousi, Patrick T. Stasio, Director of Parks and Recreation Department.

- I. **Call to Order:** Commissioner and Chair Nicholas O. Scull, called the meeting to order.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Scull, Commissioners Prousi and Lockard. Also present: Pat Stasio, Director of Parks and Recreation, Alex Baumler, Township Solicitor, Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager.
- III. **Presentations/Announcements** - Nothing to report.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** – May 22, 2023:
  - The Committee amended Section V., B., second arrow to read: “A survey is being developed by the Library to reassess the needs of the community.”, and the minutes were unanimously approved as amended.
- V. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports:**
  - A. **Parks and Recreation Monthly Reports for May 2023** - Mr. Stasio reported the following:
    - Ongoing communication with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources’ Land and Water Conservation Fund about the \$1.25M grant application submission.
    - Pileggi Park is being repaved and will also have lines painted in the parking lot.
    - Working with department directors and organizations on content for the Fall Newsletter.
    - Softball leagues are competing and there is a shortage of umpires. Interested individuals can contact the Parks and Recreation Department.
    - There are currently 278 members in the Gold Age Club.
    - Summer camps start next week and all councilor positions have been filled.
    - Kate Kollar, Assistant Director, and Jen Hartigan, Recreation Assistant, recently provided support with the Montgomery County Senior Games, which consists of 30 different sporting events.
    - Extensive sewer line work was completed at Masons Mill Park.
    - The maintenance crew assisted with the Freedom Steps 5K Run at Masons Mill Park.
    - A large tree was removed from across the creek at Veterans Memorial Park
    - The athletic fields have been rolled and aerated.
    - The Parks and Recreation Advisory Council met to discuss a potential snack stand at Masons Mill Park. The Council will continue a discussion at the July meeting before making a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.
    - Commissioner Lockard commended Mrs. Kollar and Mrs. Hartigan for their work on the summer camp programs. Mr. Stasio shared positive feedback from the campers’ families.
    - Commissioner Prousi stated that the priority of projects has changed at Farmstead Park and specified a request for the original list of all projects with costs, which will be used to update as contracts are filled and also compare the impact of inflation on future projects at the park.
    - Commissioner Scull inquired about the Newsletter mailing and Mr. Stasio explained the process that every Upper Moreland Township business and resident address registered at the U.S. Post Office should be mailed a newsletter, which is delivered by carrier route. If someone does not get a Fall Newsletter by the third week in September, they can call the Township.

- B. Library Board of Trustees Report** – Dr. Anthony Giannetti, Trustee, reviewed the following items:
- Recapped a sampling of the variety of programs and services utilized by adults and children.
  - A new survey is being developed, which will provide more information on needs in the community.

**VI. Old Business** – Nothing to report.

**VII. New Business:**

- A. Shade Tree Commission Progress Report** provided by Katie Kollar:
- The Parks and Recreation Advisory Council includes the Shade Tree Commission, which appointed four members to serve as a Shade Tree Committee (STC).
  - Two STC meetings were held and initiatives were set to provide education and participate in established events. Planning to join in with Farmstead Alliance and Pennypack Ecological Trust at the free tree giveaway in Farmstead Park.
  - STC members assisted the Environmental Advisory Council with activities during the Arbor Day event at Masons Mill Park.
  - Held a networking meeting this month at Pennypack School in Hatboro with neighboring municipality's Shade Tree Committees to share ideas that can be implemented in Upper Moreland such as tree tagging. Created a listserv for communication with those municipalities that were unable to attend.
  - Educational information to encourage native tree planting has been posted to the website.
  - Commissioner Prousi suggested ideas that include identifying reforestation zones and offering forest teaching efforts.
  - Tree inventories will be maintained for both the Downtown area and the parks.
  - A STC member is planning to attend Philadelphia's Shade Tree Committee meeting and report back findings on implementing surveys.
  - Commissioner Spearing suggested utilizing software that identifies trees and plantings and communicates to other tree commissions.

**VIII. Other Parks and Recreation Items:**

- A. Lori/Surrey Lane Open Space** – Update provided by Pat Stasio:
- The land will currently be considered open space and an evaluation will be conducted.
  - The Committee discussed reforestation and naturalizing the area due to flooding issues.

**IX. Visitor Comments** – Nothing to report.

**X. Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner Prousi announced that a guided tour will be held at the historic Montgomery Cemetery located in Norristown, PA, to discuss the life and times of General Hancock on Monday July 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 9 a.m. Tickets are \$10 and participants should RSVP to the Historical Society of Montgomery County.

**XI. Adjournment:** There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.