

## **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 Jennifer Prior, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Presentations/Announcements** - nothing to report.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - June 17, 2019: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports** - June 2019:
  - A. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report - Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
    - Summer programs are half-way completed for the season and enrollments are either full or 90% full. The Supervised Playground Program is full with over 330 youngsters.
    - A new playground installed at Blair Mill Park includes a new sidewalk, safety surface, regrading and is awaiting replacement of the fence and sign.
    - Commissioner McFatrige inquired on the status of Masons Mill Park. Mr. Stasio stated that the contractor will finish 95% of work within the next 2-3 weeks. The Public Works crew will complete paving by the first week in September. Landscaping will be planted in September and October. The parking lot is expected to be completed between mid to late-September, in time for the "Pumpkins On Parade" event. The public water conversion and sewer septic lines have been completed and electrical work will be completed by the second week in August.
  - B. Library Board of Trustees Report: David Hakes, Ward 1 Trustee, provided the following updates:
    - "Summer Reading Kickoff" featuring a "Mad Science Show" was held on June 22, 2019 at the Library.
    - "Stories In The Park" was held on July 31, 2019, at Masons Mill Park with approximately 35 attendees.
    - A self-check-out computer is now available for patrons' use at the entrance and a new circulation desk will be available in September. The Book Sale area has been modified with four new book displays and the fiber optic and bandwidth upgrades will be completed next week.
    - A new piece of art entitled "The Story Teller" will be unveiled in the Children's Room on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.
    - Friends of The Library donated \$10,000, which will be used for the Summer Reading Incentive Prizes glass display case, two tables on wheels for the Community Room, Children's Room materials, improvements to the children's play space area and developing the Outdoor Environmental Presentation space. The funds were raised from

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the "Final Friday In February" basket raffles and the "Annual Fund Appeal".

- A Trustee position remains open on the Library Board of Trustees for a resident with financial or human resources experience. Applications can be obtained at the Library or submitted online at [umfpl.org](http://umfpl.org). Trustees meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. One application has been received to date.
- Students in grades 3 to 8 are invited to participate in the Muggle Quidditch match on July 31, 2019 from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Registration can be done by stopping into or calling the Library.

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

A. Consideration of a centerpiece at the entrance to Veterans Memorial Park:

- Additional contractors were contacted but there has been no response, as yet. The original contractor who proposed ideas in February will provide new ideas that will be discussed at a future Committee Meeting. Mr. Stasio contacted Temple University's Art Department to see if there is any interest by a student to create a sculpture and he is awaiting response.
- Commissioner McFatrige commended the Parks and Recreation maintenance crew for landscaping the area with flowers.

B. Masons Mill Parking Lot and Water Conversion:

- Commissioner Scull stated that updates were provided by Mr. Stasio earlier this evening in Section IV, Item A. Parks and Recreation Monthly Report.

C. Master Trail Plan:

- The third Steering Committee meeting was held on July 17, 2019. Consultants are gathering data on the size of sidewalks and roadways. The second public meeting will be held sometime in September in Hatboro and a design layout process will begin.

D. Friends of Boileau Park Lease Agreement:

- Alan Sentman, President of Friends of Farmstead Park, is expected to present information at the September Committee meeting.

E. 2019 Fall Township Newsletter:

- The Newsletter should be received in homes during the week of September 3, 2019.

VI. **New Business** - Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:

A. Upper Moreland Soccer Club Recommendation

- At the July meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council, Michael Meakins, UMSC representative, requested that the timing control box for the sport lighting on the fields at Pileggi Park be upgraded with remote access from a cell phone. The Council set the following conditions prior to approval:
  - UMSC will pay for the entire unit and it will become the property of the Township;
  - Approval by the Director of Parks and Recreation of the design end unit;
  - The unit must be capable to report when the lights are turned on and off;
  - The Club must provide notification of member(s) who have access to the lights, which includes Mr. Stasio and the Parks and Recreation Maintenance Foreman; and,
  - A master off switch be provided in the case that someone forgets to turn off the lights.
- Mr. Meakins stated the various reasons to upgrade the timing control box with remote access.

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- Commissioner Valenza suggested leaving one light on with a ten-minute delay and Mr. Stasio stated that he will recommend adding a security light to the pole.
- Commissioner Spearing inquired if there is a third-party monthly service. Mr. Stasio stated that the Park has an internet connection and he will provide more detailed information.
- Commissioner Spearing suggested that the remote access unit be compatible with the Township's plan to upgrade to a LED lighting system. Mr. Stasio stated that Mr. Schaible is reviewing the information on the sports lighting system.
- The Committee recommended the Board of Commissioners at their Regular Meeting on August 5, 2019, approve the Upper Moreland Soccer Club Proposal.

**B. Spotted Lanternfly:**

- Spotted Lanternflies were found in Buehler Park and Broughton Park. Signs are posted in the Township parks for visitors to identify and eradicate the insect. Spotted Lanternflies are primarily attracted to the Tree of Heaven but they also damage other trees such as red maples and black walnuts. Trees at the Library, Buehler Park and Broughton Park will be sprayed with a treatment, which is absorbed into the sap that the insects eat for nutrients. Some trees may also need to be removed. More information can be found on the Township website, TV channel, and Montgomery County website, with the recommendation to kill the insect.

**VII. Other Items** - nothing to report.

**VIII. Visitor Comments:**

- Sue Worth-LaManna, a resident, suggested installing a permanent American Flag in the Downtown Park area with the statue of the American Soldier. Mr. Stasio stated that he will report back to the Committee if a flag is feasible.

**IX. Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner Spearing commented that an approved contractor will need to do the work for the remote access timing box.
- Commissioner Valenza suggested waiving the permit fees for the remote access timing box.
- Commissioner Scull announced there will be no August meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee.

**X. Adjournment** - There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.