

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 Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Presentations/Announcements** - nothing to report.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - July 22, 2019: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports** - July and August 2019:
 - A. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report - Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
 - Spotted Lantern Fly (SLF) has been found in the parks and the Department is taking initiative to educate the public by posting signs, handing out literature, removing specific trees, and specimen trees have been treated to attract and kill the SLF. Anyone who encounters the SLF is asked to report it on the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture website.
 - Summer programs have concluded and were a success with enrollments exceeding their limits. Kate Kollar, Program Coordinator, was commended for organizing all the programs and transportation for over 330 youngsters.
 - Athletic fields have been converted from Spring/Summer events for Fall sports activities.
 - Two new bocce ball courts were installed at Masons Mill Park.
 - Commissioner McFatrige commented that the "Pumpkins On Parade" event will be held on October 26, 2019.
 - Commissioner Scull commented that the Touch A Truck event held on September 14, 2019, was a success and the highlight was the arrival of the JeffSTAT helicopter. Lisa Pearsall was commended for her work on coordinating the activities.
 - B. Library Board of Trustees Report: Melissa Osbourne, Ward 3 Trustee, provided the following updates:
 - The new circulation desk was installed at the entrance which has a self-check-out computer available for patrons' use.
 - In the next step to renovate the Library, a six-foot section of wall will be removed in the lobby and contracts will be solicited for improvements that will be completed in December.
 - A 2020 Keystone Grant application will be submitted to reimburse the Township 50% of the expenses related to improvements in 2021. A Letter of Intent and the grant application are due December 2019. Margie Peters, Director, will attend a pre-application workshop on October 4, 2019 at Ridley Township Public Library.

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- Crowne Castle completed installation of the interior and exterior network for the MCLINC upgrade that will ensure patrons and staff have quick, reliable and safe internet connection.
 - The 2020 Proposed Budget was submitted to Mr. Schaible, Assistant Township Manager/Director of Finance.
 - The Library was recertified as a Family Place Library as of 2019.
 - Friends of The Library donated \$10,000 to pay for glass display cases, two Community Room tables, various children's sensory materials and to support the Summer Reading Programs with prizes and refreshments. The balance will be used for the Outdoor Environmental Center fence, new technology and a Children's Room play space.
 - Memberships will be offered for the Mercer Museum and the Fonhill Castle in Doylestown, PA, and the Guggenheim Museum in New York.
 - 31 Library Cards were issued at the Upper Moreland Third Grade Orientation outreach table.
 - The Library continues to seek ideas for growth outside of the old model of the Depository with improvements to the building, services, and various circulation collections.
 - Commissioner Scull inquired on the Family Play Certification. Ms. Osbourne stated that the Family Place Certification expired and each year certain staff members are required to go through training programs. Margie Peters, Director, stated that the program originated at the Middle Country Public Library in Centereach, NY.
 - Commissioner Scull inquired on the program and number of participants. Ms. Peters, Director, stated the program focuses on children under five years of age offering reading and improving vocabulary. There are 15 children accepted for two sessions offered each year. The community can find more information in the Township Newsletter, on the website and signs posted at the entrance of Library. This program is not offered by the School District.
- C. Friends of Boileau – September 2019 - Alan Sentman, President of Friends of Farmstead Park, provided the following updates:
- Two local questor groups will contribute \$1,000 to apply for State and international grants that can award over \$14,000 to restore the second and third floor windows in the farmhouse.
 - A Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant application for \$20,000 is being prepared for submission to provide heat, insulation and masonry work to the farmhouse.
 - Thanked Upper Moreland Historical Commission for sponsoring the "Paint The Town" event on September 15, 2019 at The Farmstead.
 - Thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for assistance to repair the German chimney. Electrical updates and water service into the farmhouse were completed earlier this year.
- V. **Old Business:** Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
- A. Consideration of a centerpiece at the entrance to Veterans Memorial Park - nothing to report.
- B. Masons Mill Parking Lot and Water Conversion Project:
- Work remains to seal the parking lot, add the emergency entrance and exit area, and paint lines on the parking lot.

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- Commissioner McFtridge stated that he has received positive comments on the improvements at the Park.

C. **Master Trail Plan:**

- The second public meeting was held on September 18, 2019 in Hatboro.
- The next Steering Committee meeting date is being finalized.
- The process of gathering background data has been completed by the consultants. A draft plan, expected to be completed in either February or March 2020, will be publicly displayed for 30 days in Upper Moreland and Hatboro to acquire feedback.

D. **Friends of Boileau Park Lease Agreement:**

- Mr. Sentman stated that the Agreement is still in effect; however, legal advice is being sought to add new ideas that will be presented to the Committee at a future meeting.

VI. **New Business** - nothing to report.

VII. **Other Items:**

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

- Mr. Stasio stated that advance tickets will be available for residents to purchase at the Parks and Recreation Department office starting on Friday, October 4, 2019. Advance tickets are \$10 for all kids' activities and \$3.00 for adult hayrides. Tickets purchased at the door for residents and non-residents are \$15 for all kids' activities and \$5.00 for adult hayrides. The event is very popular and has sold out in previous years.

VIII. **Visitor Comments:**

- Mr. McLaughlin, a resident, stated safety concerns regarding the old pole on Mill Road adjacent to Masons Mill Park parking lot. Mr. Stasio stated that he has made several phone calls and will continue to contact the utility company until the issue is corrected.

IX. **Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner Spearing commented with regard to the Master Trail Plan and Horsham's presentation at the August 12, 2019 Community Development meeting concerning Blair Mill Road. He stated concerns on linking the powerline trail between Upper Moreland and Horsham. Mr. Stasio stated that he is aware of the area and will communicate the issue with the Steering Committee consultants.

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

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.