

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** - September 23, 2019: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports** - September 2019:
 - A. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report - Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
 - The Upper Moreland School District will begin to manage field reservation requests for the School District's athletic fields instead of the Township's Parks and Recreation Department. The School District will use a software application in an effort to track use of the fields. Township-owned fields will remain managed by the Parks and Recreation Department, where residents and groups will continue to submit their requests.
 - Vandalism was reported at Fair Oaks Park during Labor Day weekend with spray paint found on the playground equipment and other areas. The maintenance crew and neighbors worked together to clean up the damage.
 - Commissioner Spearing inquired further on scheduling of the Township fields. Mr. Stasio stated that the School District will notify all the teams with instructions on how to establish an online account, which requires a \$15 fee. Mr. Stasio will also have access to the School District's calendar and requests for fields will be based on the groups' past history and needs. Mr. Stasio stated that there have been no communication issues with the School District in the past.
 - Commissioner Spearing commented on fees for the soccer league. Mr. Stasio stated that the Little League coach will be required to have a permit and be able to access the software's calendar, and enter specific information for their event dates.
 - Commissioner Spearing inquired on passive recreation. Mr. Stasio stated that there are times that unpermitted recreation will occur and those parties will be subject to leaving the field if another group has a permit for the field at that same time. Continued non-scheduled use will create a problem, and those parties will be required to obtain a permit.
 - Commissioner McFatrige inquired on the percentage of use by the School District. Mr. Stasio stated that the School District will continue to adhere to the current policy that the Township residents have 75% accessibility to the fields.
 - Commissioner Scull inquired on free fields versus fields requiring a fee. Mr. Stasio stated the Board of Commissioners has kept Township fields free to all resident groups,

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which has increased play on the Township fields.

- Commissioner Valenza commented on Little League insurance for playing on the fields. Mr. Stasio stated that Little League will enter the information on the software's calendar when they complete the master request. Each day, sub-users of the Little League will be able to go into the program and identify who is on the field at a particular time. Little League will eventually be required to govern the issue with their coaches.

B. Library Board of Trustees Report: Tamara Goodrow, Secretary, Ward 6, provided the following updates:

- Margie Peters, Director, attended a 2020 Keystone Grant pre-application workshop on October 4, 2019 at Ridley Township Public Library. The grant will reimburse the Township 50% for Americans with Disabilities Access (ADA) improvements to the Library's restrooms and two emergency exit doors. Thanks was given to Matt Hocker, Director of Information Systems and Facilities, for providing estimates on the work. A Letter of Intent is due mid-December 2019 and the application is due April 2020. Awards will be announced in October 2020 for projects to be completed by March 2022.
- Margie Peters also attended the Pennsylvania Library's Association Conference from October 11-17, 2019.
- Thanks was given to the Friends of the Upper Moreland Free Public Library for donating \$4,000 on September 17, 2019 to fund special programs, technology, furnishings and the Outdoor Environmental Educational Center.
- The Library was awarded an "After School In A Box Tinkering Kit" by the Office of the Commonwealth of Libraries that was given to the first 100 libraries who made the application. The kit includes two Chrome Books, two iPads, two Connect Master Kits, What's Cooking and additional components. The kit is valued at \$2,000.
- "Welcome Baby Bags" are being offered by the Library that include a library card application, a board book and appropriate brochures from the Library promoting materials to families who are expecting a new baby.
- A monthly community collaboration was introduced during the summer starting with a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle for patrons to build and enjoy.
- Staff and Trustees will participate in the Hatboro-Horsham Holiday Parade on November 24, 2019.
- Applications are being accepted for new members to the Library Board Trustees. The application can be found on Library's website and submitted via email or be dropped off to Margie Peters' attention.
- Commissioner Scull inquired on the difference between the Trustees of the Library and the Friends of the Library. Margie Peters, Director, stated that Friends of the Library is a 501c3 which is a Chapter that pays dues to the non-profit Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries.
- Commissioner Scull inquired on the match for the Keystone Grant. Ms. Peters stated that half would be paid by the State and the other half would be paid by the Township. The Keystone Grant is only awarded to municipalities that support or sponsor a library and can be used only for improvements to the building.
- Commissioner Scull inquired on the amount of the grant and Ms. Peters stated that the amount will be determined when estimates are received for the work. A proposal is due to Mr. Dodies this week, which will be reviewed by the Board of Commissioners at the

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November 9, 2019 Budget Workshop Meeting.

- V. **Old Business:** Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
- A. Downtown Fountain - nothing to report.
 - B. Masons Mill Parking Lot and Water Conversion Status:
 - The parking lot has been finished and is in use. The lights will be functioning sometime this week and punch list items are being completed. The Sewer Authority has located the manholes on Byberry Road and will conduct testing of the septic system. The emergency access road from the parking lot to Byberry Road will be stoned temporarily for the "Pumpkins on Parade" event, which will be paved in the Spring by the Township. The Masons Mill Business Campus has allowed use of their parking lot for overflow issues.
 - C. Master Trail Plan:
 - The second Public Meeting was held on September 18, 2019 in Hatboro. There will be a Steering Committee Meeting on October 29, 2019 and possibilities for trail connections will be projected onto maps for discussion.
 - D. Friends of Boileau Park Agreement - nothing to report.
- Commissioner Scull commented that the Hatboro YMCA was Nathaniel Boileau's home and was recently planned for demolition; however, after some intervention by the Hatboro Historical community, the building will be preserved. Commissioner Spearing added that the Hatboro Millbrook Society acknowledged Upper Moreland as an active participant in saving the building.
- VI. **New Business** - nothing to report.
- VII. **Other Items** - Mr. Stasio provide the following updates:
- A. Fall Frolic Dance Recap:
 - Lisa Pearsall, Recreation Assistant, and Kate Kollar, Program Coordinator, organized the dance event for kids in third to fifth grade, held on September 27, 2019, which sold out within two-three hours and was a success. Thanks was given to the Fire House for use of their facility.
 - B. Touch a Truck Event Recap:
 - The event was held September 14, 2019 at Woodlawn Park with emergency vehicles and a helicopter on display with over 400 people attending. Thanks was given to the many volunteers, Police Department, Fire Department, Ambulance Squad and local contractors who provided services.
 - C. Pumpkins on Parade Event – Saturday, October 26, 2019:
 - Pre-registration tickets are for residents and can be obtained at the Office for \$10 per child and \$3 per adult on the hayride. Tickets at the door will be sold to anyone for \$15 per child and \$5 per adult for the hayride. The event usually sells out and offers a night filled with many family activities.
- VIII. **Visitor Comments** - nothing to report.
- IX. **Commissioner Comments:**
- Commissioner Spearing commented on parking at the Bethayres Business Campus and

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inquired if the additional space is still required. Mr. Stasio stated that there have been no problems with Bethayres in the past from the small number of cars that use their lot.

- Commissioner McFatrige requested that Memorial Park Drive be closed for a few hours with the date to be confirmed, to light the Christmas tree.

X. **Adjournment** - There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.