

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting

Parks & 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: Randall K. Schaible, Assistant Township Manager and Director of Finance attending in the absence of David A. Dodies, Township Manager, and Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Presentations/Announcements** - Nothing to report.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - February 25, 2019: The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as amended.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports** - February 2019:
 - A. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report - Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
 - Announced that Karin O'Brien, a 21-year employee of the Township, joined Parks and Recreation as the Department Secretary upon the retirement of Debbie Gutknecht.
 - Presented to the Upper Moreland High School junior and senior students at their Professional Career Day.
 - 2019 Summer program offerings can be found on the website at uppermorelandrec.com.
 - Thanks was given to the Willow Grove Fire House for holding the Polar Prance Dance event, which was a huge success. The event was limited to 100 fifth graders and tickets sold out within a few hours.
 - The Parks and Recreation maintenance crew responded to snow removal on sidewalks and parking lots during the month of February; attended training seminars on pest removal, lawn turf maintenance, and tree information; constructed and installed new little free libraries at Fern Village and Fair Oaks Park.
 - B. Library Board of Trustees Report: Margie Peters, Executive Director, Upper Moreland Public Library Board of Trustees, provided the following updates:
 - Commended the Parks and Recreation Department for constructing and installing new little free libraries at Fern Village and Fair Oaks Park.
 - Book Nook coordinates gently used books to the Library, and thanked patrons and donors for their contributions.
 - A subscription to Netflix is downloaded permanently on a Roku streaming player and is available to patrons for viewing.
 - A hotspot has been created with a subscription to Audible which are audio books circulated on iPods.
 - As a result of new lending formats, the circulation loan period for all electronic devices, DVDs, board games and printed materials will be three weeks instead of one.
 - Final Friday in February, held on February 22, 2019, raised \$2,000 for the Summer Reading program and will provide for additional copies of materials and incentive prizes. A new database has been subscribed to where children log their summer reading activity online. Thanks was given to sponsors: Hatboro Federal Savings,

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Freedom Federal Credit Union, The Rotary Club of Willow Grove and Glassman Subaru.

- "One Book, One County" event will be held April 11, 2019, 2 p.m. at Ursinus College, and 7 p.m., at Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park, with author Adriana Trigiani presenting her recent book, "Tony's Wife".
 - Beads & Books fundraiser will be held on April 27, 2019. Donations of jewelry items will be accepted through April 19, 2019.
 - Friends of UMFPL have mailed a brochure to property owners listing three goals of 2019 fundraising. The goals are to replace two tables in the Community Room, upgrade the play space in the Childrens' Room and to fence and stage the Outdoor Environmental Presentation Space.
- C. Friends of Boileau - Alan Sentman, President of Friends of Boileau Farm, provided updates:
- The 14th Annual Spring Event will be held on May 4, 2019, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with livestock demonstrations, pony rides, colonial interpreters, gourmet food trucks, tours, music and a militia showpiece. Mr. Stasio will work with the Township Solicitor to draft a resolution for consideration by the Board of Commissioners at the April 1, 2019 Regular Meeting.
 - Commissioner Scull stated that "The Bucks County Country Gentlemen" will present a choral concert and the Environmental Advisory Council has been invited to provide a presentation at the Spring Event. Local groups are being sought to participate.
 - A small grant in the amount of \$1,300 was received from Fairwold Questors Group to restore four windows to the second floor of the Farmhouse between April and October 2019.
 - Friends of Boileau applied for a grant in the amount of \$22,000 with matching funds from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to install a new heating system, restore additional windows and perform masonry repairs to the Farmhouse.
 - Requested financial assistance from the Township to restore the barn's palladium window that sustained vandalism in 2013. The cost is anticipated to be at \$3,500.
 - A leak has been identified in the German chimney of the Farmhouse at an estimate of \$2,350 and financial assistance is being sought for the repair.

Commissioner Scull suggested that insurance coverage be claimed for the damaged palladium window and the leak. Mr. Schaible stated that he will check with the insurance company.

 - Commissioner McFatrige inquired on keeping the name "Friends of Boileau" since changing the Park name to Farmstead Park. Mr. Sentman stated that there are no immediate plans which involves some time to process either a d/b/a or a complete name change.
 - Commissioner Lockard stated she is in favor of the repairs but has reservations on whether there are available funds in this year's budget.
 - Commissioner Spearing requested another estimate and stated that maintenance issues be planned in the annual budget so the Township can share the cost.
 - Mr. Stasio stated that he will check on the management ordinance for the Boileau buildings that states the responsibility of the Friends of Boileau and will also check if a resolution exists that allows to waive the ordinance.
 - Commissioner Scull stated that Friends of Boileau was organized to save the buildings and also saved the Township from the expense of demolition. Friends of Boileau later received a grant for \$20,000 to perform restoration to the buildings.

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- V. **Old Business:** Mr. Stasio provided the following updates:
- A. **Downtown Fountain:**
 - A contractor was referred by Commissioner Spearing and Mr. Stasio will follow up with them to provide ideas and costs on restoring the fountain. Commissioner Scull commented on theme ideas for a statue.
 - Sue Worth-LaManna suggested an artistic metal rendering of a willow tree to serve as a symbolic representation a native plant that was once plentiful in the Willow Grove area. Mr. Stasio will inquire with Eastern Center for The Arts and Technology on the availability and costs involved to hire a sculptor.
 - Commissioner McFtridge suggested contacting Lower Merion regarding their fountain.
 - B. **Masons Mill Parking Lot and Water Conversion:**
 - Meeting with contractor this week to discuss pre-construction and is scheduled to start by April 1, 2019. The water line and and sewer service should be completed by Memorial Day.
 - C. **Master Trail Plan Progress:**
 - First meeting with the consultant and Steering Committee will be April 1, 2019 to discuss the role of Committee, complete questionnaires, review ideas for the plan, and schedule future meetings.
 - D. **Township Spring 2019 Newsletter:**
 - The mailing will be later this week and should be received throughout the Township by April 1, 2019. The production cost is supported by advertisers in the newsletter.
- VI. **New Business:**
- A. **Farmstead Park Sign:**
 - Mr. Stasio stated that the sample sign was approved by Friends of Boileau and a contractor will install the sign sometime in early May.
- VII. **Other Items:**
- A. The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at their Regular Meeting on April 1, 2019, to permit Friends of Boileau hold their annual event at Farmstead Park that will feature livestock, open fire pits, and musket and cannon demonstrations.
 - B. The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at their Regular Meeting on April 1, 2019, to authorize adding funds to the Friends of Boileau for chimney repairs in the amount of \$1,175, which is 50% of the total cost of repairs.
 - Mr. Stasio commented on the urgency to repair the roof and Mr. Sentman stated that he will provide a second estimate to the Committee.
 - Commissioner Scull suggested amending the ordinance for maintenance responsibilities by the Township.
- VIII. **Visitor Comments** - Nothing to report.
- IX. **Commissioner Comments:**
- The Board of Commissioners met in an Executive Session at the conclusion of the Committees Meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.
- X. **Adjournment** - There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.