

**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:** Committee Chair Scull, Commissioners Lockard, Prousi, and Pat Stasio, Director of Parks and Recreation. Also present were Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager, Randall K. Schaible, Assistant Township Manager/Director of Finance and Alex Baumler, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Presentations/Announcements:**
  - A. **Juneteenth Celebration Event presented by Sharia Wallace:**
    - Ms. Wallace briefly explained the history of Juneteenth and discussed details for the upcoming celebration on Saturday, June 18, 2022 and Sunday, June 19, 2022 between Park Avenue and Center Avenue. Volunteers, vendors, speakers and ideas are needed, and interested participants can email: montcojuneteenth@gmail.com.
    - Commissioner Spearing reminded of the urgency to submit the Montco 2040 Grant Application for the event.
    - The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the March 7, 2022 Regular Meeting.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes - January 24, 2022:**
  - Commissioner Scull amended Section III., second comment to read, "William Penn Foundation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) have provided grants totaling \$681,000 to renovate portions of Farmstead Park, which will create a passive recreation area and a place to infiltrate water."
  - The Committee approved the meeting minutes as amended.
- V. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports:**
  - A. **Parks and Recreation Monthly Reports for January 2022** - Mr. Stasio reported the following:
    - Seeking to fill seasonal positions in both the Maintenance Division and in the Parks Division for Attendants and Summer Camp Counselors. Maintenance Crew employee positions are also available with responsibilities that include weather related clean up around the Township buildings, in the parks and on sidewalks. Interested candidates can find job descriptions and applications on uppermoreland.org and uppermorelandrec.com or contact the Parks and Recreation Department.
  - B. **Library Board of Trustees Report** - David Hakes, Treasurer, reported the following:
    - Reimbursement of \$10,551 was received for items and deep cleaning related to the Covid-19 pandemic, which the American Rescue Plan provided through the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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- Montgomery County Office of Public Health issued an announcement as of today relaxing the mask guidelines, and the Library has moved to making masks optional for patrons and staff.
- Commissioner Prousi requested to receive the "Library Happenings" ahead of the Committee Meeting to help advertise events. Margie Peters, Director, will email the "Library Happenings" in advance to the Commissioners.
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**VI. Old Business:**

**A. Tree City USA:**

- The Committee discussed minor language changes to the Shade Tree Ordinance.
- Sharia Wallace, a resident, inquired about planting fruit trees and Mr. Candland explained that they are required to be shade trees.
- The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the March 7, 2022 Regular Meeting to advertise an ordinance.

**B. Farmstead Park Roof Project Covenant/Memorandum of Understanding:**

- The Committee discussed language in the Covenant and Memorandum.
- The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the March 7, 2022 Regular Meeting.

**C. Farmstead Park Special Events Alcohol Approval:**

- The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the March 7, 2022 Regular Meeting.

**D. Parks and Recreation Advisory Council's Recommendations for a Master Plan Consultant - Mr. Stasio reported the following:**

- The Advisory Council met on February 8, 2022 and approved the firm of Simon Collins as the consultant to provide services for the Woodlawn Park Master Plan, not to exceed \$44,485.
- Tom Hasani, Ward 3 Council Member, commented support on the portfolio and quality of work provided by Simon Collins.
- Dr. Lynnette Saunders, Environmental Advisory Council, requested the use of native plants in the project.
- Mr. Stasio explained a Master Plan is expected in November and the next step will be to prepare construction documents.

**VII. New Business:**

**A. Bonnet Lane Park Project Phase I Road Improvements – Local Share Account Grant Application - Anton Kuhner discussed the following:**

- Details of the project's improvements that include the widening of Mill Road and a new road that connects from Mill Road to Bonnet Lane.
- The grant application is for approximately \$740,000, state-wide, highly competitive and specifies improving the quality of life in a community.
- The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at their March 7, 2022 Regular Meeting.

**B. Herbicide in Parks:**

- Mr. Stasio explained that vinegar solutions are not systemic, are most effective for targeted applications around playground equipment, not recommended for athletic fields and must be applied multiple times due to weather. He will provide additional information at the

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- Dr. Lynnette Saunders, Environmental Advisory Council, commented concerns about the use of Roundup Weed Killer. Mr. Stasio will provide information on the use of Roundup in Township Parks.

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

- Mr. Stasio announced that the Township was awarded a PECO grant in the amount of \$7,500, which was submitted in the Fall of 2021 for plant plug seeding at Fairs Oaks Park Basin.

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

**X. Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner Spearing commended the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council for selecting the Woodlawn Park Master Plan consultant and inquired on a demolition date for the former Woodlawn School. Mr. Candland will provide a follow up.

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

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.