

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:** Commissioners and Committee Chair Scull, Commissioner Lockard. Absent: Commissioner Prousi. Also present: Pat Stasio, Director of Parks and Recreation, Randall K. Schaible, Assistant Township Manager/Director of Finance, in the absence of Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager, Alex Baumler, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Presentations/Announcements** - Nothing to report.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes – June 20, 2022** – The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- V. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports:**
 - A. **Parks and Recreation Monthly Reports for May 2022** - Mr. Stasio reported the following:
 - There has been an increase in spray paint vandalism in all the parks, in particular Masons Mill Park. The police are investigating and monitoring the areas. It requires approximately six staff hours to clean spray painted surfaces.
 - Kate Kollar, Program Coordinator, has been doing a wonderful job with the sports, educational and other camps and programs.
 - Additional seasonal staff were hired thereby eliminating program waitlists.
 - The Committee requested a report on the Shade Tree Commission at the September 26, 2022 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting.
 - Ash Trees are drying in Pioneer Woods and removal needs to be done for those in danger of falling onto neighboring properties. Anticipating to plant approximately 25 trees in neighboring parks this Fall.
 - B. **Library Board of Trustees Report** - Margie Peters, Director, reviewed items on the report:
 - Approximately 622 patrons are enrolled in the summer reading program, “Oceans of Possibilities”, which is half-way completed and offers incentive prizes for both children and adults.
 - The kick-off of the in-person Aquatic Science Center opening on June 24th was a success with approximately 100 participants at the outdoor patio.
 - Library staff have returned to reading stories at KinderCare and the Hatboro-Horsham preschool.
 - Thanks to the Friends of the Upper Moreland Free Public Library, a projector has been installed in the Children’s Room for presenting multimedia programs and is also an advantage for staff to use while assisting patrons with various digital resources instead of huddling around a laptop screen.
 - A Montgomery County Planning Committee member is creating an outreach program seeking input on the Comprehensive Plan and is pairing up with libraries to hold a family event in the Fall to solicit children’s ideas on what they want in the community.

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- A \$1,001 video conference camera was stolen and the Library is working through insurance for a replacement.

VI. Old Business – Mr. Stasio reviewed updates to the following items:

A. Woodlawn Park Master Plan Development:

- All meeting notes from four focus groups have been posted on the Township’s website at: uppermoreland.org >Parks and Recreation Department >Woodlawn Park Master Plan.
- The next meeting is to be held at the end of August. Concept plans will be ready for September, and a master plan recommendation will be available by the December 5, 2022 Regular Meeting.
- Topsoil, seed and straw are being added to the area to initiate growth before September.

B. Fair Oaks Park Basin Progress:

- Pipes in the basin were found covered over by debris and sediment, which will be cleared, different caps installed, and drywells will be dug and filled with geofabric, sand and soil. Part of the Parks and Recreation budget is being used to cover the cost.
- There are 5,000 plantings, funded by a PECO Green Region Grant, to be installed once the standing water issues are resolved.
- Approximately 80 volunteers from the Environmental Advisory Council, Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust, Giant Supermarket and McMahon Associates are anticipated to perform the planting work.

C. SEPTA Train Station Move:

- SEPTA has delayed the move until at least 2024. The delay affects security and restoration of the ice skating rink, which has safety issues.

D. A.R.P.A. Funds for Park:

- Funding of \$100,000 will be used to repair the maintenance shed parking lot at Masons Mill Park, pave the walking trail in Masons Mill Park, replace informational signage in the parks, and remove diseased trees remaining from 2020. Funding of \$30,000 has been used for the removal and replacement of the downtown fountain, brick work and awaiting a picnic table with a solar paneled umbrella with a cooling station and recharger.

E. Farmstead Improvements Bid Specification:

- Two improvement projects involve environmental and structural issues and Gilmore & Associates has provided a cost proposal and scope for approval in the amount of \$38,950.
 - The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the August 1, 2022 Regular Meeting.

VII. New Business:

A. Masons Mill Park Tennis Use Report:

- Mr. Stasio explained the request to use the courts by Calvary Christian Academy, a non-resident group.
 - The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the August 1, 2022 Regular Meeting to rent out three courts.

VIII. Other Parks and Recreation Items – Mr. Stasio discussed the following items:

A. Consider the cancellation of the August 15, 2022 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting.

- The Committee agreed to cancel the August 15, 2022 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting.

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IX. Visitor Comments:

- Sue Worth-LaManna, Chair of the Historical Commission, inquired on the status of a previous request for permission to offer beverages and food at the Pennypack Park during the Paint The Town event on August 28, 2022.
- The Committee directed Ms. Worth-LaManna to contact the Pennypack Park directly for permission.

X. Commissioner Comments – Nothing to report.

XI. Adjournment: There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.