

Middletown Township Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes from June 13th, 2022

Present: Dori Bower, Kris Belser, Bill Fuller, Dan Giacomelli, Missy Kitzmiller, Patrick Graham, and Paul Kopera
Absent: Debbie Marchesani, Helene Ratner and Joanne Morelli
Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Kris Belser.

Public Comment: There was no public comment for this meeting

The minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and a motion was made to approve the minutes by Bill Fuller and seconded by Missy Kitzmiller; all approved the minutes.

Program Update/Past Events:

Patrick Graham gave the board an update on the current Park & Recreation programs. Summer Rec Basketball began this evening at Firefighter's Park. The league has a total of 277 children across 6 age divisions playing Mon-Thurs each week until the end of July. Bekir Altunbas is the basketball league coordinator once again this year, and we have hired 8 new basketball coaches to assist him with running the games.

Summer Rec begins on 6/20 and runs through 8/12 Monday-Friday at Core Creek Park, Middletown Community Park, and the Community Center on Trenton Road. There are 290 children registered this year with 38 staff, 17 of which are new hires. Joanne has done a great job of planning activities and we are excited to go on a trips once again this summer.

Paul Kopera gave an update regarding the naturalized basins in the township. Highland Gate residents objected to the program because of the high grasses that are now growing in the basins. The township held an impromptu EAC meeting on 6/6 to talk with residents of the neighborhood about their concerns and to educate them on the reasoning behind the program and its effect on storm water management.

Patrick Graham gave an update on the pickleball program at Firefighters. Last meeting Laurell Paris joined the meeting to get approval for a job box to be located at the park to store supplies for her Lower Bucks Pickleball group. Last meeting the board requested she get liability insurance before we approve the purchase of the storage box. Patrick explained to the board that he felt because she is not an official athletic association that he was working towards hiring Laurell in a part time capacity to run her program as a township Parks & Recreation program, with the goal of collecting membership fees to support improvements to the courts and to purchase supplies for the pickleball program such as nets, balls etc. He plans to meet with Laurell the week of 7/4 to discuss in further detail.

The pickleball courts at the Senior Center will likely not be surfaced until next spring, but paving plans to be completed towards the end of the summer.

The new playground construction at Cobalt Ridge will begin on 6/20 with the hope that it will be complete by late July. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be scheduled.

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The Sports Block Party was Friday on 5/13. The event ran extremely well, Neshaminy booked some great games. The shuttle service worked great. Dan & Kris were a huge help with managing the parking situation at Comm Park & Core Creek. Roughly 1200 were in attendance throughout the evening.

The 4th of July parade is still on for the 4th. Change venue as to where groups will be in holding pattern since Amazon is in the parking lot on 413. Beer Garden events coming up at Styers will be having a beer garden featuring Harry Arnold's brewery with a band playing on 5/21 which is pending and then another one on 9/10 from noon until 5 pm.

Diane Loomis of Keller Williams is sponsoring a movie night to be held on 7/28 at Community Park. Pixar's Luca will be shown.

A Beer Garden will be held at Styers Orchard on 9/10. More details will be sent out to the board throughout the summer as the department continues to plan.

The Day that Everything Happens will take place on November 19th and the Senior Citizens Corps will be out helping those that request it.

The Holiday Open house is scheduled for December 8th at the township building.

Old business: Patrick is continuing to search for the bench that was repaired by DPW that held the time capsule for the construction of the skate park.

Reminder: Our next meeting is Monday, 9/12 and will be in person in the upstairs conference room at 6 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm with a motion by Missy Kitzmiller and seconded by Bill Fuller