

Middletown Township Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes from January 10, 2022 (6:00 PM virtual)

Present: Debbie Marchesani, Kris Belser, Helene Ratner, Dori Bower, Bill Fuller, Dan Giacomelli, Missy Kitzmiller, Patrick Graham, Joanne Morelli, and Paul Kopera
Absent: N/A
Guests: Dave Kutch, Supervisor Bernadette Hannah

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Debbie Marchesani. Helene Ratner made a motion that all the previous year's officers stay in their same positions for the 2022 year; Missy Kitzmiller seconded the motion and the motion was passed 7-0. (Debbie - Chair, Kris - Vice Chair, Helene - Secretary). We approved the 2022 calendar to have our monthly meetings on the second Monday of each month except for February and October meeting scheduled for the second **Tuesday** of the month; no meetings in July & August. Debbie Marchesani made a motion to approve these meeting changes, Dan Giacomelli seconded them and the motion was approved 7-0.

Public Comment: Dave Kutch of 3 Snowball Drive attended our meeting as he has a 7th grader in our summer rec program and is interested in our group and he wanted to observe what our board does. Bernadette Hannah, one of our newly elected supervisors also attended and introduced herself to our group and as a resident of Middletown, thanked everyone for all that we do throughout the year.

The minutes from the November, 2021 meeting were reviewed and a motion was made by Missy Kitzmiller and seconded by Dan Giacomelli to approve the minutes; all approved.

LAA asked for P&R Board approval to add a gang box at Community Park (also called a 'job' box) between soccer 1 & 2 by Langhorne Yardley Road fence which gives additional storage similar to the boxes that they already have at other locations in the Park. It eliminates things from being stored in the concession stand; a motion was made by Bill Fuller and seconded by Missy Kitzmiller to approve this request; motion approved 7-0.

Old Business:

Tree planting: In late November, along with the Environmental Advisory Council, there were 30 trees planted across Middletown - 10 trees in the Tareyton Park, 3 in the Community Park, 5 in Twin Oaks, and 12 in Colbalt Ridge that will gradually serve as a backdrop to the new playground with several inclusive features that is scheduled for install in 2022.

The Beautification Committee met at the Miller school 11/20 and cleaned up Oxford Valley Road, filling 30 bags of trash.

Community Garden at the Senior Center: Several changes will occur in 2022 a) plots will be open to all residents of Middletown, not just Senior Center members; b) water will now be provided to reach the garden so that people do not need to carry buckets/pitchers to water plants.

Before Halloween, there was vandalism at the Community Park bathroom including hinges being broken off the bathroom stall doors, urinal damage also done. Repairs will be made before water is turned on in March 2022. In process of getting Barn roof and gutters done - public bid was awarded in October.

Holiday open house debrief: It was mostly an outdoor event; event went well, turnout lower than in previous years, noticed not a lot of people using the vendor trucks, however, the vendors did say it was a good event. Helene was not at the event, but heard from 15 different families that did attend that they liked having it outdoors, having the additional rides available for the kids to go on, liked having the smaller horse carriage. The smaller horse carriage with the police escort worked well as they could also control the traffic light at N Flowers Mill. Inside with the Neshaminy choir, there were approximately 150 people in the main room. The big tent was a success, the

lighting not good, do not use battery lights again. Overall, having it outdoors is preferred just makes it weather sensitive.

Program Report: The 15,000 winter guides have been sent out in the mail and everyone should have received them by now; the 10% discount period for summer rec ends on 2/1. As of right now, there are over 200 registrants - public seems open to in-person classes! Classes are starting the week of 1/17 with exercise classes in-person classes being held now (one virtual yoga class). Field permits will be discussed at our February sports club meeting scheduled to be in person at Muni Center Public Hall.

There are some new things happening this year - Muscle Nerd Fitness which is personal fitness training taught by a personal fitness trainer and she will make it fun; Action Karate for kids did a presentation during the summer and will be doing a class now; Ballet for Tots/Ballet and Tap for Kids will be offered for up to age 7 and she will be bringing in a ballet bar to teach the basics; Mind & Motion will feature STEM projects.

Intro to Pickleball is very popular and classes take place on selected Saturdays starting in April and some classes are already sold out; looking for option to continue with advance classes.

First Quarter 2022: Teen Talent Competition will be held at Oxford Valley Mall from 4 to 6 pm on 1/29; auditions will be held on 1/22. Earth Day will take place again this year at Core Creek Park on 4/23 from 11 am to 2 pm and looking now at vendors, giveaways and live entertainment. Will be doing park cleanups again this year - will pick 5-6 of the parks within the township. Last year we had 120 volunteers and this would be done the week before Earth Day (4/16). Spring tree planting to take place mid April - either the 16th or 23rd. Cobalt Ridge neighborhood had 48 volunteers for their event. It was discussed to reach out to High school/college kids need who need community service hours - best way to reach out to this group.

The first 4th of July meeting will potentially be held on 1/24 at 6:30 pm - possibly virtual. Still have a problem with the Rt. 413 staging area.

Sports Organizations will be invited to our Tuesday, February 15th meeting which will be held in the main room at the municipal building (in person).

Other Business: The MT BOS approved \$100,000 in capital funds for new pickleball courts at the senior center located on Trenton Road; Paul also applied for a \$50,000 TMobile grant to add to the pickleball project. Shredding event to be held on either 4/9 or 4/30. Community Foundation will be having a race event on 5/8 for Mother's Day. BOS did approve the new playground in Cobalt Ridge. Dan mentioned that he read an article that Woods Services is selling land to Toll Brothers for development.

2022-23 Happenings: Apartments at the mall, Langhorne Yardley Road/Woodbourne and Bridgetown Pike intersections, Maple Point campus construction could occur all about the same time; resurface at the Forsythia rink 2023. Phase 2 of new neighborhood signs including Valleyview have been delivered and will most likely be installed in the spring 2022.

Reminder: Our next meeting is **Tuesday, 2/15 at 6:00 PM** and will be in-person in the Public Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm with a motion by Helene Ratner and seconded by Missy Kitzmiller. Approved 7-0.