

Middletown Township Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes from March 8, 2021

Present: Debbie Marchesani, Helene Ratner, Dori Bower, William Fuller, Missy Kitzmiller, Patrick Graham, Joanne Morelli, and Paul Kopera
Absent: Kristine Belser, Dan Giacomelli
Guests: Bill Thomas (MAA), Jonathan Lippy (LAA),

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Debbie Marchesani.

Public Comment: Bill Thomas mentioned that there are no lights around the club house and there are still walkway issues. <Kopera said that the small lot & the trail to Fields 6&7 are part of the 1.0M+ road program bid. The bullpen lighting will be resolved with the new LED lighting.> Jonathan Lippy said there are no issues; the fence issue around Soccer 3&4 has been tabled as there has been no conversations since the last meeting and another LAA meeting will be scheduled. All three local baseball clubs still plan opening day on April 10.

Helene made a motion to approve both the January and February minutes; Deb seconded the motion; motion was approved by all 5-0.

Covid Update: Paul used the John Hopkins report for Bucks County; there was a spike about four days ago; important to be prudent while people are getting vaccinated. Spring break is coming up and important to follow guidelines. Bucks Health Dept. changed their guidelines as athletes are not required to wear masks for outdoors though spectators still need to wear masks. EPYSA requires a mask for insurance purposes so soccer clubs are working through the inconsistency.

Spring Shred Event at Oxford Valley Mall - being held on Sat. 4/17; recycling will not be at Vintage Tech located Wheeler Way next to the post office <COVID has hit their business and OT is not in the budget right now. Vintage Tech is open M-F 7:00AM - 2:30PM normally for free drop off.> The shred event is free and being sponsored by Inspire Federal Credit Union. The event will be held from 9 am until Noon with a 3 bag/box limit.

Earth Day Trash Pickup will be held on 4/24 - there will be an electronic posting for this event. A contest for whomever picks up the most trash in their neighborhood/location. Volunteers needed from P&R Board to manage each of the five sites.

Program/Summer Rec Update: Online exercise classes are continuing - Tai Chi, Beginning yoga, Zumba, Gentle yoga which are all 7-week programs. Other programs include creative cartooning, skateboarding and archery camp, pickleball, archery classes, dog training, golf lessons, adult kickball (4/16), spring break sessions. The only P&R program operating inside at this time is Dog Training at a reduced number of dogs and owners in the Barn's rock-climbing area.

Summer Rec **at this time** has people on a waiting list for some sites - will be opening it up judiciously in order to control the numbers. For summer rec **at this time**, we will monitor temperatures of campers in June. P&R has two 4-week sessions plus one 8-week session. There may be no trips for the first four weeks - will have programs brought in like self-defense course, amusements, art programs. For the second four weeks, horseback riding, art lessons, sewing lessons, Styers Orchards for peaches. Most 2019 Counselors are coming back. Vaccines are not required.

Grants: 1) Applied for 3/4 mile trail from Lions Park in Snowball Gate to Frosty Hollow Drive by Upper Orchard entrance. The narrative is connecting the Lions Park playground to the new UO Playground. 2) AARP grant for water to the community garden for ~\$10,000. 3) The PECO Green Region grant money of \$10,000 (paid April,2020) needs to be spent in 2021. Urban riparian plantings between Quincy Hollow and Cobalt Ridge greenbelt.

4) DCNR grant completion by 2021 hopefully - just plants and amenities need to be done at this point. The skatepark and Kickwall are done. Hopefully, DPW can complete the bench installations.

Capital Projects: 1) Bids for replacing the roof at the Barn are opened on Wednesday 3/10; Kopera will update P&R Board at April Meeting. 2) LED Field Lighting at the 90-foot field at MAA - project is proceeding with COSTARS vendor - eliminates need for public bidding process. MT Board has to approve soon. 3) Resurfacing at Forsythia Park - depends on DPW's work load to get it done.

4th of July parade - May be soon to celebrate; may just do a drive by with the police, fire marshals, a couple of floats first responders, supervisors or nothing at all this year. Kopera will have an update at April meeting; Parade CMTE has not officially met, informal conversations with bands, groups and CMTEs.

Other business: Providing water to concession stand/bathroom: St. Patrick's Day is rule of thumb to turn water on when temp. low is at or above 32 degrees for a full week. Otherwise all else is good at Parks, getting lots of use, lights start 3/15. In covid times, P&R will assume cleaning bathrooms that LAA and MAA are normally required to clean. Jasco Cleaners is cleaning park bathrooms at Comm Park, Twin Oaks, Simmons on seven times a fortnight schedule.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm with a motion by Debbie Marchesani and seconded by Helene Ratner. Next meeting is Monday, April 12th at 6:00 pm via zoom. We will be using the same zoom link for our meetings for April, May, and June.