

# Middletown Township Parks and Recreation Board

## April 11, 2022 | 6:00 p.m.

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Debbie Marchesani. There was no public comment. The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed and a motion was made to approve the minutes by Missy Kitzmiller and seconded by Bill Fuller; all approved the minutes with Kris Belser abstaining. There was no public comment.

The summer guides were mailed out on 4/5 so everyone should have received them and there were also copies on the table if anyone wanted to review during the meeting.

### **Program Update:**

Nine people have been interviewed and hired, bringing the total counselor count to about 32. Joanne said 35 is target counselor-count to maintain the P&R ratio of 1 counselor to 10 children and to move folks from the Wait List to actual registrant. There are currently 229 children registered for Summer Rec so far with 14 on the waitlist for the Barn. Also promoting 2 returning counselors as site supervisors in 2022. P&R anticipates that 6/2 and 6/15 will be training dates for Sum Rec and CPR certification. Dates could change based on NHS graduation and building availability. For basketball, there are 130 children between the ages of 8 and 17 years old signed up so far. Normal count is 250 each year, marketing push will commence. Exercise classes continue to sell out – yoga, tai chi all continue to be big hits with people. Skateboard camp is schedule for the summer as is archery again. New this year is creative theater – two different sessions after Summer Rec ends on Aug 12; 8/14 and 8/22 with the 8/14 session having different ages.

The P&R Dept is swamped with activity in April – each weekend from 4/2 to 5/13 has an event. Earth Day will be on 4/23 from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm at Core Creek, Pavilion 2 – have 30 vendors total; tree give away. Also have a craft this year. We need P&R Board people to volunteer for this event.

Fourth of July parade will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> at 9 am – will be a controlled registration process. Need to raise \$10,00 to \$15,000.

Discussed about having an event for volunteers again in the fall.

**Upcoming Events:**

Park Cleanup is scheduled for 4/16 at 5 different parks (Community, Firefighters, Forsythia Crossing, Juniper Hill, and the greenbelt in Cobalt Ridge) so please get people to volunteer to help with these parks. Tree planting event is scheduled for 4/21 and 4/22 where 20 trees will be planted throughout the township. The Middletown Senior Center Garden cleanup is on 4/30. On 5/8, the Middletown Community Foundation is having their run at Forsythia Crossing which is Mother's Day morning and will be on the same course that was used for the Run the Gates. The Sports Block Party will start at 4:30 on 5/13 and include junior and varsity softball, baseball, and lacrosse. It is anticipated that Styers will be hosting a beer garden featuring Harry Arnold's Aristaesus brewery with a band playing on 5/21 – make sure that they have standard items to sell and letting the public look at the new facility.

**Old Business:**

Time capsule bench – status from skatepark. Paul will have to locate bench, no idea where the damaged bench is. Other discussion – Dan G. and his son Zack are helping at the shredding event at the Mall. New Sunday morning rental at the senior center looks hopeful to bring in some steady rental revenue each month. Rentals help offset maintenance costs. Field usage within Hulmeville Borough and Heckman school with the issue of lights on the fields cause issues for Hulmeville Soccer Club; less fields for HSC; also, LAA is losing fields at Maple Point campus. Three pickleball courts at senior center are planned to be built this year. The BOS approved \$100,000 towards the project. P&R anticipates once built, there will be resident complaints about the noise of the ball hitting the paddle. Paul & Patrick learned this from the Pickleball session that they attended at the PRPS Conference. Another item discussed is to invest in cameras, need to have wifi in Comm Park. P&R staff is currently talking to Comcast about the issue.

**Reminder: Next meeting is Monday, 5/9 and will be in person in the Municipal Center-Room to be determined.**

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 pm with a motion by Helene Ratner and seconded by Missy Kitzmiller.