

Middletown Township Parks and Recreation Board  
Minutes from May 8, 2023

Present: Debbie Marchesani, Dori Bower Helene Ratner, Missy Kitzmiller, Bill Fuller,  
Dan Giacomelli, and Paul Kopera  
Absent: Kris Belser, Joanne Morelli, Patrick Graham  
Guests: Middletown Twp. Supervisor Anna Payne, Chairperson

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Debbie Marchesani.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Old Business:** A motion was made by Dan Giacomelli and seconded by Helene Ratner to approve the minutes from the April 10<sup>th</sup> meeting; motion was approved and passed by all in attendance 6-0.

**Program Update:** The adult fitness classes are either filled or close to capacity so all good programs. Kickball resumes this Friday after two weeks of rainouts – all eight teams are doing well. Summer camp is at capacity at the Barn with a waitlist but there is still some space at the Core Creek and the Senior Center as right now, there are 370 children signed up. Forty-one staff have been hired along with four site supervisors. Summer Rec starts on 6/19; Basketball starts on 6/12; so far there are 190 registered but plan to have 260 eventually registered to play. The 50 memorial bricks were delivered by vendor, people had ordered Between Oct 11-Jan11. DPW will be place in the ground before 5/28 at the Veterans Memorial Park on 700 Veterans Highway. Bricks were \$100.00 each, program revived every 3 years or so. A brick was purchased in memory of Sarah Joy Mitchell, a 2013 Neshaminy graduate, who was killed in training with the Navy in the Red Sea. Multi-modal Improvement Plan (MIP) has their next meeting on 5/25, next public meeting 5/30; six people attended the first public meeting that was held on April 4. Consultant, Simone Collins, was at the Sports Block Party, doing park research. Forsythia Crossing \$500M grant will include the hockey rink, light poles, and weatherized bathrooms which will open in 2024. The two acres of land acquired from Comcast adjoining Firefighters' Park needs to be cleaned out from the inside out – building first. The road program was approved which includes new pickleball courts: courts will have a complete teardown, redo the drainage run and level the entry path (est. June 1 – Sept 30). Paul sent an informational letter to the residents within 1,000 feet of FFP. There were 2,500 recycle bins initially ordered to be given out on 5/12, 5/19, and 6/10 with another 1,200 to be ordered and given out after Labor Day.

**Debriefing of past events/Upcoming events:** Senior center garden cleanup on 4/15 had 20 volunteers and they did a great job with the cleanup. Park cleanup scheduled for 4/22 at six locations throughout the township had 50 volunteers, gathered 600 lbs. of trash along with tires/tvs. Bare root tree planting and garden cleanup was scheduled for 4/21 and 12 trees were planted in Lions Park (6), Forsythia near foot bridge (2), Cobalt Ridge (4) near playground. Despite the weather, Earth Day was held at Core Creek Park on 4/29 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and we had 450 people attend. The first bin distribution on Earth Day went smooth and good traffic movement with the distribution. The Sports Block Party at Community Park on 5/5 was mostly rained out, except for LAXB. The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Bucks County Senior Days will have open registration starting on 4/3 and bocce will be at our Senior Center on 6/2. On 6/3, the Middletown Community Foundation will be having their Woof A Palooza run/walk at Forsythia Crossing. Two volunteer cleanups are scheduled: Soby Post at Simmons Park on May 11<sup>th</sup> and Oxford Valley Mall will be at Twin Oaks Park on 5/16. Finally, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade is scheduled for 7/4 with Big Whiskey and Uptown String Band; will plan a big 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary event in 2026.

**Reminder: The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 3 Municipal Way on the second floor at 6:00 pm**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm with a motion by Dan Giacomelli and seconded by Helene Ratner. Anna Payne thanked the P&R Board for its efforts in the community.