

Middletown Township Parks and Recreation Board Minutes from September 12, 2022

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

The meeting was called to order at **6:09 pm** by Debbie Marchesani.

Public Comment: No public comment.

The minutes from the June meeting were reviewed and a motion was made to approve the minutes by Helene Ratner and seconded by Kris Belser; approved the minutes 6-0.

Program Update/Past Events:

On August 10, Joanne held an appreciation dinner with her homemade cooking skills for SR Counselors, and everyone enjoyed that. Some of the summer trips that were a big hit included going to Legoland at the Plymouth Meeting mall, iFLY indoor skydiving at the King of Prussia mall, Snipes for golf and then getting water ice afterwards. This year there have been different interests and the program has expanded features based on that – revamped Judy Tudy’s visit where she taught balloon sculpturing. Cornhole, softball, and wiffleball were all received well. Some of the new programs that will be featured this fall & Winter will be Creative Theater and a CSI program which will be held on a day off from school. Some other programs include golf, pickleball, ballet for tots and beginning yoga which some have been sold out already.

List of future events:

September 17th is the fall trash pickup at the Walter Miller elementary school; September 18th, the Neshaminy girls’ soccer team will be doing a car wash at the senior center located at 2140 Trenton Road in Levittown; September 20th in the main hall will be a power point presentation by the BCCD on the Lake Luxembourg dredging.

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October 8th will be Parklandfest Day with a beer garden feature held at Firefighters' Park. October 15th will be a garden clean up at the Senior Center. On October 18th, there will be a presentation by PECO called Homeowner's Guide to Solar also being held in the main hall. November 5th there will be electronic recycling at Oxford Valley mall which will be free to everyone.

The "Day that Everything Happens" will take place on November 19th, not as robust as prior years since other EAC events will have been completed.

The Holiday Open House is scheduled for December 8th at the Municipal Center 530-830 pm, all outdoors. Santa, Hutch's horse-drawn carriage are all back, Paul is working on issue with NHS Orchestra, four (4) food trucks scheduled. Looking for volunteers for the event.

Grant Update:

- 1) DCNR Grant – Comprehensive Plan – awarded \$55,000 for this project.
- 2) Firefighters' two-acre Comcast plot purchase is proceeding. The Comcast plot has rusty fences that are covered in invasives, plus an old structure. Once the Township's purchase is complete, it will cost approximately \$15,000 to clean up the property and PECO Green Region grant for \$10,000 has been received for this appraisal, purchase, and cleanup.
- 3) There is also a separate grant submitted in the amount of \$1M for Forsythia Crossing renovation.

Budget and Capital Projects:

P&R Operating budget is in good shape; pre-pandemic, there was \$407,000 in program revenue. In 2022, it is running above the budgeted \$300,000, may end up closer to \$340,000. The 2023 preliminary capital budget was submitted to the Board on 8/29 at Country Club to include an electric vehicle, upgrades to the Middletown Community Center, rebuilding

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the tennis courts at Firefighters' Park that are splitting; pickleball courts at the Senior Center will be done by May 2023. Pickleball build is part of the annual road program. P&R pays wholesale vs retail when asphalt work is added to the annual road program.

Other business:

Discussion held about starting up the teen task force (TTF) again; suggested having a table at Parkland Days to recruit some young people to be involved with the group and have Cole and Brie be involved with that. A counteroffer was proposed and accepted to have Brie and Cole at the Garden Clean up 10/15 and start talking from there. Plus, volunteer at the HOH. Get them started on reaching out to their networks to expand the group and help with such things as the Holiday Open House and performances for the upcoming teen talent show, where a table would be better suited. A TTF meeting should be scheduled soon, after the 10/15 garden cleanup, with those interested to discuss having this kickoff. Talked about having a volunteer picnic, possibly at Styer, sometime in April 2023 like we had in October 2017, before Debby Lamanna retired. Styer Beer Garden was a success, and everyone seemed to enjoy it, about 2,000 people with lots of families.

Reminder: The P&R October meeting is Tuesday, 10/11 and will be in person in the upstairs conference room at 6 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm with a motion by Helene Ratner and seconded by Dan Giacomelli.