

**Middletown Township Parks and Recreation Board  
Minutes from September 13, 2021 (Virtual)**

**Present:** Debbie Marchesani, Kris Belser, Helene Ratner, Dori Bower, Bill Fuller, Dan Giacomelli, Missy Kitzmiller, Patrick Graham, Joanne Morelli, and Paul Kopera

**Absent:**

**Guests:** None

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

**Public Comment:** No public comment

The minutes from the June meeting were addressed and a motion was made by Missy Kitzmiller and seconded by Dan Giacomelli to approve the minutes; all approved 7-0.

**Park and Rec update:** Summer program went well; all the events that were scheduled ran smoothly and also went well. Everyone attending all the sessions seemed happy; a lot of the counselors will be moving on after this year. Definitely want the water slide again in the future as that was a huge success. It was also helpful having a smaller number of children, compared to the 520 in 2019 which in hindsight was too many.

Basketball league also went well; had 260 registered for this program which was from 7/12 to 8/19. Managed well this year. Many of the fall activities are already sold out - Zumba, tai chi, yoga classes; will be doing exercise programs back in the building for the fall. Kept the yoga class online for people. Offering in the fall - golf lessons at Middletown Country Club, two pickleball sessions are completely sold out, pottery classes at the barn will be held in October; adult kickball starts on 9/24, there will be youth archery on 10/14 and skateboarding classes being offered.

**Future events:** Shredding event at Oxford Valley Mall on 9/25 and meeting at the old Boscov's; Vietnam Veterans Memorial presentation at the Veteran's Memorial Park on 9/26 from 11:30 am until 1:00 pm; closing down Trenton Road to Highland Park entrance; police will monitor traffic. The roads will be closed from 10:30 am until 2:00 pm and shuttles available from the Senior Center and Sandburg. Can also park in Deep Dale and walk across. Parklandfest Day is scheduled for 10/2 with the Beer Garden being open at that event. The Holiday Open House which is scheduled for Thu, 12/9 will also have the Beer Garden feature like 2019. The Neshaminy HS orchestra is still planning to participate this year for the event; it will be the same/similar as in 2019 - question will be whether masks will be required while inside. The Beautification/Middletown Citizen Service Corp will have their event scheduled for the third Saturday of November - 11/20 - "The Day that Everything Happens". Instead of the Halloween event, this year having a pumpkin decorating contest which will be displayed in the township lobby area; have a reception to give out the prizes and use the movie tickets as prizes. As of right now, there is nothing being planned for Veterans Day.

Two construction jobs were approved by the BOS - a) 500 linear feet sidewalks/tracks connecting Maple Point and Walnut Way; b) change the order for LED lights at Twin Oaks and it will start tomorrow.

DCNR "Skatepark" grant - due for completion in 2022. Landscaping/benches/tables are due for installation.

PECO grant: goes back to 2019 grant - 125 trees and shrubs planted in the Cobalt Ridge/Quincy Hollow greenbelt. Part of the urban riparian rebuild of the greenbelts.

Twp. Grants in the works: a) Twin Oaks flooding study; b) Forsythia Trail. BC News - dredging Lake Luxembourg near Woodbourne Road so that the water flows more quickly and lets LL hold more water runoff. This BC study was 20 years in the making.

**P&R Budget:** Big P&R ask is the playground in Cobalt Ridge for 2022 to also include features for special needs children (\$210k). Also want to run the asphalt from the road to the circumference of the playground, similar to Firefighters Park design.

Tareyton Park - benches are taking about 4 months before they will be in (dec'2021); landscaping is done, trashcans are in; sidewalk was done on August 9 in that designated area. Replacing the Boy Scout area.

**2022 Capital Plan & News:** In addition to Cobalt Playground, Electric car for Park and Rec personnel; upgrades Twin Oaks Park for flooding study with elevations; update the Parks and Rec Comprehensive Plan; establish Comprehensive Trail Paths from Levittown to Langhorne. Re-Opening soon of Styer's Farm and Market now that the building has been renovated. Money has been allocated by Heritage Conservancy. New lights, electrical, plumbing and other renovations have been done, but it is still not open. NSD is planning to move Pearl S Buck ES next to Maple Point so two more pedestrian crosswalks will be needed and have already applied for this grant. Neighborhood signs, Phase 2, have been ordered. Stone Farm -some of the 68 acres of will remain open space, move some homes closer. At the mall, 600 units will be built at the Boscov's location; Popeye's Fried Chicken coming to Bus 1 by CarMax; 2<sup>nd</sup> Chick-fil-A proposed near Inspire CU running into opposition from Highland Park residents. Two fast food places are planned for site where Blue Fountain diner now is.

Field Usage Agreement, and the Use, Operation and Maintenance Agreements needs to be updated in 2022. Field lights getting used more on weekends until 10 pm - during COVID, more people want to recreate outdoors on weekend.

Movie night 8/19 - 250 people showed up for the event; popcorn was good as was the candy selection; firetruck sprayed the kids; KB, DM, BF, PG, PK worked the event plus Loomis Team. All good and friendly.

There was a memorial for John Burke, our former township manager, on 9/11 inside Barn at Community Park. A nice commemoration for the extended family.

Our next meeting is **Tue, October 12th at 6 pm via zoom (note day change for Columbus Day)**. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm with a motion by Missy Kitzmiller and seconded by Kris Belser.