

Middletown Township Parks and Recreation Board Minutes from November 13, 2023

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

Absent:

Guests: No guests

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Debbie Marchesani. A motion was made by Helene Ratner and seconded by Bill Fuller to approve the minutes from the October meeting; motion approved and passed by all.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Program Update: Patrick led the Pickleball discussion for 2024 software: Need to expand the software in order to add more time to minimize conflict and be more organized; reserve for the three most popular dates in the new software program as well as have staff at the location. Have people sign up online to reserve the courts. Yearly fees will be \$42.00 for residents and \$63.00 for non-residents starting in 2024.

Last month's events: Groovin' at the Gates was canceled due to the weather on 10/14. Next year looking to have it in late September either on a Friday or Saturday, or both.

Weatherize Your Home Seminar was held on 10/17 and was posted on the website and had 22 people attend the event. On October 28th, the garden cleanup at the senior center took place with 16 people helping. This coming week on November 16 to 18th, tree planting will be taking place with the Environmental Committee.

The 2024 Township budget will be presented tonight at the Township Supervisors' Meeting; for the Parks and Rec department, current project update includes the \$500,000 grant for the rink at Forsythia Crossing Park and the \$125,000 project for the deck at the Barn. We talked about keeping WIFI at Community Park along with having cameras but for 2024, we need to keep within the budget restraints. In response to a question about the grill, the skaters donated the grill at the skate park and the fire marshal approved its placement all done in 2019.

Future events: The winter guide is in process and should be going out the first week in January, 2024. Looking to plan a Valentine's Day parents night out where the staff will watch kids from 5:00 to 8:00 pm so parents can have a date night. Princess Academy has been a big hit and more different ones will be coming. Young Chefs is coming back due to its popularity and there will be three more sessions as we have also partnered with Newtown for this. Future events coming up include the Holiday Open House schedule for December 7th from 5:30 to 8:30 pm which will include four food trucks, the heated tent, some new vendors, artists, Santa will be back, Velcro ax throwing, Neshaminy choir. A motion was made by Dan and seconded by Debbie that the food collected at the Holiday Open House along with all clothing donations go to the Emergency Relief Association located on 1700 Woodbourne Road with the motion being approved by all. The Teen Talent Show will once again be taking place at the Oxford Valley Mall in 2024 on January 24th from 4 to 6 pm. Helene will get a gift card from Giant for candy canes and hot chocolate.

Reminder: The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 8th at 3 Municipal Way on the second floor at 6:00 pm

Dan Giacomelli made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dori Bower seconded; the motion was approved by all, and meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.