

February 16, 2022

Parks and Recreation Committee

Members present:

Toinette Neilson

Tina Skinner

John Bickhart

Audrey Raith

Staff present:

Robert Weer, Assistant Township Manager

Guest: Heide Harper

1. **Call to order 7:00 pm by Toinette**
2. **Approval of agenda** amending earth day to April 23
3. **Recognition of Heide Harper as guest/garden liason**
4. **Approval of minutes of January 19 as is.**
5. **Park Report**

Robert Weer said solar batteries were installed in the park restrooms.

Dog park: Tina suggested mulch in dog park.

Veggie garden: Heide said people are asking for plots, 10 already requested. She has referred the to the online rules, waiver, and application. They become available March 1. Robert said they can not pay online for the park, so they need to come to the office. Heide said she will provide a list. Heide brought a colorful flyer to advertise plots, that was well received. She also announced that she will be sailing for 3-6 weeks, but will be in contact via email/phone.

Financial update: \$15,000 in Parks and rec, \$25,000 general maintenance, \$3,500 trail maintenance, \$5,000 park capital, and \$0 Community Day. Recreation fund of \$46,000 from general budget into a recreation fund that Includes \$20,000 for Memorial Garden, \$26,761.80. Audrey has lantern fly signs.

6. **Old Business**

Goddard Memorial Garden. Robert needs to meet with Laura and whoever else is interested in putting together the proposal to submit to three vendors. He will set up a meeting. Audrey said she would be happy to be at the meeting.

Scout Life Project: Laura went to the Township meeting, and Owen Hill's project was approved. On Sunday he completed his project, removing all the vines on one side of the pond and said he would complete the other side, even though he'd used his time. He also expressed interest in other projects to help with other badges. John said he would work with him on trail work if he is interested.

501C3 Update: Robert said it has been completed. An executive board of chairman of BOS, chairman of Parks and Rec, and others has been formed, and they are planning to meet prior to the BOS March 9th meeting to kick it off.

Earth Day April 23rd at 10am for Volunteers to build Garden boxes, and Laura will bring two people from her office to work with the volunteers to assemble new garden boxes.

June 4th volunteer event for vine removal to be posted in the park.

Walk in the Park: Audrey has been talking to people about organizing walks with experts.

Discussed addition of 10 acres donated by Goddard and possible bridge crossing. John talked about an event at Delaware Center for Horticulture that brought a lot of people to walk the trails. Robert mentioned two arborists who might put on a program. John talked about a Scout project trail at Wolf's Hollow Park, with signs for tree and plant identification.

7. New Business

List of projects for scouts: John has two right now, and asked if board approval is necessary for every project. Robert recommended just making a list. Audrey suggested Bat houses, bird houses, vine removal, sign replacement, and asked if she could refer scouts to John. John said he'd take the lead in working with volunteers. Robert said there is surplus lumber that could be donated for birdhouses, and Audrey said she'd take them for scouts or 4H. She has more kids that need projects, and Robert mentioned that high school students also need volunteer hours to graduate.

Spring Newsletter due Friday, so it is too late, Toinette said. Audrey said she'd do it by Tuesday, and Robert said he'd make it possible. Toinette asked that she write about the upcoming volunteer day, and ask for volunteers to lead walks in the park.

Letter of Support for Trail Connection by Chester County Parks Preservation Grant approved.

Audrey said she has a surplus of 11 bluebird houses and asked if she can put them up at Blossard. Robert offered to meet her at the property, and suggested property across from the township building.

Robert asked if anyone from PR Committee wants to serve on Community Day committee for September event. Audrey volunteered.

Next meeting March 16.

Adjournment: 8:10 pm