

## Environment and Recreation Committee

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 1, 2023 6:00 p.m.

**Present:** Committee Members Wendy Margolis (Chairperson), Joe Frederick, and Borough Manager John Davis.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Ms. Margolis.

The **Minutes** from April 10, 2023 were approved as submitted.

**Doyle Street Pop-Up Bike Lane** update was provided by Mr. Davis. The temporary bike lane will run from Broad Commons along both sides of Doyle Street to Harvey Avenue. TMA has assigned an engineer to the project. We will have a kick-off event in the park when everything is ready to go. The demo bike lane will be in place for about 30 days. We'd like to have this ready to go once school is in session.

**DAA Field Usage Fee Waiver Request** Earlier this year, Plumstead Softball accepted a number of DAA registered softball players when DAA did not have enough players to field a team. This added to significant numbers of Plumstead players who are from Doylestown. Considering this, Plumstead is requesting, with DAA's support, the use of the softball fields at Neis and Burpee parks at no charge. Plumstead has provided their insurance certificate. The ERC voted to bring this to Council for approval.

**Lenape Middle School Use of Neis Park Tennis Courts** is a more complicated topic. Lenape is the only middle school in the district without its own tennis courts. The school's tennis team practices after school from about 2:30 until 4:30. This year, there was a problem with some adults refusing to vacate the courts for the students to practice. The school's Athletic Director approached the Borough for a permit to give them access to the courts. There is no real conflict with any of the Borough programs held at the tennis courts. John is recommending however that the fees not be waived, as the school district may be less motivated to build courts for the school on the school's property. The season doesn't begin again until September. Ms. Margolis agrees the fee may encourage the district to build tennis courts for Lenape MS on their property. Ms. Margolis asked what the recourse would be if the pickleball players refused to leave even if the school comes with permits. Mr. Davis said it will give a little more leverage for the Athletic Director to have people leave the courts.

**Old/New Business** Mr. Frederick brought up a new topic in reference to ticks and Lyme disease. He would like the EAC to do a study on the issue with regard to our parks. Mr. Frederick would like to have an idea of what is in the parks and what can be done to prevent tick bites. He wants to have a way to warn people of what is in the parks that may be concerning to the public. There are natural remedies to eradicate the ticks from the parks, if necessary. Mr. Davis said a similar study was done in reference to West Nile Virus and the mosquitos which carry that disease.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm.