

Park and Recreation Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 4, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.

The meeting of the Doylestown Borough Parks and Recreation Board was held via Zoom on the above date at the above time with the following members attendance: Gary Harris, James Lannon, Dennis Livrone, Elizabeth Wyckoff, Pat Keppler, Robert Huether, Jill Schweizer, Marlon Hitchon, and Jackson Laing. Also in attendance were Councilperson Wendy Margolis and Jack O'Brien, Mayor Ron Strouse, , and Borough Manager John Davis.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the April Meeting Minutes.

Minutes are now being taken from the recording by Jill Schweizer.

The meeting began by John Davis introducing the new members of the board, Marlon Hitchon and Jackson Laing, student representatives. Both are students are sophomores at CB West High School.

Broad Street Park Update: Bids were opened for the plaza, the hard scape, and the concrete work. Streetlights and street furniture will be purchased separately. There were 3 bids. The numbers for the bids came in quite high. Bids are scheduled for consideration at the May meeting of Council. The estimate for this phase came in about \$200,000 over predictions. Reestimation of the phases has occurred as moved forward. This park will be done in phases. The Borough is investigating what can be done to bring the number down a bit. There is not a lot of clarity at this time on the progress, as this is now in Council's hand on May 17th.

The Borough does have about a half million dollars in grants. In looking at the total project, including the Building, and looking at all the factors as a whole. There are still unknowns for budgets and phasing that are taken into consideration as the proposal goes to the Council. The Park has had a great deal of inhouse work done by the Borough team that has allowed for funds to go to the building project.

While Dennis and Jack O'Brien were canvassing in Ward 2, a concern was articulated about the lack of play structure for kids. Jack O'Brien outlined to the resident about the phases of the Park and a tot lot is planned for a future phase. The plan does have a large area designated, which has been planned from the beginning, for a tot lot. Fencing and sidewalks are laid out to support the future tot lot. Grants and fundraising can be part of the tot lot, that and careful planning is a good reason for this to be in a later phase. One goal is to have this a natural play area that blends in with the green space. Tentatively, Phase one is the green space and infrastructure, Phase 2 the tot lot, and Phase 3 is a possible outside venue for performing arts.

The Borough work force is back. The current phase is now being done by outside contractors, such as storm drain work.

At this time, September is the target for this phase completion.

Streetscape improvement are currently being done on Atkinson by the new CHOP/Bank building.

Bike and Hike Report: The Pump Track is open and running smoothly. The Pump Track is looking for dirt. This dirt needs to be about 70% clay, which is great as this is the dirt in our area. The track needs a good truck load for resurfacing, but will take as much as is available to store and use for the future.

The Pump Track's drainage has helped with a storm water run off. The track is built up enough so the water does run off and into the streams. The track has held up really well over the winter.

Liz is working with Laura Reppart, the do some Community Ride that will include some information on riding on the Pump Track, and ice cream ride and a bike check.

Director Report Applause again for the cupola on Burpee Pavilion! It looks good!

The Soccer Shot program should be up and running. The program runs on Sunday; John and Gary will go over to visit and see how the program is going. This is a new soccer lessons for young children. The Borough has rented the field to this group for 7 weeks and will see how it goes with the possibility of permanence. Soccer shots from May 2 to June 13 on Sunday afternoons.

May 17th the next Tennis Season. Tennis is going well.

Maplewood is full of players for DAA, and looks back to normal.

Decisions for Summer Scenic Stroll and Summer Shows is next up for the Board. As of today, May 4th, the Governor has lifted all mitigation measures except for masks. Masks will be lifted when the state reaches a 70% threshold for vaccinations. Based on this news, both programs can move forward.

Summer shows, outside during the month of August, can be locked in. All performers can be confirmed and their shows and resume as planned.

A summer schedule for Scenic Stroll will also be done for this summer.

Arts and Crafts and Summer Games are going to remain cancelled for this year and will resume for next season.

The Pavilion will be reopened for birthday parties and rentals, which will please the community.

Masks will still be required, following the most updated CDC/Governor's guidelines.

The decision for Chess is still pending. This group typically does spring and fall. Gary will get in touch with John, the director of Chess, to see if this groups wants to do a summer schedule or

wait until fall. Due to the heat, the Historical Society will be contacted to see if going inside is an option.

Manager Report: A great deal of work has been done at Chapman Park. A quiet clean up day with the Rotary occurred for the pond and it will be stocked with fish. A big day was not possible this year, but the pond is open for fishing. The rotary is working on plans for habitats for pond to keep the fish population sustainable.

Fanny Chapman is getting ready for the season will include lessons and possibility even a Swim Team Season.

An Eagle Scout will be doing a project to fancy up the trash enclosure by the wet pond at Chapman, near the entrance of the Pump Track.

DAA is up and operating, the field look good. All pandemic restrictions are being followed by DAA.

Tennis courts are full and the Tennis program is on fire. Tennis has flourished during the pandemic.

Old and New Business: A reminder of the amount of trash cans available around the Farmer's Market. There are multiple trash cans around this area.

Wendy suggested investigating contracting trash pick up. The Borough staff pick up struggles at times for trash pick up. Some of this is due to COVID, the short handed phases for staff and the amount of outside dining and activity, as well as some abuse, contributed to this struggle. John will keep his eye on the issue to see if this calms down after COVID or if contracting is a good next step.

The trails in Veteran's Park is on the list to be done. This project has been delayed due to the winter weather and the other needs in the Park. This is still on the "To Do" list. John will touch base with Dave about when this is possible.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 PM, Next meeting on June 1, 2021