

**Park and Recreation Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, September 6, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Gary Harris, Patricia Keppler, James Lannon, Doreen McVaugh, Student Members Marlon Hitchon and Mason Hitchon, Borough Council Members Wendy Margolis and Jack O'Brien, and Borough Manager John Davis

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The **Minutes** from the June 7, 2022 meeting were approved as submitted.

The **2023 Preliminary Budget** was presented by John Davis, this is the preliminary idea for the budget. The theme for the 2023 budget is maintenance and Dave Burger has put together a budget that reflects this. Of the items on the budget, the majority are safety upgrades to our facilities covering almost all of our active play areas.

John informed the Board that we have received a \$250,000 grant for the playground at Broad Commons. The Borough will have to match the funds provided by the grant. There is a lot of moving parts associated with this grant and there is still a fair amount of work to be done. Sponsorship opportunities may be available for the playground as well, John is still considering options.

John shared with the Board that Gary Harris will be retiring from his position as Recreation Director at the conclusion of phase 2 the Broad Commons project at the end of 2023. We are looking at how the department is staffed and if any changes are needed.

Gary presented the **Summer Programs Wrap-Up** to the Board. The first two seasons of the tennis went well. The Borough brought in \$1523.40 which was less than 2021 but still a respectable number. The Soccer Shots program is on the website now. We have received the sum of \$220 from them. We could have a similar arrangement with the volleyball program at Fanny Chapman once we see how that program does.

Arts and Crafts averaged 24 people in the first session, which was less than the average of 28 who attended in 2019 (the program was not offered in 2020 or 2021). There were 37 non-borough residents signed up for this session and 19 borough residents. Gary is happy with this number. Second session average was 26 people. There were 16 borough residents registered and 44 non-borough residents registered for the second session. Mr. Harris was pleased with the work Lauren did this year.

Mr. Harris presented a proposal from Lauren for a mural to be painted inside the Pavilion. It is currently a battleship gray color and could use some sprucing up. Lauren was receptive to the idea and after some conversation with Mr. Harris and John, she came up with this design which was well received by the Board. She is waiving the materials cost for this project. Her total cost for the mural is \$700. John confirmed this will not interfere with the painting that will happen on the outside of the Pavilion.

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Outdoor Games total registration was 19 people. There was an average of approximately 10 people per day. Mr. Harris recognized Ella Delacore, who was working at Fanny Chapman and voluntarily came to Outdoor Games to assist Victoria Ehlinger. Mr. Harris doesn't know if Victoria will be returning for next summer.

Mr. Lannon questioned the cost of running the projects vs how much money is being brought in. John agrees that Outdoor Games needs to be looked at again. Increased stipends for the directors also needs to be considered.

The Summer Shows each had good turnouts. Thank you letters were sent to the sponsors.

First Saturday Chess in July had 15 players. August had over 20 and September had 17 players. John Connelly will not be moving the program inside. Mr. Harris will take over when it moves inside for the colder weather months.

Mr. Harris asked John wheelchair access. There is a handicap sidewalk at the park however there is no dedicated handicap parking spot on Main St. Is this something that could be addressed? John told Mr. Harris this would need to be created by an ordinance but it can be looked into.

The Fall Scenic Stroll session will begin on September 7, 2022.

**Bike/Hike Report:** None

**Recreation Director's Report:** See above

**Borough Manager's Report:** Nothing new to report.

**Old/New Business:** Ms. Margolis asked about the trash cans at Burpee Park. He let her know they are on the list to be replaced.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Erika Fellman

Park and Recreation Minutes Secretary