

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP
PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING (VIRTUAL – ZOOM)
TUESDAY, AUGUST 4th, 2020 AT 7:00 PM**

The Whitemarsh Township Park & Recreation Board will meet Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be conducted on Zoom.

Meeting Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2020

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Meeting URL:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85186953911?pwd=eGovU250MG9vNVhVdkNmTkx4TjFZdz09>

Meeting via Zoom App: if you have the Zoom App on your smartphone, tablet, or computer, open the program, click join a meeting, and enter the Meeting ID: 851 8695 3911

Meeting dial in number (no video): +1 (929) 205-6099

Meeting ID number (to be entered when prompted): 851 8695 3911

Meeting Password: 8042020

Public comment will be accepted via the Zoom chat button during the meeting. You will need to provide your name and address for the record.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

___ CONVEY ___ CRAWFORD ___ FERRIS

___ KISSLING ___ MANLEY ___ O'ROURKE

___ EPSTEIN (CSD) ___ BOS LIAISON: BOYLE NESTER

___ FOX (WAC) ___ TOWNSHIP STAFF: BLOMSTROM

___ TOWNSHIP STAFF (MEETING ZOOM/MINUTES): LANNUTTI

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 2nd, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

4. PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD LIAISON - COMMITTEE REPORTS

5. WHITEMARSH ART CENTER REPORT

6. DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

a. NEW BUSINESS

b. OLD BUSINESS

7. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

9. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 6th, 2020 at 7pm – Format To Be Determined

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

1. Public meetings of the Board shall follow a prescribed agenda, which will be available to the general public the Friday preceding the meeting.
2. If members of the public wish the Board to address a specific item at a public meeting, a written request to the Township Manager shall be submitted by noon on Friday of the week before the meeting. The written request shall specify the item or items the individual desires to be addressed.
3. The Board may consider other matters for the agenda as they see fit.
4. The Board will entertain Public Comment at the conclusion of the discussion of the item and prior to specific action on the item during the meeting, at the discretion of the Chair. Individuals must advise the Chair of their desire to offer such comment.
5. A Public Comment period will be provided at the conclusion of a meeting for input on any new subject.
6. The Board Chair shall preside over Public Comments and may within their discretion:
 - a. Recognize individuals wishing to offer comment.
 - b. Require identification of such persons.
 - c. Allocate total available Public Comment time among all individuals wishing to comment.
 - d. Allocate up to a five (5) minute maximum for each individual to offer Public Comment at a meeting, Township Staff shall time comments and shall announce, "one minute remaining" and "time expired" to the Chair.
 - e. Rule out of order scandalous, impertinent and redundant comment or any comment the discernible purpose of which is to disrupt or prevent the conduct of the business of the meeting including the questioning of, or polling of, or debating with, individual members of the Board.

**Park and Recreation Board
Public Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2020**

The Regular Bi-monthly Meeting of the Whitemarsh Township Park and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM, a virtual ZOOM meeting, due to COVID-19 pandemic.

In Attendance: Joanne Crawford (Chair), Tom Manley (Vice-Chair), James Convey, Terry Ferris, Kevin Kissling, Megan O'Rourke, Chris Epstein (CSD Liaison), Laura Boyle Nester (BOS Liaison), Tom Blomstrom (Director of P&R), Mike Lannutti (P&R – Zoom/Minutes)

The meeting was called to order at 7:02PM by Joanne Crawford.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment of Silence

Chair, Joanne Crawford, asked meeting participants to join in a moment of silence to honor the life of George Floyd and acknowledge the deep, systemic, and structural inequalities that people continue to face in America today. Chair Crawford thanked all of those who are galvanizing & turning collective frustration and heartache into courageous stands for justice.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. FEBRUARY 4th, 2020 (APRIL MEETING WAS CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19)

On a motion by Tom Manley, seconded by Terry Ferris (Vote 6-0), the Park & Recreation Board unanimously approved the February 4th, 2020 meeting minutes.

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. 4th of July Parade Committee

The April & May meetings were cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic.

2. Whitemarsh Athletic Association (WAA)

The WAA meeting, scheduled for March 23rd, 2020, was cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic.

WHITEMARSH ART CENTER REPORT

No representative for the Whitemarsh Art Center was present at the meeting. The Whitemarsh Art Center Report is attached as submitted.

DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

Parks & Recreation Director, Tom Blomstrom, opened his report by acknowledging the extraordinary efforts of our community's first responders, and thanking the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors and Park & Recreation Board for their continued support throughout these challenging times. Mr. Blomstrom then proceeded to give an overview of the report, as submitted.

As a part of the overview of his report, Mr. Blomstrom acknowledged the phenomenal efforts of the Department staff over the course of this difficult time. The Park & Recreation Board members echoed Mr. Blomstrom's sentiment and thanked him & his staff for their continued efforts.

Mr. Blomstrom highlighted the Department's efforts to swiftly adapt to the unprecedented circumstances and create virtual engagement opportunities for the community. On March 23rd, the Department launched the "In-Home Recreation Resources" webpage (www.whitemarshparks.org/InHomeRec), which included a comprehensive list of digital resources, aimed to bring some positive cheer and stress reduction to the members of the community. Mr. Blomstrom mentioned that the "In-Home Recreation Resources" webpage received recognition in numerous industry publications, including publications from the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and MontCo Today. He also noted that website data supports the success of the new online resources, as the page was the 3rd-highest-viewed on the Township website since its launch, only exceeded by the homepage and homepage news carousel.

In addition to the "In-Home Recreation Resources" webpage, Mr. Blomstrom also recognized the Department's ability to transition many normal program offerings, to virtual offerings, which provided vital recreation opportunities for those who remained home. Mr. Blomstrom specifically recognized the efforts of Emily Labowitz, Program Coordinator, and Ashlyn Brady, Head Dance Instructor, for their work managing the dance program's transition to virtual-offerings, mid-season.

Mr. Blomstrom also provided an update on the status of Township summer camps. He shared that the Department created the "Summer Camp COVID-19 Updates" webpage to use as a communication tool for questions regarding COVID-19 & summer camps. The webpage is a resource for parents/guardians that include summer camp FAQ's, as well as the most up-to-

date information for the upcoming camp season. In connection with the webpage, Mr. Blomstrom shared that on Friday, May 22nd, the Governor, PA Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society, in accordance with the CDC, issued operating guidelines for Summer Camps. He shared the announcement that the Township will be holding summer camps at Miles Park and Cedar Grove Park, with modifications to be in compliance with recommended guidelines. In order to meet these requirements and provide the highest degree of safety for the participants and staff, the opening of Summer Camps has been delayed to Monday, July 6th, and all camp trips were cancelled. The Parks & Recreation Department continues to monitor applicable guidance and develop the necessary protocols & procedures for the camps.

Tom Blomstrom also provided an update on work being done at Miles Park. The concession stand was painted, and a new steel-letter sign was installed on the Germantown-Pike-facing side of the structure. The sign, which reads "Miles Park – Whitemarsh Township" was by Treasure Sign. Mr. Blomstrom thanked Jim Convery, & the rest of the Treasure Sign staff, for a wonderful job done, and the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors for their support.

Board of Supervisors Chair, and Liaison to the P&R Board, Laura Boyle Nester, asked about the status of the Veteran's Memorial Project at Miles Park, on the corner of Germantown Pike and Joshua Road. Tom Blomstrom informed Chair Boyle Nester that, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the project has been on hold. However, the Township has been in communication with the Veterans Memorial Committee and their contractor for the monument, as well as executives of the Green Valley Country Club. He mentioned that the Township hopes to work with GVCC to secure a location for a digital sign as a replacement for the sign being removed once the project begins. Mr. Blomstrom will provide additional updates on the project when they become available.

CSD Liaison to the P&R Board, Chris Epstein, asked Mr. Blomstrom if the Department had to adjust the number of staff members needed for summer camps, due to CDC Guidelines or other requirements. Mr. Blomstrom noted that, even though enrollment numbers were limited due to COVID-19, the Department did not reduce the total number of summer staff because of the additional requirements & responsibilities connected with COVID-19 safety & mitigation efforts. The camp directors will evaluate staffing requirements and adjust shifts, as necessary.

Park & Recreation Board Member, Kevin Kissling, asked if the Department was continuing to accept registrations for the camps. He also asked if the Department was

monitoring the effects that COVID-19 was having on the budget, and if updated budget forecasts were available. Mr. Blomstrom informed the Park & Recreation Board members that the Department is continually monitoring & evaluating the budget, and plans to continue moving forward in a fiscally responsible way, given the variables at hand.

Vice-Chair of the Park & Recreation Board, Tom Manley, shared his experience with the fluidity of the guidelines surrounding COVID-19, and the difficulty of the uncertainty. Mr. Manley expressed his gratitude to Tom Blomstrom and the Parks & Recreation staff for their diligent efforts and handling of the challenges associated with the COVID-19 Pandemic.

On a motion by Terry Ferris, seconded by Kevin Kissling (Vote 6-0), the Park & Recreation Board unanimously accepted the Director's Report.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was addressed.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was addressed.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comments.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Chair, Joanne Crawford, stated that she appreciates everyone's efforts during these unprecedented times.

The next Park & Recreation Board Meeting is scheduled to take place on August 4th, 2020 at Koontz Park, beginning at 7:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Terry Ferris, seconded by Tom Manley (Vote 6-0), the Park & Recreation Board unanimously approved the February 4th, 2020 meeting minutes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Lannutti
Program Coordinator



Interim Executive Director Report to Board

Hadley Yates

Monday, June 29, 2020

Overview:

This report includes highlights from the past year as well as more in depth updates from the past month of new online classes.

The July 2019 to June 2020 fiscal year had three distinct time periods:

- Ronaldo ED Summer and Fall Terms (07/01/2019 - 12/31/2019)
- Hadley IED Winter Term (01/03/2020 - 03/11/2020)
- Hadley IED Post Covid-19 changes (03/13/2020 - today)

Ronaldo as ED Summer and Fall Terms (07/01/2019 - 12/31/2019)

Below are Ronaldo's quoted highlights from this time period. I added titles.

Events

- Creation of the program "Art Around the World", which hosted dozens of internationally renowned artists and hundreds of participants
- Broadening the scope of programming from fine arts to the performing arts and aesthetic appreciation, including circus, theater, beer tasting and magic

Fiscal Changes

- Thorough fiscal evaluation of the Art Center's operations, with major cut in costs resulting in a more fiscally responsible organization

Facilities

- Reorganization of the Art Center's spaces, with the creation of an Art Gallery

Hadley IED Winter Term (01/03/2020 - 03/11/2020)

Facilities' Highlights:

- **Organization and cleaning:** Volunteers and I worked to improve the front rooms. Rotary cleaned the building and sorted art supplies. A group of art center volunteers and I rearranged and sorted the office. These organizational efforts complement the adjacent room's gallery changes that Ronaldo initiated in 2019.
- **Repairs and leaks:** The township regularly assists with the building's upkeep and was punctual in their assistance. The ceilings continue to have leaks during the rainy season. Additional steps will need to be taken to identify all sources of the leaks. One was identified and fixed this winter.
- **Safety:** A powerful air filter was purchased to address teachers' concerns about silica dust. New safety strips on stairs were installed.
- **New Building:** We aspire to have new facilities or to improve our current facilities. During my onboarding period, little forward movement happened related to fundraising for the new center. I nonetheless publicized our new building goals in presentations. We hung a new 40" plan poster in the office, which helped secure two volunteer grant writers.

Classes

- **Numbers:** Nine classes were held this winter with 6 classes full / almost full. The other 3 classes only had enough students to cover our costs.
- **Class types:** The kids' "Lil Bit of Everything" class was the most popular kids' class and we planned to offer it twice during the spring session. Both ceramics courses continued to be our most popular adult courses. We were developing and publicizing two new courses for teens (textiles and sculpture) for the spring course before classes were cancelled. Parents regularly ask about our teen offerings.
- **Teachers:** In our first months, the teachers and I developed an effective and open line of communication. Overall, I believe their questions and concerns were addressed. Five of six teachers taught during previous sessions. Nova, our newest teacher, had a successful first term and developed a student following.

Events

- **Student & Teacher Expo:** The new "gallery" space enabled us to have an attractive month-long show in our own facilities. Over 40 pieces were exhibited.
- **Art Around the World:** This continued to be a popular series with significant attendee participation. 30-35 people attended John Pron's lecture in February.
- **The Art of Conversation:** This interactive event created by Joselyn Ney had significant attendee participation. Prior to the pandemic, Joselyn was going to offer it again at the library.

Hadley IED Post Covid-19 changes (03/13/2020 - today)

Facilities

- **Safety:** The pandemic shut down the use of our building to the public starting on March 13th. Beforehand, we put out safety precaution posters around the facility, got additional soap and cleaning supplies, and socially distanced while inside. The township had a cleaning crew “deep clean” the space prior to it being closed from mid-March through June.
- **Painting and Repairs:** In mid-March, Hadley and teenage volunteer Reba started to prime and paint the space while socially distancing. Since May, art center neighbor Joe Fox has taken over priming and painting the porch and art center interior. His work has been extensive and we look forward to sharing photos of the finished space.

Course Cancellations:

- **Financials:** All our spring courses were canceled, which resulted in significant financial losses to the art center. The majority of students decided to use their reimbursements towards class credits. As of May, only 24% of the money was refunded back. As the duration of the pandemic gets longer, I expect more students will ask for refunds unless they use their course credit for online classes.
 - **Original Spring Registration Income:** \$9,210
 - **Refunded back:** \$2,205 (24%)
 - **Class Credits:** \$5,670 (62%)
 - **Donated refund:** \$875 (10%)
 - **Other use: Benefactor membership:** \$250 (3%)

Grants / Loans / Donations

- **Paycheck Protection Program:** I successfully applied for the PPP, a “forgivable loan” program through the government. This program financed two months of director salary starting in mid-May.
- **COVID-19 Arts Aid PHL:** I successfully applied to this grant program and received \$1,000, which we’re partially using to cover teacher costs during the transition to online education.
- **Donations:** Since March, we have received **\$2,755 in donations** (\$875 course cancellations, \$1,880 other). [Detailed spreadsheet](#). Thank you to all donors!

Miscellaneous Admin:

- **Handover Report:** We used part of the Covid “downtime” to start to make a thorough handbook / handover report to retain art center information and best practices.
- We also caught up on many administrative tasks related to finances.

Online Classes

- **Subjects:** The teachers and I worked to identify four courses that could be taught online starting in June. These include *Sculptural and Functional Ceramics* (half via video, half by Zoom), *Clean Color Painting* (all Zoom), *Abracadabra Magic Tricks for Kids* (all Zoom), and *Creating with Composition and Color for Kids* (all Zoom).
- **Training hours:** I researched online class techniques and met with most teachers for at least 2 hours to train them with Zoom and to hone their online teaching skill sets, technology interfaces, camera methods, and, if applicable, video recording standards. I used part of the COVID-19 PHL Arts Aid funds to finance the teacher's training time and the payment for Zoom.
- **Results:** Overall, the online courses have been successful. Most classes have met two or three times thus far and end by mid July. Both adult courses are full and the kids' courses have enough students each to at least finance the teacher hours. We are developing a following and have received positive feedback. We will raise prices for the next online session now that we can confidently teach online. Creating video content for adult courses is an investment that will pay us back this next session. Thank you to our brave online teachers!

New Website

- **New interface:** Dan has worked extensively to change our website system with a more user-friendly interface that's less expensive. We expect this will launch the start of July. Dan's friend Greg Valentine has contributed to web development.
- **Online Gallery:** We're working to create an online gallery through our site for artists to sell work and the center to make some revenue.

Online Events

- **Various Dynasties:** Matthew Courtney's online talk about his show had at least a dozen attendees and was well-received. This was our first online event and I had to adjust to the technology when hosting.
- **Student and Teacher Expo:** This event was a success. Many students submitted work and there was significant attendee participation.
- **Plein Air Competition:**
 - 21 people paid to participate. We earned \$656 from registration.
 - \$100 sponsorship from Gregory and Denise Nowak.
 - 2 of the 3 prize-winners (Cynthia Rosen and Joselyn Ney) donated back their prize money.
 - We paid out \$150 in prize money.
 - We made \$606.
 - The event went well with the exception of the delayed start to the Zoom ceremony.
- **Art Around the World:** The event went smoothly, was interesting, and about a dozen people attended.

Summary: *In 2019, Ronaldo broadened the scope of our programming and improved our facilities. In the winter of 2020, I on-boarded as interim director. I forged solid relationships with teachers and staff, caught up on certain organizational and admin work, and further organized the art center. However, the pandemic struck two months after I started. The financial consequences have been significant but we've adjusted our programming and are*

beginning to bring in additional revenue. Events have been successful, although I'd like to increase our attendance. It has been a difficult time period but I believe we're meeting the challenge.



Whitemarsh Township
Director of Parks and Recreation
August 4th, 2020 – 7pm – Virtual Format – Zoom

DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT
- June-July 2020

Announcements

Touch-A-Truck
Fall Shredding Day
Spooktacular Family Night
Wells Street Clean Up
Teenie Halloweenie
Gingerbread House Decorating Party
Clothing Drive Fundraiser

Miles Park – Lower Lot
Miles Park – Lower Lot
Cedar Grove Park
Wells Street Open Space
Cedar Grove Barn
PR Miles Park Building
Cedar Grove Barn

Saturday, September 26th 11am-2pm
Saturday, October 10th
Friday, October 16th
Saturday, October 17th
Tuesday, October 20th
Sunday, December 20th
Thursday, January 14th – January 18th 2021

Administration

With the COVID-19 virus, the Department returned to regular work schedule on June 1st. Mask, temperature (with a private station), sanitizing, washing, and distancing policies have been put in place. The Department has installed a plexi-glass window in the service window opening for employee and resident safety. In addition, two partition walls were installed to best segregate work spaces in common work areas. Furthermore, door, wall, and floor signage has been posted to assist the public and employees with the new guidelines and best safety practices. Finally, the Koontz Building is being deep cleaned and the vehicles “fogger” sanitized as needed. The public was permitted access to the building on June 8th from 9am-1pm daily. On June 15th the Department returned to regular hours – 8:30am-4:30pm (M-F).

The Department continued with In-Home Recreation Resources and Virtual Programming. The initial “We Are Whitemarsh” weekly photo contest continues to be a success in Whitemarsh Township. The week eight photo contest was “Spring Photo Contest” – thinking beautiful spring flowers! The week nine photo contest was Memorial Day “Honor” photos. The week ten photo contest is “Graduate 2020 Photos” – Congrats! The week eleven photo contest is “Favorite Restaurants that you have Missed during COVID” photos. The week twelve photo contest was “Celebrate a Local Hero! The week thirteen photo contest was “A Photo of Your Favorite Bridge” photos. The week fourteen photo contest was “A Patriotic Photo – Celebrate the 4th of July”. The week fifteen photo contest was “Photo of a Beautiful Flower” photos. The winner each week receives 4 free movie tickets and a Tonelli’s Pizza (donated). This will be our last week of the “We are Whitemarsh” campaign due to decreased engagement with the outdoor summer season and Green Phase. Take-Out Tuesday has been well received supporting local small business restaurants with Knishes and Dishes being our week 8 highlight. The week 9 highlighted restaurants was Sorrento’s – Italian Cuisine. Nirvana Indian Bistro was the week 10 highlight. The week 11 highlighted restaurants was the Persian Grille. Panera Bread was the week 12 highlight. The week 13 highlighted restaurant was Bruno’s. Hunan Wok was the week 14 highlight. The week 15 highlighted restaurant was Tonelli’s Takeout Pizza. Spring Mill Cafe was the week 16 highlight. The week 17 highlight was Bryn & Dane’s Healthy Fast Food. The Senior Scoop on Wednesdays features great resource information, activities, and a virtual tour and trips. The Department has decided to pause on some of the Virtual engagements (Daily Activities, We are Whitemarsh- Photo Contest, Throwback Thursday, and Weekend Getaway) effective mid-July. This is due to Virtual burnout and summer vacations and staycations, and outdoor sports and activities. These will be re-evaluated and refreshed in the fall as needed. Take-Out Tuesdays and the Senior Scoop (moved to Thursday) will continue.

The Department is continuing to send a “Birthday Gram” to all individuals 18 and under in our database to brighten their special day.

The Department sent out an educational Eblast regarding the Spotted Lanternfly and best practices for homeowners on 5-12-20 and 5-19-20.

The Miles Park Team has been planning camp logistics and parental handbooks. The Department has begun sending emails to participants with summer camp updates in May. In addition, on May 14th the Department launched a Summer Camp COVID-19 Update landing page on the Township Website under Parks and Recreation to best serve and communicate with participants and their families during this fluid crisis. On Monday, May 18th it was announced that all Summer Camp Program Trips and the Camp Hopper Program (participant transportation from sites) were cancelled for summer 2020. On Friday, May 22nd the Governor and PA Department of Health released guidelines for summer camps

and facilities that the department is working to implement into our operations. On Wednesday, May 27th the Department announced that Summer Camps will be held and the start date will be moved to Monday, July 6th in order to operate in compliance and ensure best safety practices. The Miles Park-Teen Camp Parent Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 1st at 7pm on Zoom. The Miles Park-Teen Camp Staff Training will be on Monday, June 29th at 9am. The Cedar Grove Barn Parent Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 2nd at 7pm on Zoom. The Cedar Grove Barn Staff Training will be on Tuesday, June 30th at 12pm. The Procure-Connect Registration and Accountability Software (Formerly Kinderlime) will be implemented at the Day Camps again this summer. On, Monday June 29th Parents were mailed the Camp Handbooks and the COVID-19 Summer Camp Health and Safety Plan was posted on the website.

Due to the COVID-19 Crisis, the Department has cancelled and refunded any June usage of Township Park and Recreation Buildings interiors and the Pavilion. In addition, out of an abundance of caution and in-line with the Governor's Orders, all field usage permits were on-hold until Green Phase. Then on June 8th, the Montgomery County Department of Health determined that sports organizations could begin holding practices only at athletic fields. In addition, the Township has re-opened the basketball courts for "free play" (no organized/league play) on Tuesday, June 9th. Furthermore, the Greenhouse Program has been permitted to resume activities in the Garden areas at Koontz Park following CDC guidelines.

The Whitemarsh Art Center held their Annual Membership Meeting on June 29th. The Board unanimously voted to welcome new voting Board members Joselyn Ney, Ronaldo Ribiero, and Joy O'Brien. The Board voted unanimously for the following leadership slate for the upcoming year: Secretary – Mike Young, (new) Treasurer – Jamie Carver, (new) Vice-President – Ronaldo Ribiero, and President Dan Zuena. The Board voted unanimously to welcome Hadley Yates as the Executive Director (prior "Interim" role) at the Whitemarsh Arts Center.

WAC Online Classes & Workshops

Start Dates:

June 7th | Group Card-Making for Healthcare Workers with Hadley

1-session Sunday workshop for adults | free

June 10th | 2D Media Group Critique with Stefanie

1-session Wednesday workshop for adults | free / suggested donation

June 12th | Sculptural and Functional Ceramic Handbuilding with Charlotte & Matt

4-week class on Fridays & Tuesdays for adults | registration fee

June 16th | Abracadabra Magic Tricks for Kids with Ronaldo

4-week class on Tuesdays for kids | registration fee

June 17th | Clean Color Painting with Stefanie

5-week class on Wednesdays for adults | registration fee

June 18th | Creating with Composition and Color with TBD

4-week class on Thursdays for kids | registration fee

July workshops | Check our calendar for upcoming July workshop info :

Poetry Illustration, Intro to Photoshop, Paper Graphics, & Interior Design workshops

2 | Whitemarsh Art Center Updates | June 2, 2020

Online Events

June 12th | Student & Teacher Art Expo

Friday, 6 PM - 7:30 PM | submit images of student work by June 9th here | free

June 20th | Virtual Plein Air Competition - Quarantine Edition

Saturday, 8 AM to 5 PM Painting, Award Ceremony at 7 PM | registration fee

June 26th | Art Around the World: Place, Home and Language

Friday, 6 PM - 7:30 PM | Kaytria Stauffer guest speaker | free

July events | Stay posted for details about our July events:

Accessible Arts Forum Teaser and July's Art Around Around the World

The fall Whitemarsh Parks and Recreation brochure – the *Recreator* – is currently being worked on diligently by staff and is scheduled to be available on-line (only) on Monday, August 31st. The fall brochure line-up will be a combination of outdoor social distance in-person activities, strategic indoor programs, and virtual opportunities.

The Board of Supervisors last night voted to advertise an ordinance that provides for the Township to purchase a 27.82-acre Conservation Easement at the Highlands Mansion on Sheaff Lane. The Township has been working with the Highlands Historical Society (HHS) and state Representative Mary Jo Daley to preserve the 44-acre historic property since the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission included the property on its list to divest. The Township would purchase a Conservation Easement from HHS to preserve the 27.82 acres of open space in the amount of \$3.01 million dollars. The funds would come from the Township's Open Space Earned Income Tax (EIT) fund and be used by HHS to improve and maintain the historic late 18th century Georgian mansion and two-acre formal garden.

Whitemarsh Township received notification from the National Arbor Day Foundation that the Township was named a Tree City USA for 2019.

The Department applied for the 2nd round Cares Act Funding for the Cedar Grove Barn for lost revenues due to COVID-19 requirements as a DHS child care facility.

The Department is working to prepare for the 2021 Budget Cycle.

The Department has renewed the Township ASCAP agreement for music at programs and events through 2020-2021.

PRPS hoped to salvage at least part of the Summer Discount Ticket Season, but are learning more each day about the status of the various attractions. One park has announced they are not opening this season, another is filing chapter 11, one asked us to return our tickets, one told them that the contracted price would be changing, and some are still trying to navigate how to safely open with reduced capacity and still turn a profit. The larger attractions like Hersheypark, Dorney Park and Six Flags are requiring guests to make an online reservation to enter to park, and Hershey and Dorney have suspended PRPS consignment and online ticket sales this year, while they make this transition and adjust admission prices. PRPS hopes to be able to offer consignment and/or online tickets in the fall, for some of the year-round attractions like zoos and aquariums, along with our ski lift and flower show tickets, and then add seasonal attraction tickets again in spring 2021.

Programs

CEP Zoom Hang-Outs

5/11/2020 – The weekly “CEP Zoom Hang-Outs” are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they’re at home. On Monday, May 11th, 11 individuals participated in our 3rd “Hang-Out”. Sara Huff (WJML) and Ryan Lundy (WIPR) helped facilitate conversations and ensure that everyone was given the opportunity to participate in the discussions. The group touched on many topics, including what they did for Mother’s Day, other plans they had for the week, and some of them even showed off some of the artwork they’ve been doing lately. In the end, all of the participants had a great experience.

5/18/2020: The weekly “CEP Zoom Hang-Outs” are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they’re at home. On Monday, May 18th, 12 participants participated in the 4th CEP “Hang-Out”. The group discussed their past weekend plans, the Best Buddies program, and the Whitmarsh Action Club. A few of the participants also talked about the various pets they have and what their plans for the summer are. In the end, all of the participants had a great experience.

5/25/2020: The weekly “CEP Zoom Hang-Outs” are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they’re at home. On Monday, May 25th – which was Memorial Day - 10 participants participated in the 5th CEP “Hang-Out”. The group was very excited to talk about the upcoming CEP Social on Friday, because they love the Dream Team DJs. Participants also talked about Memorial Day and what their families’ plans are for the weekend.

6/1/2020: The weekly “CEP Zoom Hang-Outs” are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they’re at home. On Monday, June 1st, 11 participants participated in the 6th CEP “Hang-Out”. The group discussed how their weeks were going so far, how they’ve been dealing with being stuck at home, and the upcoming June CEP. In the end, all of the participants had a great experience.

6/8/2020: The weekly “CEP Zoom Hang-Outs” are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they’re at home. On Monday, June 8th, 11 participants participated in the 7th CEP “Hang-Out”. The “Hang Out” started with a short discussion about what the participants did over the weekend, and what they have coming up for the rest of the week. Afterwards, the participants enjoyed a fun game of virtual Pictionary. In the end, all of the participants had a great experience.

6/15/2020: The weekly “CEP Zoom Hang-Outs” are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they’re at home. On Monday, June 15th, 10 participants participated in the 8th CEP “Hang-Out”. The participants chatted with each other about the activities they’ve been doing from home. They agreed that they missed getting out of the house and look forward to seeing each other in person again. They also discussed the upcoming CEP Social on the 19th, as they’re all excited for the magician’s show. In the end, all of the participants had another great experience.

6/22/2020: The weekly “CEP Zoom Hang-Outs” are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they’re at home. On Monday, June 2nd, 11 participants participated in the 9th CEP “Hang-Out”. The group discussed how their weeks were going so far, and how they’ve been dealing with being stuck at home. The participants enjoyed themselves.

6/29/2020: The weekly “CEP Zoom Hang-Outs” are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they’re at home. On Monday, June 29th, 10 participants participated in the 10th CEP “Hang-Out”. The “Hang Out” started with a short discussion about what the participants did over the weekend, and what they have planned for the upcoming 4th of July holiday.

7/6/2020: The weekly “CEP Zoom Hang-Outs” are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they’re at home. On Monday, July 6th, 11 participants participated in the 11th CEP “Hang-Out”. The participants shared what they did over the 4th of July holiday, and what plans they have for the upcoming week. The group enjoyed talking with each other.

7/13/2020: The weekly "CEP Zoom Hang-Outs" are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they're at home. On Monday, July 13th, 9 participants participated in the 12th CEP "Hang-Out". The group discussed what activities they've been doing lately to pass the time, and their plans for the upcoming week & weekend.

7/20/2020: The weekly "CEP Zoom Hang-Outs" are designed to give CEP participants, who are an underserved demographic during this pandemic, an opportunity to socialize with their peers while they're at home. On Monday, July 20th, 13 participants participated in the 13th CEP "Hang-Out". Since a majority of the group members have participated in the Hang-Outs each week, they've gotten very comfortable chatting with one another, which has been excellent to see. The participants enjoy talking about the different activities they've done lately, as well as their upcoming plans. The next "Hang-Out" is scheduled for Monday, July 27th.

Jr. CEP Socials Update

As you're aware, the Jr. CEP that was scheduled to take place on Tuesday, May 5th was cancelled because no participants had registered or otherwise expressed interest in attending. The virtual Jr. CEP the month before had 2 participants. Due to the minimal interest & response to virtual offerings of the Jr. CEP, we've decided to put the program on hiatus until we're able to hold in-person events again. We believe that the age of the participants and the availability of parents/guardians/aids to supervise their child's participation are the main contributing factors. I'll provide any additional updates as we progress. The situation is being evaluated moving forward.

CEP Social Update

5/15/2020 – The latest virtual CEP Social was held on Friday, May 15th. We worked with Community Arts Norristown to plan the event, which had an instructor scheduled to lead the participants in an art activity, using items they gathered at home. However, no instructor signed online at the scheduled time and Sara Huff (WJML) and Ryan Lundy (WTPR) were forced to pivot and lead impromptu discussions with the participants. The 10 participants had fun telling jokes to each other and engaging in other conversation. As disappointing as it was that the instructor did not show, the participants still enjoyed socializing with one-another. Later in the evening, around 9:30pm, the instructor did reach out to our team to apologize and explain that she simply forgot it was on her schedule. Since the program was pre-paid for, we will be receiving a full refund. A 2nd May CEP Social is scheduled to take place on Friday, May 29th at 6:30pm. The "Dream Team" DJ's will be hosting a Virtual Dance Party event for CEP.

5/29/2020: The latest virtual CEP Social was held on Friday, May 29th, and it was one that participants highly anticipated. The "Dream Team" DJ's hosted a Virtual Dance Party event for this month's CEP social. The "Dream Team" DJ's are past CEP participants that met at the CEP Talent Show a couple years ago and now have a DJ business together, so the participants and them share a great connection. The 16 participants had a great time with the friends, singing & dancing along to their favorite songs.

6/19/2020: The last Virtual CEP Social took place on Friday, June 19th. Magician, Ari Felber entertained the group for the evening, performing magic & even giving away a few tricks & secrets! After the magic show, participants held their own mini Talent Show where we had a Zumba act, participants telling jokes, and even one participant singing to their favorite songs. The entire group had an awesome time.

7/17/2020: The last Virtual CEP Social took place on Friday, July 17th. We were excited to be joined by the instructors from the Briar Bush Nature Center, which is based in Abington. The BBNC staff had several small animals with them throughout the activity, and they talked a little bit about each. The participants enjoyed being able to see the animals, especially when the BBNC Staff held them up to the camera, giving them a close-up view they normally can't get. The instructors did an outstanding job making the virtual program fun & extremely interactive. The next CEP Social is scheduled for Friday, August 21st, and we'll be joined by Turtle Dance Music for a Karaoke Party!

Miles Park (and Teen) Camp Summer 2020

Miles Park Camp has been off to a great start despite the circumstances. Teen Camp merged with Miles Park Camp and has an average of 10 campers ages 12-15 years old on site each week. The transition of merging the two has been seamless. A virtual parent meeting was held on Zoom Wednesday, July 1st at 7:00pm. Camp Coordinators Jon Walker, Emily Labowitz and Camp Director Mike Adornetto ran the meeting and social distanced themselves in the meeting room at Koontz to conduct the meeting on separate laptops. Video introductions were shared from the coordinators, directors, and all acting staff. Then a PowerPoint presentation was pre-recorded and parents could listen and ask live questions into the chat box. Questions were also answered at the end of the meeting. The official first three weeks of camp were cancelled; Week 1 (June 15th-19th), Week 2 (June 22nd-26th), and Week 3 (June 29th-July 3rd). Camp began on (Week 4) and took place July 6th-10th at Miles Park with a total of 54 campers. Registration was reduced to 50% capacity and new rules and regulations were in put in place. Specifically the camp submitted a COVID-19 Health & Safety Plan which covers specific details. Drop off and pick up procedures are running smoothly. Campers temperatures are taken while remaining in their vehicles. They are also asked if they have had any symptoms of COVID-19 within the last 14 days. Once their temperature has been approved, and they're checked in on the Procure application, they use hand sanitizer and social distance within their color group. Each color group has a cleaning station bucket which is used often and throughout the day. Each bathroom at the park remains locked and if campers need to use the bathroom they are escorted by a staff and let in and then that bathroom is cleaned and sanitized after use.

The lunch plan and snack bar option have been very successful thus far and will continue to do so. Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays are Tonelli's Pizza days. Tuesdays and Thursdays are Chick-A-Fila days. Additionally, Kona Ice visits the park at 1:00pm on Monday and Fridays. Week 5 (July 13th-17th) has 62 campers and has been running smoothly. This week different activities were re-integrated. For instance, Action Karate attended the camp for a karate demo. Each group rotated for its turn under the Pavilion for 15 minutes of karate fun! Also, a water day

occurred on Tuesday and Friday. We look forward to another safe and fun week of camp Week 6 (July 20th-24th) which currently has 59 registered.

Cedar Grove Barn Camp Summer 2020

As we all know, 2020 has been anything but a "typical" year. Yet, despite the very unusual circumstances, we've had an excellent start to the summer at our Cedar Grove Camp. The team worked extremely hard to make the necessary changes to the program, in preparation for this summer. The week before camp was scheduled to begin, parents & guardians received an updated copy of the "Cedar Grove Camp Parent Pack" (attached). The parent pack includes detailed information on all aspects of the camp, and is a valuable resource for Cedar Grove Camp families, both new & returning. A virtual parent meeting was held on Zoom Thursday, July 2nd at 7:00pm. Camp Coordinator Mike Lannutti, and Camp Supervisors Kim Granato & Melanie Smith, ran the virtual meeting, which began with a short video of the camp staff, introducing themselves. After the video, Mike Lannutti had a PowerPoint Presentation that covered all of the important camp details, including those related to COVID-19. During this presentation, parents were able to ask questions using the chat text box, which was monitored by the Camp Supervisors. Any questions that were not answered during the presentation were addressed at the end. Parents & guardians had wonderful feedback on the virtual meeting, and were very appreciative of everyone's efforts in preparing the camp program.

In order to comply with guidance provided by the Governor, County, CDC, and DOH, numerous changes & adaptations were made to the camp structure, including limiting enrollment to 50% of the normal maximum capacity. In addition to the parent pack, the camp crafted a COVID-19 Health & Safety Plan, which outlines all of the safety procedures & protocols relating to COVID-19, that have been put in place. Overall, the newly implemented safety measures have been running smoothly, and feedback from parents/guardians has been overwhelmingly positive.

The official first three weeks of camp were cancelled; Week 1 (June 15th-19th), Week 2 (June 22nd-26th), and Week 3 (June 29th-July 3rd). On Monday, July 6th, Cedar Grove Camp opened for the summer with 29 campers. As campers arrive each morning, parents/guardians use the ProCare Connect app to scan the camp's custom QR code. Once scanned, the parent/guardian receives a prompt on their device that they must sign-off on, stating that their child has not shown any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, and/or they have not been in contact with anyone that has been diagnosed with the virus. After providing their signature on their device, parents/guardians are permitted to continue moving through the drive-through-style drop-off procedure for the camp.

This year, campers are assigned to one of three groups at camp – Red, Blue, or Yellow. A rotational schedule is used each day, and the groups largely operate independently from one another, in order to limit the possibility of transmitting the virus. Both staff & campers remain with their assigned group for the entirety of the week. The group's cycle through the camp site over the course of the day, but two groups never inhabit the same "zone" at once. This rotational schedule allows for adequate social distancing at all times, and provides ample time to clean & sanitize shared-space between each use.

Overall, Cedar Grove Camp has adjusted well to the changes that 2020 has brought. The staff has done an outstanding job keeping the site clean & the campers safe. Thanks to their hard work, dedication, and attention to detail, the campers - who are only 3-6 years old – have had no problem enjoying their time at Cedar Grove Camp. We are excited to build on the success of weeks 1 and 2, moving forward, and look forward to all the fun that is still in store for this summer! Registration numbers for Weeks 3-6 of Cedar Grove Camp are as follows:
Week 3: 29 Week 4: 28 Week 5: 28 Week 6: 30

Specialty Camps – In-Person

Lacrosse Camp

Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation teamed up with i9 Sports for another summer of specialty camp programs. The first week started off with i9 Lacrosse Camp. This camp was held at the Miles Park Lower Soccer Field on Monday, July 6th through Friday, July 10th beginning at 8:30am and concluding at 11:30am. However, due to the weather on Friday with rain all day, the last day was cancelled and prorated to participants. There were a total of 9 campers ages 4-12 that were registered and attended daily. Campers learned the fundamentals of the game through a variety of skills, drills, and games and activities. Each camper received an i9 t-shirt and a trophy to conclude the week of lacrosse camp.

i9 Flag Football Camp

Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation teamed up with i9 Sports for another week of specialty camp programs. The second week included the i9 Flag Football Camp. This camp was held at the Miles Park Lower Soccer Field on Monday, July 13th through Friday, July 17th beginning at 8:30am and concluding at 11:30am. There were a total of 18 campers ages 4-12 that were registered and attended daily. i9 submitted a COVID-19 Health & Safety plan and included new rules and regulations for a week of camp. Participants learned the basics of football in a non-contact environment. They also got to learn about flag football while remaining safe and having fun! Each camper received an i9 t-shirt and a trophy to conclude the week of flag football camp.

Moore Brothers Basketball

Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation joined forces with Moore Brothers Basketball for two separate weeks of camp this summer. The first week of camp was held at the Miles Park Basketball Courts on Monday, July 13th through Friday, July 17th beginning at 9:00am and concluding at 12:00pm. There were a total of 40 campers ages 5-12 that were registered and attended daily. The Moore Brothers submitted a COVID-19 Health & Safety plan and included new rules and regulations for a safe and fun week of camp. Participants learned the basics of basketball with skills, drills, games, and contests. Each camper received a Moore Brothers Basketball Camp t-shirt on the last day of camp and some individuals won prizes for competitions to conclude the week of basketball camp. We look forward to the Moore Brothers second session of Basketball Camp which has 12 participants registered currently for August 10th-August 14th.

Session 2: August 10th-August 14th

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

Location: Miles Park Basketball Courts

Fee: Whitmarsh Township Residents: \$150.00/Non-Residents \$171.00

Ages: 6-13

In addition, usually the brothers would have their 3v3 league up and running by now. They plan on having a delayed start and plan to begin the 3v3 on July 21st and end on August 13th with play every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 6:00pm-8:00pm at the Miles Park Basketball Courts. Typically they would just have Tuesday and Thursday games, but have added the extra day to space out games. Similar to the basketball camps, they will only proceed once in Green Phase and have all required documents and post to their website and email all participants.

76ers Basketball Camp

August – 17th-21st – 9am-4pm – 76ers Basketball Camp – Miles Park Courts and Pavilion – Details coming soon.

Phillies Baseball Academy

August – 24th-28th – 9am-4pm – Phillies Baseball Academy – Miles Park Baseball Fields + Concession Stand Overhang Area - Details coming soon.

Theatre Horizon Camp - Outside

Ages: 7-11 yrs Min/Max: 10/22

Fee: \$195.00 Whitmarsh Res / \$223.00 Non-Res

Location: Koontz Park - Program Room A

In Theatre Horizon's Summer Drama Camp, young actors spend a week working as an ensemble to create an original play – full of drama, comedy, suspense, and one-of-a-kind characters. Campers are guided through playwriting basics and fun improvisation games by our professional teaching artists. On the last day, they perform their world premiere play for an audience! In Drama Camp, children make new friends, build listening and ensemble skills, take on leadership roles, and explore their creativity.

Session 2: Mon – Fri 8/10-8/14 9:00am - 3:00pm: 14 registered

i9 Soccer Camp

Ages: 4-12 yrs Min/Max: 8/20

Fee: \$138.00 Whitmarsh Res / \$163.00 Non-Res

Location: Miles Park Soccer Field

This camp will focus on learning new skills, game strategies, and good sportsmanship. Campers will participate in a variety of games and activities which will help them develop the fundamentals of the game of soccer, are great exercises, and are tons of fun! There will be daily practices and games each day which will incorporate and focus on the skills we worked on while practicing. Parents of non-school-aged children are required to attend.

Session 1: Mon – Fri 7/20-7/24 8:30am - 11:30am: 21 registered

i9 Flag Football Camp

Ages: 4-12 yrs Min/Max: 8/20

Fee: \$138.00 Whitmarsh Res / \$163.00 Non-Res

Location: Miles Park Soccer Field

Participants will learn the basics of football in a non-contact environment. Flag football is a great way to learn about the sport while remaining safe and having fun! Parents of non-school-aged children are required to attend.

Session 1: Mon – Fri 7/13-7/17 8:30am - 11:30am: 10 registered & 3 waitlisted

Cooking Camp – Outside – CANCELLED DUE TO INSTRUCTOR CONCERNS OVER COVID-19

Ages: 7-14 yrs Min/Max: 6/12

Fee: \$102.00 Whitmarsh Res / \$116.00 Non-Res

Location: Koontz Park - Program Room A

Do you have a budding young chef in your home? If the answer is yes, then this is the camp for them! These young chefs will create 2 recipes, an entree & a dessert, each class. Children will have fun learning new cooking skills, creating new recipes, making cooking related crafts, and most of all - having fun in the kitchen! So put on that chef hat, bring your imagination & your appetite, and get ready to have some fun! Please advise of any food allergies when registering for this camp.

Session 1: Mon – Fri 7/20-7/24 9:30am - 11:00am: 12 registered

Session 2: Mon – Fri 7/13-7/17 9:30am - 11:00am: 4 registered

i9 Track & Field Camp

Ages: 4-12 yrs Min/Max: 8/20

Fee: \$138.00 Whitmarsh Res / \$163.00 Non-Res

Location: Miles Park Soccer Field

This camp will work on developing the techniques needed for success in track events (short & long distance, hurdles, field games, etc) and do so with age-appropriate instruction. On Friday, there will be a mini track meet with awards. Parents of non-school-aged children are required to attend

Session 1: Mon – Fri 7/27-7/31 8:30am - 11:30am: 6 registered

i9 Cheerleading Camp

Ages: 4-12 yrs Min/Max: 8/20

Fee: \$138.00 Whitemarsh Res / \$163.00 Non-Res

Location: Miles Park Soccer Field Young athletes will learn all the essential skills in the i9 Sports cheerleading camp to guide the crowd to root for the home team. Each camper will learn cheers, proper hand and body movements, as well as jumping techniques. There is no stunting, but a big focus on fun. Each cheerleader learns important life skills such as team building and leadership. The week concludes with a performance demonstrating the skills learned. Parents of non-school-aged children are required to attend.

Session 1: Mon – Fri 8/3-8/7 8:30am - 11:30am: 0 registered

i9 Baseball Camp

Ages: 4-12 yrs Min/Max: 8/20

Fee: \$138.00 Whitemarsh Res / \$163.00 Non-Res

Location: Miles Park Lower Softball Field

i9 Sports baseball camp will help participants gain an understanding and appreciation for playing the game “the right way”. The schematic curriculum teaches the fundamentals of fielding, catching, throwing, hitting, and base running in a fun, positive environment by i9 Sports Certified Staff. All athletes, regardless of skill level, will learn new baseball skills along with valuable sportsmanship lessons such as respect, teamwork, and responsibility. Parents of non-school-aged children are required to

Session 1: Mon- Fri 8/10-8/14 8:30am - 11:30am: 10 registered

Running & Yoga Camp

Running and Yoga Camp (August 17th-August 21st)

Ages 7-11

9am-12pm, Monday-Friday

Location Miles Park Soccer Field

Kids will learn running drills, workouts, goal-setting, and proper stretching. Each day will end with a themed yoga class and breath work. They will need to bring a water bottle and a yoga mat or towel.

Virtual Programs

Trivia Night with JoJo

The Department held our first-ever FREE Trivia Night on Zoom with JoJo on Saturday, June 20th at 9pm. We had 24 participants and 12 unique registrations. We look forward to holding future Trivia nights for the community to enjoy!

Sand Art Terrarium & Succulent Planting Workshop

The first virtual Terrarium Sand Art & Succulent Planting Workshop took place on Thursday, June 25th 4:00pm-4:45pm. The event has been held in the past and typically takes place at Cedar Grove Barn, located at 100 Cedar Grove Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428. This year we had 20 individuals registered and all signed onto Zoom to join the fun! Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation teamed up with Marsha Gayl, registered Horticultural Therapist who led the program. Participants had to pre-register for this creative program through Community Pass. The fee for Whitemarsh Township Residents was \$20.00 and Non-Residents was \$25.00. Once registered, they received an email with instructions to pick up supplies at Koontz Park on Wednesday, June 24th between the office hours of 8:30am-4:30pm. The supplies included three different colors of sand, two containers of dirt, two succulents, and a glass vase. Participants logged onto Zoom the following day on Thursday, June 25th for roughly 40 minutes of instructions on how to build the terrarium sand art/succulent planting masterpiece! The workshop went smoothly and it was a great opportunity to offer a low cost, stay at home program that involved art and the earth!

DeStoffo's Premier Martial Arts - Self-Defense Classes

DeStoffo's Premier Martial Arts teamed up with Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation for one more virtual program that took place on Thursday, June 18th. The program offered was a Kid Safe Workshop for youth ages 5-12 and took place 1:30 pm-2:00 pm. This kid safe introductory course was an interactive workshop where the kids learned important safety skills. They learned the basics that involved both physical and mental self-defense. A total of 18 were pre-registered and 10 logged on for the workshop. Registration was free and was through Whitemarsh's Community Pass registration software. Once registered, participants got an email with the Zoom information to connect. Emily Labowitz introduced herself to the class and thanked everyone for registering for the karate class. Especially those who participated in every karate class that was offered! Danyelle and Fred DeStoffo then introduced each other, and spent just about 25 minutes teaching in each class. We look forward to teaming up again for potential summer camp visits virtually or social distancing.

Action Karate

Action Karate Plymouth Meeting is helping the community by providing Online In-Home Martial Arts training for FREE! The training is for children ages 5+ and is designed to keep them healthy and active while they have a TON of fun burning off their excess energy. This program will take place on the following Tuesdays; May 19th – 12 registered, and May 26th – 11 registered, 1:00 pm- 1:30 pm. Register for each date separately. Please make sure you have an open space and are wearing comfortable clothes and shoes. Once you are registered you will receive an email with confirmation and the Zoom link to connect online!

The third offering of the virtual karate class by Action Karate occurred through Zoom on Tuesday, May 26th, 2020 1:00 pm- 1:30 pm. There were 17 individuals registered, and 8 total ended up logging on. The 80 degree weather definitely was a factor for the missing participants. Per usual, the participants registered for free through Community Pass via Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation registration software and received an email with the Zoom information to connect online. Emily Labowitz introduced herself and thanked everyone for registering for the karate class and then Sean Dwyer from Action Karate introduced himself, and taught for the remaining time. We have decided to offer one more free virtual class next Tuesday, June 2nd 1:00 pm- 1:30 pm!

Moore Brothers Basketball

Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation teamed up with Moore Brothers Basketball for another free ball handling skills through Zoom on Wednesday, June 17th 12:00pm-12:30pm. The program was originally scheduled for June 3rd but was interrupted halfway through due to the big storms that hit the community. They moved the Zoom to two weeks later. The virtual program was for boys and girls ages 5-18 and all skill levels were welcome. The participants registered through Community Pass via Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation registration software and received an email with the Zoom information to connect online. There were 37 registered, and 25 ended up signing on. The lower number was due to the changing of schedules from the original cancellation. Just about 25 minutes were spent teaching the participants dribbling skills. At the end of the session special guest, Langston Galloway from the Detroit Pistons NBA team #9, wrapped up the Zoom with a motivational speech and advice. We look forward to working with the Moore Brothers later in the summer for their two weeks of basketball camp.

On-Line Guided Meditation with Jason Blau

Join Jason Blau and his on-line Meditation programs powered thru Zoom. Whitemarsh Township residents receive 50% off using coupon code "parks". For a complete list of classes and to register: www.mymeditation.coach/online

Zumba by Fit with Witt

**Pre-Registration Is NOT Required*
Every Tuesday @ 7:00pm via Zoom

Pilates with Missy Scheer

**Pre-Registration Is NOT Required*
Every Thursday @ 5:00pm via Zoom

Yoga with Kimberly Brock

**Pre-Registration Is NOT Required*
Every Thursday @ 12:00pm via Zoom

"Magic Show for Adults" with Ari-Paul Felber

**Pre-Registration is Required*
Saturdays at 8pm

Magic Show with Ari-Paul Felber

**Pre-Registration is Required*
Fridays on May 8th at 7:30pm

Friday Night Dance Parties with Miss Ashlyn

**Pre-Registration IS Required - Program ends in May*
5:30-6:00pm, Ages 3-6; 6:00-6:30pm, Ages 7-9; 6:30-7:00pm, Ages 10+

Engineering for Kids - Virtual

At Engineering for Kids we believe that children are natural born engineers who have unlimited imaginations and unbridled enthusiasm. We offer fun, hands-on learning for children ages 4 to 12. Our activities range from building flashlights and rockets to programming video games and robots. The variety of programming is extraordinary!

Summer Camp -Jr Engineering Camp (Ages 6 – 7)

The Engineering camps introduce our youngest engineers to fundamental concepts of energy, materials, and movement. Through open and focused exploration, students explore and construct their own bridges, catapults, and more.

Day/Time: Mon - Fri 9:00 AM to 10:30

Summer Camp: July 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 (5 Days)

Session Fee: \$99 per child Res; \$??per kid Non- Resident

Group Limit: Min 5 and Max 10 participants

Note: There is a list of supplies we can ship the materials with an extra of \$5 or parents can buy the supplies.

Summer Camp - Scratch Programming: Space Pioneers (Ages 6 – 7)

Embark on a fun journey to space with Scratch! Send an astronaut to the moon and defend your moon base from space rocks. Learn how to use Scratch to create and program sprites, backdrops and basic scripts. Create a new program each day, leave with evidence of your wild space adventure, and be inspired to explore the universe of programming

Day/Time: Mon - Fri 11:00 to 12:30 PM

Summer Camp: July 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 (5 Days)

Session Fee: \$99 per child Res; \$?? per kid Non-Resident

Group Limit: Min 5 and Max 10 participants

Summer Camp -Apprentice Computer Aided Design (Ages 8 – 14)

Students will learn the basics of 3D design and modeling. Using the TinkerCAD platform, we will design, build, and edit 3d models. Basic principles of 3D printing and other uses for solid modeling will be covered. At the end of the class students will be able to make a model suitable for 3D printing.

Day/Time: Mon - Fri 9:00 AM to 10:30
Summer Camp: Aug 3, 4, 5, 6, 7(5 Days)
Session Fee: \$99 per child Res; \$?? per kid Non-Resident
Group Limit: Min 5 and Max 10 participants

Summer Camp - Scratch Game Design (Ages 8 – 14)

Join us for a week of designing and testing games. Control a character, build levels, and create obstacles as we learn what makes a game work, as well as what makes a game fun!

Day/Time: Mon - Fri 12:00 to 1:30 PM
Summer Camp: Aug 3, 4, 5, 6, 7(5 Days)
Session Fee: \$199 per child Res; \$238 per kid Non-Resident
Group Limit: Min 5 and Max 10 participants

Theatre Horizon Summer Drama Camp - Virtual

Theatre Horizon has partnered with Whitemarsh Township Parks and Recreation for a “Virtual Summer Drama Experience.” Theatre Horizon will offer virtual Zoom drama classes for students in Grades 1-12. There will be 4 sessions including one 30 minute performance. Each class will meet once per week for 1.5 – 2 hours. Every class ends with a virtual showcase where families are invited to log on and see what the students have created during their session. Two four-week sessions will be offered as well. Students can choose to take one class or multiple. Sessions begin the week of June 29, 2020 and the week of July 27, 2020. Each class is Pay-What-You-Decide ranging from \$10 - \$120 per student. For all registrations that use the Whitemarsh Discount Code, Parks and Rec Department agrees to the following financial split:

Music Camp – West Chester University – Wells School of Music – Virtual

Whitemarsh Township Parks and Recreation has teamed up with the West Chester University – Wells School of Music to promote the following FREE Music classes to children grades 3-12 this summer – virtually via Zoom. To register for one or more virtual camps sessions, please e-mail the following information to Wells School of Music staff member, Joan Stalford (jstalford@wcupa.edu).

Elementary School/Middle School Summer Music Camp (for students entering grades 3-8)

Topic: Becoming a Better Musician
Faculty Members: Dr. Ralph Sorrentino, Dr. Marci Major, and Dr. M. Gregory Martin
Date: Tuesday, July 14 at 10 AM

High School Summer Music Institute (for students entering grades 9-12)

Session 1: Playing your Best Auditions
Faculty Members: Dr. Ralph Sorrentino, Professor Joseph Caminiti, Dr. Ryan Kelly, and Dr. Kimberly Reighley
Date: Wednesday, July 15 at 1 PM
Session 2: College Preparation for Music Students
Faculty Members: Dr. Ralph Sorrentino, Dr. Emily Bullock, and Dr. Andrew Yozviak
Date: Thursday, July 16 at 1 PM

Jazz Camp

(for students entering grades 7-12)
Session 1: Working with a New Song- Transcription and Improvisation
Faculty Member: Professor Peter Paulsen
Date: Monday, July 20 at 11 AM
Session 2: Clarifying and Improvising with the Greek Modes
Faculty Member: Professor Jonathan Ragonese
Date: Tuesday, July 21 at 11 AM
Session 3: Harmony and Rhythm – Piano and Guitar
Faculty Members: Professor David Cullen and Dr. Terry Klinefelter
Date: Wednesday, July 22 at 11 AM
Session 4: Drum Set Masterclass
Faculty Member: Dr. Chris Hanning
Date: Thursday, July 23 at 11 AM

Wissahickon Trails (formerly Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association) Environmental Programs - Virtual

The Whitemarsh Township Parks and Recreation Department is happy to team up with Wissahickon Trails in promoting the below virtual environmental programs. Register in advance for these programs at wissahickontrails.org.

Topic: Fireflies – Jewels of the Night – Thursday, July 9th at 7pm
Learn all about the state insect of Pennsylvania! Senior Naturalist Kristy Morley will cover some basic biology and life cycle, and the how’s and why’s of firefly glows. Learn tips about how to make your yard firefly friendly.

Topic: Moths – Denizens of the Dark – Tuesday, July 21st at 7pm

Celebrate National Moth Week and discover more about some of the most gorgeous nighttime critters – moths. Senior Naturalist Kristy Morley will provide footage from her home moth station and provide information on how you can set up your own moth station for further exploration.

Excursions

Special Events

Jump, Jam, and Jive – FREE Memorial Day Virtual Concert!

Alison from Jump, Jive, & Jam hosted a virtual concert on Friday, May 22nd 10:00 am-10:45 am. Participants had to pre-register for this free event through Community Pass. This concert was for children ranging in 1 month-5 years. Once registered, they were told to bring their favorite instruments and get ready to Jump Jive, & Jam into the musical fun. The Memorial Day concert was held to honor veterans, police, first responders, EMS, medical professionals, and everyone else working to keep the community safe. Participants were encouraged to wear red, white, and blue and patriotic songs were played. There were 17 individual registered and 12 signed onto Zoom to dance, sign, and laugh. Emily Labowitz introduced herself on behalf of Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation and thanked everyone for joining. In addition, she wished everyone a safe Memorial Day weekend. We plan on working with Alison again and offering more concerts and classes throughout the summer!

The 2020 "Summer Movies in the Parks" Series is will not be held out of an abundance of caution for COVID-19 and in compliance with CDC regulations for large special event gatherings.

The Cornhole Tournament scheduled for Saturday, September 12th at Cedar Grove Park has been postponed to winter for a venue adjustment. The event will be held in partnership with and at the Spring Mill Fire Company (Date is TBD). This also allows us to add an additional special event to our winter line-up.

It is with great regret that the leadership of the Whitemarsh Township 4th of July Parade Committee made the decision to recommend cancelling the 2020 Parade. The 4th of July Committee leadership included Chief Ward (Whitemarsh Township Police), Nick Weaver (Whitemarsh Township Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Coordinator), Chief Schwartz (Barren Hill Fire Company), Chief Shoemaker (Spring Mill Fire Company), Joanne Crawford (Parks and Recreation Board Chair), Joe Zach (Lions Club of Whitemarsh – President), and Bill Green (Sponsor Representative). The Department has also spoken to Peter Erndwein, Risk Senior Manager, from DVIT (Township Insurance Carrier) to review the circumstances and receive guidance to proceed with compliance and caution in this fluid time. Given the recent update on May 22nd from the Governor, the PA Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society regarding guidelines for social gatherings and community events, the leadership group was contacted individually and unanimously agreed to recommend the event be cancelled due to COVID-19. The Department had been closely and carefully monitoring the situation and those of surrounding communities in the region that hold special events in the summer and the 4th of July holiday. The overwhelming majorities of those Townships and Boroughs have chosen to cancel or are recommending the events be cancelled. In addition, the health and safety of our residents, participants, sponsors, vendors, entertainers, volunteers, and staff was a priority in making this difficult decision. Furthermore, even after infections have slowed and current public guidance to practice social distancing has been lessened; we recognize that many of our fellow citizens will be reluctant to subject themselves to large crowds in the immediate future. The official cancellation was announced on Thursday, June 4th. Entertainment acts are being notified for refunds and PADOT was contacted to withdraw our special event road closure permit application. We look forward to hosting the event on the 4th of July in 2021. I am happy to note that the Department is planning a Virtual 4th of July Celebration with links to parades, fireworks, crafts, etc. for the community to enjoy.

Parks/Facilities/Fields – Projects-Updates

The Miles Park Grant Project is over 90% completed. Completion of the pathways remain for 2020. The path connecting the upper and middle areas of the park has been surveyed and work is slated to begin in the next few weeks. The Township corresponded with DCNR in the end of April to update them on the project status given the COVID-19 delay and to notify that it would be completed by the end of fall 2020. On May 29th, the Township submitted the DCNR 6-month progress report to DCNR which was accepted. The Public Works Department completed the middle path in July and it looks great. We are in the process of coordinating the pathway for adjacent to the Joshua Road parking lot.

The DVRPC Grant (Phase 1- \$10,000) of the \$40,000 feasibility study for the Miracle-Nature Trail has begun. This phase involves an engineering topographic study and determining trail opportunities given PECO parameters. . The Township has received PECO approval to apply once a feasibility study is completed and the plan is formulated. The approval to move forward with a submittal is based on the concept discussions. The phase 1 report is due in December of 2020 but was submitted to the DVRPC 2020 Quarterly Report (Qtr. 1) and accepted. The Township received notification that it received a grant for \$40,000 from DCNR-C2P2 which will match the funding for the feasibility study (no Township Match required). The Township received and returned the agreement from DCNR and held the introductory call in March to initiate process. The Township staff is working with the Township engineer to provide the scope and budget for the remainder of the project to DVRPC and DCNR for approvals to proceed with funding. The Township received the initial funding payment from DCNR in the amount of \$20,000 which has been deposited to Finance. The Township submitted a RFP budget waiver request for the project to save dollars with both entities. Township Staff is meeting with Gilmore Associates to complete the planning for the remaining DCNR and DVRPC request documents in forthcoming weeks.

The Veteran's Monument at Miles Park will begin construction in spring and with completion in mid-September. Staff and Township Engineers had a pre-construction meeting to coordinate logistics and limit the impact on park activity. This project is delayed due to COVID-19. – ON HOLD

The water in the parks has been turned on and the comfort stations in the parks cleaned. The bathroom areas, playground areas, and exercise equipment areas are opened in green phase as of June 26th. The port-a-potty has been relocated to Valley Green Park for the remainder of the season. The timers were set in the park restrooms from 7am to 9pm. Signage has been posted alerting park users to best COVID-19 practices and the areas are being sanitized daily. Pavilion Rentals are scheduled to begin on Monday, August 10th with safety restricted guidelines.

Lt. Kennan is working with Public Works to install security cameras at the Miles Park Pavilion – thanks! – ON HOLD

The Miles Park Building 2nd Floor Dance Room had the aged and worn (gaps and humps) floor replaced in June for safety reasons (trip-fall hazards). The project is completed and looks great.

The Miles Park Dugouts are being manufactured and will be scheduled for delivery and storage on June 17th at the Public Works Facility until time and priority schedule permits for installation. – ON HOLD

A side lockbox has been installed at the Miles Park Building with keys to the building, exterior storage room areas, and the old dispatch storage. This will be helpful especially in the event of an emergency.

A broken bench was fixed at Miles Park along Germantown Pike.

The gutters were cleaned out at the Koontz Park and Miles Park Building.

The Concession Stand had signs added to the exterior alerting the public to Park Hours, Cameras, and Permit Requirements.

WLL, WGSL, and Colonial Soccer Club have all begun youth play (practices and games) in the park system in Green Phase. Each group has provided the COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan as required by the CDC and PA Dept. of Health.

A new electronic key lock-box was installed at Koontz Park.

The WGSL installed the planned temporary outfield fence for softball play this summer at Cedar Grove Park – main field.

The Parks System had the playgrounds inspected by a CPSI on Tuesday, June 16th.

Miles Park and Leeland Park had storm damage tree safety work completed.

A rolling floor standing mirror has been purchased and installed at the Miles Park Building for the successful Dance Program.

The PR Miles Park Building had the Fire Alarm-Test Certification on June 9th.

The Cedar Grove Barn had the Fire Alarm Service replaced the fire alarm panel that was damaged by storms on June 10th.

Shearon performed a fertilizer application on the Miles Park Lower Soccer Fields on May 19th as part of the annual maintenance agreement with the Township and the Colonial Soccer Club.

The Department had the exterior of the Concession Stand painted red. It is the color opposite the blue from the WLL logo (and we painted the Pavilion in the blue). We are coordinating and having the first base dugout roofs in the park blue and the third base roofs are red. The Park Board reviewed and supported the proposal on February 4th at their meeting. In addition, we purchased stainless steel letters and the Whitemarsh Logo for the backside of the building. The sign reads – "Miles Park – Whitemarsh Township" with the Township Logo above it. The letters have been installed. Finally the main counter area at the Concession Stand has had new swing doors built and installed to prevent vandalism and will have cork board on the inside for menu and price notices at games. We are very happy that the project is complete and it is a beautiful gateway for the park.

Miscellaneous

Tom Blomstrom attended a Zoom Webinar meeting for "Creating (learning) Park Reopening Consensus in Montgomery County" on Thursday, May 21st.

Tom Blomstrom attended the FREE Zoom Webinar on PRPS-District 3 – Leadership – Summer Phase and Operations Discussion on Tuesday, June 9th.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas J. Blomstrom
Director of Parks and Recreation

Tom Blomstrom

From: Tom Blomstrom
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 1:40 PM
To: Tom Blomstrom
Subject: Highlands Mansion

Supervisors Authorize Ordinance Preserving Highlands Mansion

The Board of Supervisors last night voted to advertise an ordinance that provides for the Township to purchase a 27.82-acre Conservation Easement at the **Highlands Mansion** on Sheaff Lane.

The Township has been working with the Highlands Historical Society (HHS) and state Representative Mary Jo Daley to preserve the 44-acre historic property since the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission included the property on its list to divest.

The Township would purchase a Conservation Easement from HHS to preserve the 27.82 acres of open space in the amount of \$3.01 million dollars. The funds would come from the Township's Open Space Earned Income Tax (EIT) fund and be used by HHS to improve and maintain the historic late 18th century Georgian mansion and two-acre formal garden.

Thomas J. Blomstrom
Director of Parks and Recreation
Whitemarsh Township
Parks and Recreation Department
Koontz Park
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(cell) 610-420-9830
(fax) 610-828-7391
tblomstrom@whitemarshwp.org
www.whitemarshwp.org



CC: SH
BOS
STC
TB

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP
RECEIVED

JUN 12 2020

OFFICE OF THE TWP MANAGER

Chair, Board of Supervisors Melissa Sterling
616 Germantown Pk.
Attn: Asst. Twp. Manager
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

Dear Tree City USA Supporter,

On behalf of the Arbor Day Foundation, I write to congratulate Whitemarsh Township on earning recognition as a 2019 Tree City USA. Residents of Whitemarsh Township should be proud to live in a community that makes the planting and care of trees a priority.

Whitemarsh Township is one of more than 3,600 Tree City USA communities, with a combined population of 155 million. The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

If ever there was a time for trees, now is that time. Communities worldwide are facing issues with air quality, water resources, personal health and well-being, and energy use. Whitemarsh Township is stepping up to do its part. As a result of your commitment to effective urban forest management, you are helping to provide a solution to these challenges.

We hope you are excited to share this accomplishment. Enclosed in this packet is a press release for your convenience as you prepare to contact local media and the public.

State foresters coordinate the presentation of the Tree City USA recognition materials. We will forward information about your awards to your state forester's office to facilitate presentation. It would be especially appropriate to make the Tree City USA award a part of your community's Arbor Day ceremony.

Again, we celebrate your commitment to the people and trees of Whitemarsh Township and thank you for helping to create a healthier planet for all of us.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Lambe".

Dan Lambe
President

cc: Sean Halbom

enclosure

THE PLAYGROUNDS ARE OPEN!

Celebrate the summer season and the opening
of the playgrounds with us!

Miles Park Playground

Friday, June 26th, 1-3 PM

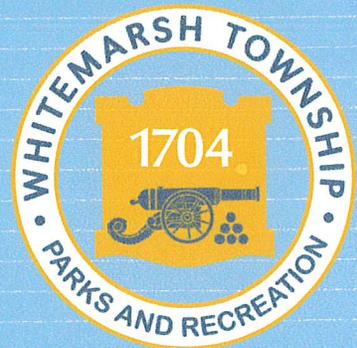
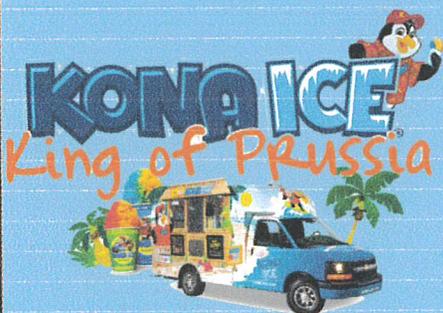
Get a Complimentary Kona Ice!



A special “Thank You” to our co-sponsors General Recreation
Inc. and Kona Ice for their generosity!

REMEMBER TO:

- Wear a Mask
- Wash Your Hands
- Maintain Social Distancing



Tom Blomstrom

From: Whitemarsh Township <jwalker@whitemarshwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 2, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Tom Blomstrom
Subject: New events and activities



Virtual Programs to Know About!

Wissahickon Trails Virtual Offerings



Whitemarsh Township Parks and Recreation is happy to team up with Wissahickon Trails in promoting the following virtual environmental programs. Register in advance for these programs at wissahickontrails.org. If you have any questions in regards to the events, feel free to contact them through one of the means listed below.



Fireflies – Jewels of the Night
Thursday, July 9th at 7 p.m.

Learn all about the state insect of Pennsylvania! Senior Naturalist Kristy Morley will cover some basic biology and life cycle, and the how's and why's of firefly glows. Learn tips about how to make your yard firefly friendly.



Moths – Denizens of the Dark
Tuesday, July 21st at 7 p.m.

Celebrate National Moth Week and discover more about some of the most gorgeous nighttime critters – moths. Senior Naturalist Kristy Morley will provide footage from her home moth station and provide information on how you can set up your own moth station for further exploration.

Keep an eye out for more virtual program offerings from our supportive local groups!

215-446-8866 | info@wissahickontrails.org | <https://wissahickontrails.org/>

Follow Us



Whitemarsh Township | 2391 Harts Lane, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

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