

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP
PARK & RECREATION BOARD MEETING
MILES PARK - PARKS AND RECREATION BUILDING
TUESDAY, JUNE 7th, 2022, AT 7:00 PM**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joanne Crawford, Kevin Kissling, Tom Manley, Meghan Hector, Jim Convey

LIAISONS PRESENT:

Laura Boyle Nester (BOS), Joy O'Brien (WAC)

TWP. STAFF PRESENT:

Tom Blomstrom (*P&R Director*), Nick Delaney (*P&R – Minutes*)

1) CALL TO ORDER

- i. The Whitemarsh Township Park & Recreation Board Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, June 7th, 2022, at 7:03 pm, by Joanne Crawford.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- i. No Announcements

4) UPDATED 2022 PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEMBER LIST

- i. Joanne Crawford asked if there were any additions or changes to the list and received no changes.
- ii. Tom Manley motions and Meghan Hector seconds – accepted unanimously.

5) APPROVAL OF THE April 5th, 2022, MEETING MINUTES

- i. The April 5th minutes were motioned for acceptance by Jim Convey and was seconded by Meghan Hector. Motion passed unanimously.

6) PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD LIAISON – COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Washington Street Study Steering Committee (Liaison: Kevin Kissling)

- i. Kevin alerted the group that the last meeting was April 19th, 2022. The final report will be sent to the planning committee. June 1st it was presented to the borough of Conshohocken. Going in for final review and to be finalized by Whitemarsh Board of Supervisors. Kevin states this is a very good opportunity for the waterfront.
 - (a) Kevin Kissling reports is motioned by Jim Convey and is seconded by Joanne Crawford.

b. Open Space Committee (Liaison: Tom Manley)

- i. Tom Manley mentioned that the Open Space Committee is trying to coordinate with the other advisory Boards and Committees to connect our parks to have safer areas to transit though the Township.
- ii. Tom Blomstrom stated that there will be several plans that need to be updated, including Open Space Plan, Park and Recreation Plan, Pedestrian/Bike Trail Plan, and the Greenway Plan to be updated within the next few years to combine into one plan.

- iii. Tom Manley asked would the committee come up with that Plan? Where would the funding come from?
 - (a) Tom Blomstrom answered yes, they would and would combine the plans. Plan would go the Township Manager. We would also likely apply for a grant for funding.
 - (b) Motion to Supports Updating and Merging of Plans - Kevin Kissling motions and Meghan Hector seconds - the group is in unanimous decision.
- c. 4th of July Parade Committee – (Liaison: Meghan Hector)
 - i. Meghan reported that there had been a meeting on May 26th. An overview of the previous parade occurred. Tom Manley is the master of ceremonies for the parade. Joanne Crawford is a judge for parade. Meghan stated that we ask all people to register by June 28th. Tom Blomstrom added that Whitemarsh township got approval from PennDOT for the road closures and emergency services. Keven Kissling asked if the memorial will be fixed in time for the parade. Tom Blomstrom answered it should be if the materials come in on time.
 - (a) Jim Convey motions and Kevin Kissling seconds – report unanimously accepted.

7) WHITEMARSH ART CENTER REPORT

- i. Joy O'Brien from the Whitemarsh Art Center speaks on the spring classes being full. Joy then proceeded to thank the Parks and Recreation Team for promoting their upcoming events. The next program coming up is the 8-week summer camp starting June 13th from 9:00am – 12:30pm for grades 1-4. The next WAC board meeting is June 13th, and they will discuss the approval of the budget.
 - i. Tom Manley motions and Meghan Hector seconds – report unanimously accepted.

8) PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- i. Tom Blomstrom begins with two features of Health Hub - mental health awareness month maintain motivation and psychological wellbeing.
- ii. Simon heart donated AED mobile unit on Township Day for Whitemarsh Township.
- iii. Summer Camp begins Monday June 13th, Miles Park has 21 staff lined up and Cedar grove has 11 staff lined up.
- iv. Backboard water training CPR class and refresher for all camp staff. Camp staff will go thru several trainings such as camp orientation, bully prevention, aquatic safety, Child sexual abuse, working outdoors in warm weather, working with special needs, diversity, and inclusion trainings. Each staff member will receive a camp handbook.
- v. Miles Park orientation is 6/7/22 and Cedar Grove is 6/8/22.
- vi. The Department and was featured in PA township news magazine May 2022 by the PA state association of township supervisors. Jon Walker was interviewed and did well.
- vii. WAC board met on May 9th.
- viii. CEP met on May 20th at Koontz Park building. There were 18 participants that had a dance party with mocktails, and a DJ the DJ was DJ dream team.
- ix. Swim lessons have concluded. Thank you to Colonial School District.
- x. Dance wrapped up with a Dance recital brining in 183 guest and 52 dancers. Thanks to Emily Moore for running that program.
- xi. Parents Night Out program had 13 participants in April and 26 participants in May more to come in June, July, and August.
- xii. Miles Park camp has over 100 kids in the camp everyday and field trips are back this year.
- xiii. Cedar Grove Camp is booked every week and there will be field trips.
- xiv. I9 Sports has 15-20 kids in every camp and Moore Brothers' Basketball Camp is almost full.

- xv. Upcoming programs to look out for are Theatre Horizon, Creative Constructors, Princess Camp, Superhero Camp, and Yoga for Runners.
- xvi. We will be running our Radio City Music Hall Holiday Trip this year - we have 52 tickets.
- xvii. Spring Wells Street Park-Open Space cleanup was cut short due to inclement weather. We had 27 participants come out to help cleanup.
- xviii. We had a great turnout for Township Day, and we were lucky enough to have some nice weather for the event. We had 42 sponsors and big thanks to the Parks and Recreation Team. Thank you to Colonial School District as well for all they do for Township Day.
- xix. Ambler Symphony Concert will be held at Hope Lodge.
- xx. Sing 2 is playing May 15th for our Movie in the Park at Cedar Grove.
- xxi. Phase 2 of the DCNR grant still in process and got partial payment of \$109,500.
- xxii. Treasure Sign came out to put new signs into our parks and recreation building at Koontz Park. This included new door stickers and signage around the building.
- xxiii. Spring/summer recreator updated online.
- xxiv. Kevin Kissling asked due to inflation impacting everything are the prices going to be raised for programs. Tom Blomstrom answered: we have not at this point in time, in future camp/programs will get raised as needed for the cost recovery model.
- xxv. Tom Manley motions to accept Director's Report and Jim convey seconds – motion passes unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- (a) Announcement of Summer Parks and Recreation *Recreator* (On-Line)
- (b) Announcement of 2022 Spring-Summer-Fall Discount Ticket Program
- (c) Announcement and Review of 2022 "Movies in the Parks" Series
- (d) Announcement of Parent's Night Out – Summer Series
- (e) Announcement of the Ambler Symphony Concert at Hope Lodge on Wednesday, June 8th at 7pm
- (f) Announcement of 4th of July Parade on Monday, July 4th at 10am in coordination with the Lions Club of Whitemarsh – Community picnic to follow at Miles Park (Music, Hot Dogs, Water, Fun!)
- (g) Announcement of the *Pennsylvania Township News* magazine – May 2022 Issue - from the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS)
 - (i) Cover Article - "Celebrating Local Government – Community Events" – Whitemarsh Township is highlighted

OLD BUSINESS

- a) Update on the Haub Property.
 - ii. Settled on Friday, April 22, 2022. It is 2.71 acres purchased for \$810,000 with open space fund earned income tax.
 - iii. Tom Manley motions and Meghan Hector seconds to accept report – motion passes unanimously.

9) PUBLIC MEMBER COMMENTS

- i. No public comment

10) BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- i. No board member comments

11) ADJOURNMENT

- i. Kevin Kissling made a motion to adjourn, Tom Manley seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm, unanimously.
- ii. The next Park and Recreation Board Meeting will take place on August 2nd, 2022, at 7:00pm and the meeting format will be determined at a later date.