

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 17, 2023
6:00 pm

MINUTES

Committee: Chairman, Mr. Moore, Mr. Carminito, Ms. Dugan, and Mr. Weiss

Public Members: Janet Hunter

Staff: Mr. Krack, Ms. Gibbons, Ms. Getzfread, and Mr. Watson

I. Call to Order at 6:00 pm

II. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

Theresa Thornton asked what happened to the mural in Andre Thornton Park. She noted that Verizon appeared to take it away and whether there was anything the Borough could do to get the cover back.

III. Presentations - None

IV. Committee Member Updates/Discussions

Ms. Gibbons reported the Fall Fest will be on October 28. She also reported the Recreation Board did not meet this month and will next meet on Monday, November 20.

V. New Business

A. Discussion regarding 2024 PXV Inside Out.

Ginger Murphy stated she is not supportive of the program but that if Council were to do it, that it should only be once per month.

Susan Meadows provided additional information on their signature collection from downtown businesses which were not in favor of the downtown closure. She stated that most agreed that if it were to happen it should only be once per month.

Bill Peters reported on various storefronts that closed. He is not supportive of the program but that if Council were to do it, that it should only be once per month.

Shawn Cephas stated he is concerned that the program lends itself to a drinking environment which does not work for most of the businesses in the downtown. He is not supportive of the program but that if Council were to do it, that it should only be once per month.

John McPhee reported the program is an overwhelming success for his business because he embraced what the season does and his business increased by 20 percent. He would like to see it continue.

Ellie Acampora read a letter from Barry Cassidy. She is not supportive of the program.

Joan Beregi stated she is not supportive of the program but that if Council were to do it, that it should only be once per month.

Theresa Brewer stated she is not supportive of the program but that if Council were to do it, that it should only be once per month.

Ms. Dugan stated that she would only support the program on a once a month basis.

Mr. Moore thanked everyone for their input and stated that there is no action being recommended from this committee at this time. He stated that Staff will coalesce the information for the meeting next month.

- B. Motion to recommend Borough Council adopt a Resolution approving the submission of a Local Share Account Statewide (LSA) grant funds from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Bridge and Main Street Parking Lot.

Mr. Krack provided background on the grant application and why the Borough was seeking to submit the application at this time.

Mr. Weiss made a Motion to recommend Council adopt the Resolution.
Seconded by Mr. Carminito. Motion passed 4-0.

Dave Meadows expressed his concerns with the plans for the Main and Bridge Street Parking lot. He stated he believed the parking lot was paid for by a Special Taxation District in the 80's that was levied on the downtown businesses.

VI Public Participation

- A. Ms. Acampora stated she has concerns about the Borough not maintaining the area of Children's Plaza and now they want to add another park downtown.
- B. Ms. Murphy stated the parking lot at Bridge and Main Street provides for ADA wheelchair accessibility directly to the downtown and is concerned the transition to a park would eliminate that accessibility.

VII Adjournment at 7:00 pm by Mr. Weiss.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 6:00 pm