

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
Tuesday, August 20, 2024
6:00 pm

MINUTES

Committee: Chairperson, Mr. Moore, Ms. Burckley, Ms. Dugan, and Mr. Weiss

Public Members: Janet Hunter

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

I. Call to Order at 6:01pm. Ms. Burckley arrived 6:06pm.

II. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

Ms. Francis spoke about over growth of bush at Pat Nattle Field next to residence on 210 Fillmore Street. Ms. Francis stated this bush makes it difficult to see out when pulling out of their driveway.

Mr. Moore asked staff to look into the over growth at that location

III. Presentations

No Presentations.

IV. Committee Member Updates/Discussions

Ms. Gibbons reported the Bocce ball and horseshoe courts project is complete. She reported that the basketball court project at Cascaden Park was also complete. Ms. Gibbons reported that Eagle Scout Connor Heil completed a project moving the 13th hole for the Borough's Disk golf course to make it a safer hole to use. Ms. Gibbons reminded everyone that Fall Fest is October 26, 2024 at the Recreation Center.

Mr. Moore asked if the Borough removes snow on the Schuylkill River Trail during the winter. Ms. Getzfread stated that we do not remove snow as people like to use the trail during the winter for activities like cross country skiing.

V. New Business

A. Motion to recommend Borough Council approve a Temporary Community Event Application for the Shoes 'N Brews 16.2 Mile Running Event using the Schuylkill River Trail under the Veteran's Memorial Gay Street Bridge on Sunday, October 6, 2024 from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon. Conditioned upon receipt of valid Certificate of Insurance naming Borough as Additional Insured.

Mr. Weiss made a Motion to recommend Council approve the TCE as presented.
Seconded by Ms. Burckley. Motion passes 4-0.

B. Update on MDM Preserve and Taylor Street Park.

Ms. Getzfread stated there are numerous steps for this project, Borough Council

accepted these parcels at their July Council meeting. Staff is currently working with the Borough Solicitor and the Borough Engineer on the next step which could include determining possible consolidation of the various parcels, vacating certain streets, and potential reorientation of the existing facilities at the park.

Mr. Vail stated that Mr. Krack has been communicating with them about this project and hope to continue that communication going forward.

Ms. Getzfread stated these projects take time but this will be an ongoing topic on the Agenda so the Committee and public are aware of the progress.

C. Reservoir Park Trail Connection.

Ms. Getzfread presented a new trail/pathway connection project that would connect Dayton Street to the Pavilion at Reservoir Park then to the Parking Lot at Reservoir Park. This project would include the creation of a 6-foot-wide pathway and there would also be the installation of trees in certain areas to create a natural barrier between the pathway and the homes there.

Mr. Moore asked whether this be paved. Mr. Watson responded that this would be similar to the trail/pathway that the Borough installed on Fillmore Street to connect to Reservoir park by the community garden.

Mr. Weiss and Ms. Burckley both spoke about the neighbors and what their thoughts may be to this project.

Discussion was then had about how some of those neighbors are using Borough Property as their own and this is a way to create delineation between their property and the Borough's property.

Ms. Dugan asked if staff can present what the cost of this project is at the next meeting so the committee can have further discussion.

D. Discussion Holiday Events.

Ms. Getzfread described the plan for the 2024 holiday tree lighting and Santa visits. Phoenixville First is looking to have at the first weekend of December in conjunction with First Friday to have Holiday activities all weekend long with visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus and other activities.

Mr. Weiss stated that maybe an organization like the Chamber can take over the responsibility on doing the Santa visits.

Mr. Moore asked if that is something Phoenixville First does.

Ms. Burckley explained that this is a Phoenixville First responsibility and the

Chamber is a part of Phoenixville First as well as the Borough.

Ms. Burckley stated that Phoenixville First has and will continue to work and welcome other organizations throughout the Borough to help incorporate their holiday traditions activities in conjunction with this weekend celebration.

VI. Public Participation

No Public Participation.

VII. Adjournment at 6:44pm by Mr. Weiss.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm.