

**BOROUGH OF LANSDALE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES – OCTOBER 5, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mary Fuller, Chair
Jason VanDame
Carrie Hawkins-Charlton
Carl W. Saldutti, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT:

Zach Kline
Debra Kline
Kate Sullivan
Helen Swartz
Bruce Swartz

MEMBERS ABSENT:

1. MEETING MINUTES

The Committee in a 2-0 vote approved the minutes from the September 7, 2016 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting. Mr. VanDame abstained from voting as he did not attend the September meeting of the Committee

2. REQUESTS

No special requests submitted for action.

3. PROGRAMS

Mr. Saldutti provided the monthly update on the department sponsored programs and activities. Youth soccer, dance, yoga and Zumba programs are in progress. Registration is coming in slow for the arts classes and work is ongoing on the following Holiday events:

- A. Holiday Tree Lighting - Friday, December 2 at 6:00 pm in Railroad Plaza.
- B. TubaChristmas Concert – Sunday, December 4 at 1:15 pm in Railroad Plaza (the concert moves indoors to St. Johns United Church of Christ in the event of inclement weather starting at 2:00 pm).
- C. Charlie Brown Christmas Concert - Monday, December 19 at 7:00 pm at Penndale Middle School Auditorium.
- D. Menorah Lighting - December 26 at 6:00 pm in Railroad Plaza (The December 26 date was requested by the program organizers).

Mr. Saldutti recognized the following for their generous contributions to the above programs: Clemens Food Group, Lehigh Valley Dairies, and Chantilly Floral Boutique. Additionally, he thanked the following individuals/groups for their participation: Montgomery County Concert Band, North Penn High School Chorus, Tuba Force, North Penn High School Brass Ensemble, Steve Moyer, Fairmount Fire Company, Little Miss Lansdale, The Booz Family, Alan Gold, Horns of Hanukkah, Ellen Price Malloy, and all Borough Departments

4. FIRST FRIDAY

October First Friday will be held on Friday, October 7 and will feature the Chili Cook-off, a variety of food vendors, information booths, classic cars, and music by The Mighty Manatees and Jeff Lohan. November First Friday is scheduled for Friday, November 4 and the main feature will be the annual Zombie Walk and prizes, the Thriller Dance, plus much more. Keith Heffintrayer, assisting with the organization of the Zombie Walk, stated that a number of new pieces are being added to this year's event.

5. MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

The maintenance staff completed all work repairing the sanitary lines at the Wissahickon Park Building, working on repairs to the White's Road intermediate pool in addition to the normal park maintenance activities.

6. BUDGET – OPERATING/CAPITAL

The current budget is tracking normally as projected. The working draft of the 2017 operating budget, expenses and revenue, has been submitted to all of Council for review and comment. The 2017 capital budget was discussed. That budget requests includes \$5,000 for computers & hardware, \$25,000 playground improvement at White's Road, and \$12,000 additional lighting at White's Road Park Amphitheater.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Liberty Bell Trail - The draft plan for the stretch of trail running through the Andale Green Development was reviewed by the engineer for DVRPC. Based on that review, it has been recommended that a 5 ft. buffer be established between the trail and the roadway that runs adjacent to the trail. Pennoni has revised the plan to reflect that change. Jim Moulton must accept the plan revision. A meeting with Jim Moulton will be held soon to discuss the revision. Mr. Saldutti will provide Committee with an update following that meeting.
- B. Skatepark – The Committee will host a public meeting to discuss the proposed skatepark; i.e., location, process, and next steps, etc. Letters informing the residents in the immediate area of Fourth Street Park will receive a direct mailing informing them of the date, time and location of the meeting. Additionally, the information will be posted on the Borough's website and other social media outlets. Wedgewood Park will also be discussed. That meeting will be held at 7:00 pm Thursday, October 27 in Council Chambers.
- C. Memorial Park Grandstand Project Update - The renovation project remains on schedule with the bid specs finalized in late October, advertise for bids in November and the selection of a contractor and contract award in December. It is anticipated that the required demolition will commence in late December or early January and that the project should be completed in the spring of next year

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Penndale Middle School - Again this year, the department will participate in the Penndale Middle School's Community Service Day on Friday, October 21. We will be providing them with small projects within our park system such as removing seasonal plantings and bed cleanup in Memorial Park and the same in the infiltration basins in Wissahickon Park. We are pleased to be part of the program as it provides a valuable experience for the students and a beneficial contribution to the park system and the community.
- B. PCA Partners in the Arts Grant - Mr. Saldutti informed the Committee of the department's receipt of the notice of a grant award from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts in support of next year's White's Road Park Concert and Performing Arts Series. The grant, administered through the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance, is in the amount of \$2225.
- C. Railroad Plaza Pergola Repairs - Mr. Ziegler, Mr. Ernst and Mr. Saldutti met with Architect, Michael Panachyda to discuss repairs to the three pergolas at Railroad Plaza. Mr. Saldutti will provide an update as to the management team's recommendation for repair/replacement.

D. Sponsorship of Park Benches - In response to a resident's request to sponsor/donate a park bench to the park system, the Committee will be looking to establish a policy to accommodate these types of requests. Further update on this issue will be forthcoming

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Local Boy Scout, Zach Kline has offered to organize and coordinate an environmental project in Wissahickon Park consisting of adding plant material along the streambank to help reduce bank erosion and filter water runoff before it enters the stream. Mr. Saldutti will look into this and get back to Zach as time permits

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:00 PM

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 2, 2016 @ 8:00 pm

Borough Hall – Conference Room 201A