

Parks and Recreation (P&R) Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2024

Members in Attendance: Kathy Morris; Harry Hellerman; Dan Berdahl; Morgan High; Francis Mckenzie, Michael Brockway

Members absent: Kelly Swope

Staff: Sandi Feight

Board of Supervisors: Janine Martin

Call to order: Kathy M. called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Public comment: none

Consideration of July 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes:

Francis M. moved to approve the minutes, Morgan H. seconded it, and all approved.

Fall Fest: All available spots for vendors and food trucks have been taken.

Park Master plans; Plans developed by Gilmore for two pollinator gardens were presented. One garden is proposed for Pen-Ambler Park, the other for Oxford park. The EAC had previously evaluated them and had made some suggested alterations.

Both the EAC and the Parks and rec boards agree that the locations of the gardens are moderate to dry. In light of that, suggestions by the EAC were that the garden at the Pen-Ambler park not have the Clethra Alnifolia (Sweet pepperbush) but rather double up on the Physocarpus opulifolius (Common ninebark) a more appropriate selection for the location. It was felt that the Lobelia Siphilitica (Great Blue Lobelia) was not reliable and recommended vernonia fasciculata (common ironweed) instead.

The EAC suggested no changes to the plans for the garden at Oxford Park.

The Parks & Recreation Board concurs with all the suggestions recommended by the EAC and voted to approve the garden plans with the suggested changes.

Janine M. update from the BOS (Board of Supervisors):

Texaco update: the property is now ready for improvements as discussed earlier.

To review proposed plans to date:

- Remove digital sign outside township building,
- Remove the stone structure (and sign) at veterans park
- Erect a digital sign.
- Plant trees (as budget allows) starting at the rear of the property and moving forward.
- Revealed at this meeting is the rotary's interest in creating a "peace park," meaning including a path and bench(s).

More discussion is needed as to the type and the orientation of the sign.

Sandi F. Update from the recreation director**Currently status :**

- Final Fall Fest arrangements are being made.
- Working on items for the upcoming budget.
- Working with both Gwynedd Mercy elementary school and Gwynedd Mercy high school on their respective cross country events.
- Working with Ambler Olympic club on a cross country event at Penllyn Woods.
- Wrapping up Softball season details.
- Still waiting to hear from Wissahickon Library on when they will need Penllyn woods community building.
- Sandi F. will be meeting with John and Jim from Gilmore to discuss a new trail map.
- Sandi F., Mitch, John and Jim from Gilmore will be meeting to go over phase one of the woodland evaluation management plan.

Sandi F. asked us if we were in favor of planning a summer camp in 2025. The unanimous vote was no.

Kathy M. Comprehensive plan update :

There will be an Open House on October 28 4-6pm to update the residents on the progress of the Township's Comprehensive Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12