

Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting —August 13, 2020

Meeting held via Zoom

In attendance:

Lisa O'Reilly, Parks & Rec staff
Anthony Constantini, Parks & Rec staff
Patrick McKenzie
John Dailey
Mike Jacobs
Joanne Baecher-DiSalvo, Chair

Meeting was held over zoom & called to order. Minutes from June and July meetings were approved.

Review of current and recent programs was provided by Parks & Recreation staff present, Lisa O'Reilly & Anthony Constantini.

Mini recreation programs have finished but the department is continuing to work with local businesses with programs of yoga and dance in the parks. Tennis programs are also underway as well as multi-sport program. Overall Ms. O'Reilly reported that the programs are going well and they are looking forward to fall programming.

Ms. O'Reilly also reported that basketball courts are still in lockdown because of Covid 19. The only village-run court is at Uniontown. The re-opening of basketball courts is under consideration but will not be happening at this time.

The pool had been closed for many days following loss of power due to tropical storm Isaias. Mr. Constantini reported that power was restored yesterday and email will be sent out tomorrow re: re-opening of pool.

Joanne Baecher-DiSalvo asked that staff report to the Parks & Rec Superintendent, Mr. Podhurst, that 2 trees are down in Lefurgy Park and Dan Rile Park.

Hillside Woods

Patrick McKenzie reported on the work of the Hillside Woods Steering Committee. That committee recently visited possible areas in the woods for demo site for deer exclusion. Once the site is identified, the plan is to use permanent fencing along with temporary fencing. At this time none of the money that has been designated from the county and state has been released.

Haven Colgate continues to very active leading volunteer groups in removal of invasive privet in the woods.

The Parks & Rec Superintendent is aware that there are several big trees down on the trails following Isaias; Mr. Podhurst will be speaking with the school concerning one particular tree that may be on school property.

Skate Park

Mike Jacobs reported that he has spoken with school representative, Maureen Carabello, who confirmed the portion of the Burke Estate that the school is willing to designate for use by a skate park. The other site under consideration is at end of Zinser Park parking lot. Mr. Jacobs stated that he would be following up with Mayor Armacost about Zinser site prior to next meeting.

At Parks & Rec Commission's next meeting in September, the skate park proposal will be reviewed and possible sites evaluated once again. Plan is to then vote on the proposal and sites at Commission's meeting in October. Ms. Baecher-DiSalvo will send out email to neighbors on Farragut Avenue as well as to skateboard group mother advising them of plan for September meeting which will be held via zoom on September 10th at 6PM.

Climate Smart Communities

Patrick McKenzie reported briefly on the state-wide initiative of climate smart communities and the role of parks and recreation. He specifically noted initiative to dedicate parks that have not been dedicated. This item will be put on agenda for next meeting for further clarification and discussion.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 6 PM via zoom.

Minutes written and submitted by Joanne Baecher-DiSalvo, Chair