



MT. LEBANON
PENNSYLVANIA

**Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 7, 2019 - 6:30 p.m.
Municipal Building Room C**

I. Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum:

Mr. Block called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM, and proceeded with the roll call. The meeting was attended by Jonathan Farrell, Elaine Kramer, Ron Block, Richard Heyse, Pam Burrett, and Albert Presto.

The meeting was also attended by Facilities & Parks Coordinator, Phillip Avolio.

Greg Newman and Commissioner Fraasch were absent.

II. Citizen Comments:

Ms. Terri Bone, from 107 Robb Hollow Road, spoke to the group about the future planning efforts at the end of the Public Works Site. She noted that Mt. Lebanon does not have a large pavilion that is also able to be used in inclement weather. She stated that most of the parks have the same smaller standard size pavilion with a single grill. Ms. Bone spoke about the Vietnam Veterans Pavilion in the City of Pittsburgh. She noted how this facility had restrooms, food prep areas, and a large enough footprint to accommodate a large event. She was hoping to see the group consider adding this type of facility to Mt. Lebanon. Ms. Bone noted that allowing alcohol permits might help to offset the cost of construction, as this may also encourage rentals and park use.

III. Approval of April 2019, Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Block asked the group to please review the April 2019 meeting minutes.

Mr. Avolio noted that due to a system update from the recording software, the April video was lost. He added that the minutes are comprised from his notes and memory of the meeting.

Mr. Block asked for the correct spelling of "Knotweed".

A motion was made by Ms. Kramer and seconded by Mr. Farrell to approve the minutes as amended. The motion passed and the revised minutes were accepted.

IV. Expansion of Arboretum / Parks Tree Inventory:

The group reviewed the current accreditation level. Ms. Kramer noted how they may want to consider planning their outreach and education program for this year's Level I requirements before considering a Level II Accreditation.

Mr. Block noted that Davy Tree will be presenting a tree ID walk this coming Saturday in Bird Park, but it would be too late to work in conjunction with that presentation.

Ms. Kramer noted that partnering with other organizations is also acceptable when considering a location or program.

The group discussed promoting a tree walk event through Bird Park in the fall. They agreed that it might be logistically easier to start the event at the Beadling Parking Lot, rather than trying to complete a classroom session at the Library with a field visit after.

Ms. Kramer inquired about everyone's thoughts on who the target audience should be. Mr. Block replied that he would be able to report back on the demographic that attends this Saturday's Tree ID Walk to give them a better idea of who may be interested.

Mr. Block noted that they may want to advertise the event to meet at the Circle by the Fire Pit instead of the Beadling Lot. He noted that in the fall, that field is heavily scheduled, and may be difficult for parking.

Mr. Heyse also noted that this may be an opportunity for Scouts to earn a Forestry Badge. This would involve tree collection, reporting, and a study of a managed forest. He noted that he would look into the requirements and get back to the group.

Ms. Kramer noted that this would be an opportunity to expand the tree inventory.

The group decided to keep this item on for next month's agenda to ensure they provide enough time for Municipal Staff to advertise the event on the website.

V. New Business

Mr. Avolio reported on some improvements and repairs that had been completed around the various parks. He noted that many issues noted on last year's park assessments that can now be crossed off the list. He shared that crews had thinned out plantings throughout Main Park; Duquesne Light had raised the manhole that was previously covered with plywood; Sun Screen Station Removed; and that Mulched areas were being reduced and seeded to return to lawn areas.

Mr. Avolio also noted that crews had spent a few days re-grading the service road to the Bird Park Soccer Field. He explained that the portable restroom was moved down the hill closer to the field and placed on a new concrete pad. They had also installed a

new vandal-proof fountain to replace the old brick structure that was leaning into the woods.

Mr. Avolio noted that crews will be addressing some of the erosion around the playground at Main Park. Crews will be improving drainage and addressing the grading in that area. He shared that this repair will be done ahead of the contractor that will be repairing sections of the poured in place rubber surfacing.

VI. Old Business

Mr. Farrell noted that one of the gabion baskets at the Youngwood Crossing is losing a lot of soil around it from sheet flow. He mentioned that he would be in that area for School in the Park next week, and would look at the area.

Ms. Kramer asked how the group might stay in closer contact with the Sports Board in relation to the Recreation Center Feasibility Study. She asked if it was more of a staff function, or something the Parks Board needs to address.

Mr. Avolio noted that he would reach out to David Donnellan to get his thoughts.

VII. Announcements

Mr. Avolio noted that he had left trail maps in the back of the room for everyone to review. He also asked if anyone remembered where the last series of maps were printed.

Mr. Block noted that he believed they were created at Fast Signs.

Mr. Block shared that only 4% of Boy Scouts nationwide make the Eagle Scout ranking, and over 50% of Troop 22 of Southminister Presbyterian Church has reached the Eagle Scout Level. He noted that this troop has been active for 87 years.

VIII. Commission Update:

No Update was reported.

IX. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Block and seconded by Mr. Farrell to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

