



MT. LEBANON
PENNSYLVANIA

**Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 - 6:30 p.m.
Virtual- Microsoft Teams**

I. Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum:

Mr. Heyse called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and proceeded with the roll call. Richard Heyse, Gregory Newman, Peter Argentine, Bennett Aikin, Pamela Burrett, Rob Mackey, and Albert Presto attended the meeting.

The meeting was also attended by Mindy Ranney, Commissioner; Ian McMeans, Assistant Municipal Manager; Phillip Avolio, Facilities & Parks Coordinator and Rudy Sukal, Director of Public Works.

II. Citizen Comments:

No citizen comments to report.

III. New Member Introductions:

Peter Argentine has been a resident on Mayfair Drive with his family since 1986. He was a member of the Mt. Lebanon Nature Conservancy. He has a strong interest in parks and parks management. He does work with national and state parks. He has an interest in the master plan and looks forward to helping.

Rob Mackey grew up in Mt. Lebanon and is interested in the green spaces in Mt. Lebanon. He joined the board to help improve the parks from an ecology standpoint and to look for way to get residents more value from them.

IV. Approval of March minutes:

Mr. Heyse asked the group to review the March minutes and provide comment. A motion was made by Ms. Burrett and seconded by Mr. Presto to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed and the minutes were accepted.

V. Approved Plant List for Parks Planting (Richard):

Mr. Heyse has observed that some plantings in the parks have been hard to maintain. He thinks the board should come up with planting guidelines in the parks. He mentioned that the city has a source of trees.

Mr. Argentine agrees with having planting guidelines and do outreach and education to residents. He also thinks we should encourage Eagle Scouts to focus on projects involving invasive plants and improving the habitat.

Mr. Mackey commented that there may be too much infrastructure (trails, bridges, etc.) in Bird Park and thinks the board should discuss what is best for the park.

The board discussed the planting of correct native plantings in the parks and having signage.

VI. MTL Magazine- Tree Column (Comm. Ranney):

Ms. Ranney comment that the Mt. Lebanon Magazine agreed to run a monthly tree article in the magazine to educate the residents. The board discussed different ideas.

VII. Parks Master Plan Update:

Mr. Heyes commented that he received an email from Mr. McMeans that bid documents were sent to eleven firms and the process is moving along. They talked about the scoring/ranking process.

Ms. Ranney suggested that everybody take a look at the plan.

VIII. New Business:

Mr. Sukal asked everyone received their notification from Nick Scalles/IT Director for the team's login which might be a good way to share information. Everyone should make a login from Microsoft.

Mr. Sukal commented that the board should discussed the annual priorities list for the budget. He explained a little about the budget process.

Mr. Aikin said that he heard from Ms. Kramer that she is still interested in the fundraiser that was discussed at the last meeting. The board agreed that there are no objections to move forward with the idea.

IX. Old Business:

Mr. Newman commented that he reached out to Robin Vittrek & Sharon Bruni at the library about yearly arboretum project. The board discussed ideas about the project.

Ms. Ranney commented on bringing in forestry experts for education purpose. Mr. Sukal will contact Tree City USA representative to see if she would speak at an upcoming meeting. Mr. Heyes also has a contact from the state.

X. Announcements:

Ms. Ranney commented about the ticks.

XI. Commission Update:

No updates were made.

XII. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ms. Burrett and seconded by Mr. Newman to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.