



**Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 3, 2021 - 6:30 p.m.
Virtual- Microsoft Teams**

1. Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum:

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

Albert Presto was absent.

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

2. New and Current Member Introductions:

The board members introduced themselves and welcomed Ms. Elias. Dhanya Elias is a resident in the Sunset Hills. She has an Undergraduate Degree in Architecture and a Master's in Urban Design & City Planning. Her interests are how to live in an environmentally sensible and sustainable way.

3. Citizens Comments (5 minutes each):

None.

4. Approval of June Minutes:

Mr. Newman asked the group to review the June minutes and provide comment. Peter Argentine made a correction to the June minutes.

A motion was made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Mackey to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed and the minutes were accepted.

5. Project Prioritization & Ranking (Motion Needed):

The board discussed the prioritization. A motion was made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Argentine to approve the Project Prioritization & Ranking as presented. The motion passed and accepted.

6. Arboretum Program Update:

Mr. Newman discussed the flyer for the Williamsburg Park Tour Event that will be held on Saturday, September 18th from 10-12 pm.

7. Street Tree Selection Efforts:

A motion was made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Mackey to put on agenda as an item. The motion passed and accepted.

Mr. Sukal will look at Pittsburgh's and Conservancy tree list and provide list of trees that have been purchase by the municipality in the past. Mr. Mackey and Mr. Argentine volunteer to work on the tree list committee before it's on agenda in the fall.

8. New Business:

Mr. Mackey updated on Trees for the Future Planting in Twin Hills Park in the Spring 2020.

Mr. Argentine commented that Iroquois Park was surveyed discovered private land was intruding on public right-of-way. He thinks education to landowner living adjacent to the parks should be done. Also, the dumping problem could be address.

Mr. Avolio is looking for volunteers for invasives in Bird Park. Mr. Heyse has reached out to PA Department of Forestry in Allegheny for idea for invasive removal. He has spoken with two possibilities, Labor Force, and his church group.

Ms. Ranney commented that a group of prior Parks Board member will have grant monies and would like to do planting at Bird Park.

9. Old Business:

None.

10. Commission Update:

Ms. Ranney explained the upcoming hybrid format of the meetings beginning in September.

She thought that in the future the Parks Master Plan could be an agenda item so updates can be talked about. The consulting company is requesting to meet with Parks and Sports Boards at the same time to get input in a focus group format. She suggests having that meeting on Tuesday, September 7th from 7:30-9:00 after the Parks meeting. Mr. Heyse suggested having only two agenda items for Parks meeting and make an agenda for the combined meeting.

The commission would like to provide consistent structure to all the board meetings with the goal of keeping meetings to 1.5 hours at the maximum, with some exceptions. By using the "New Business" section for new ideas from board member time will be limited and put to vote if idea will be discussed in future.

The recreation tour was discussed.

11. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Aikin to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.