

## Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board

### Minutes of Tuesday, January 22, 2019

A meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at the Plymouth Township Community Center. Present were Board members Jason Sugalski, Jennifer Dow, Barbara Thompson, Brian Renneisen, Neil Clark, and newly-appointed member Mike Perez; Parks and Recreation Director Karen Franck; Plymouth Council Liaison Chris Manero; and Board Secretary Rosemary Winterbottom. Newly-appointed Board member Shannon Dryden was not in attendance.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Jason Sugalski nominated Brian Renneisen for the position of Chairman-Parks, Recreation and Shade Tree Advisory Board. This nomination was seconded by Neil Clark. There were no further nominations for this position. The Board vote was unanimous in favor of this nomination and Brian Renneisen accepted the position of Chairman-Parks, Recreation and Shade Tree Advisory Board for 2019.

Jason Sugalski nominated Barbara Thompson for the position of Vice-Chairman-Parks, Recreation and Shade Tree Advisory Board. This nomination was seconded by Brian Renneisen. There were no further nominations for this position. The Board vote was unanimous in favor of this nomination and Barbara Thompson accepted the position of Vice-Chairman-Parks, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory Board for 2019.

#### 1. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2018

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2018, meeting was made by Barbara Thomson. This motion was seconded by Jason Sugalski and unanimously approved.

#### 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

There were no guests or visitors in attendance.

#### 3. DISCUSSION OF PACKET MATERIALS

The monthly report for December-2018 was reviewed. Karen Franck noted that this report contained end-of-year statistics. Brian Renneisen asked if the statistics had met yearly goals. In response, Karen explained that general attendance was good, aerobics classes were up, gym rentals were up, and that camps did well. Karen further explained that some pool classes were dropped due to the lack of life

guards. Karen expects that the current session of swim classes should be better since a improved pay scale with increases has resulted in hiring of life guards.

Karen showed the Board photos from recent events, including the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony, Craft Day, Graham Cracker House Workshop, Breakfast with Santa, Kids Corner, and Holiday Swim and Give

#### 4. OLD BUSINESS

##### A. General Department

1. Board Meeting Schedule
  - a. Youth Organization Schedule

A memo showing the 2019 meeting schedule for the Board was provided by Karen to all members. It was explained that all youth group presentations will be made during the March 26, 2019, meeting. The presentations will be scheduled in 15-minute intervals. Karen will request that each group provide their information early in March, so that the Board members have ample time to review the information prior to the meeting.

2. Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan)
3. December 11, 2018 Public Meeting — Comprehensive Plan

Karen Franck reported that the December 11, 2018, public meeting included both the Plymouth2040 Comprehensive Plan as well as the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan). Input from the public was collected during this meeting. A chart labeled "Vision Wall" Postcard Feedback was distributed to Board members for review. Comments relative to parks/recreation were highlighted in this chart.

In response to questioning, Karen explained that parks plans are generally for a 10-year time frame. Karen further explained the timing, priorities, and funding in grants.

Karen expects that the PROS Plan draft will be ready in a few weeks. It is hoped to be able to discuss/review the draft at a future Board meeting.

##### 4. Goals and Accomplishments

Karen Franck presented the Parks and Recreation Department 2018 Accomplishments and 2019 Goals. Karen felt that the receipt of the Lowe's and DCED grants were a major accomplishment. A major goal for 2019 would be the exploration of different marketing opportunities.

##### B. Community Center/CC Park

### 1. Pass Promotions

Karen reported that a 10% off day will be held again in March-2019. Another 10% off day will probably be held in the Fall. Additional "flash sale" promotions will be advertised on social media.

### 2. Lighting Replacement Continues

Karen noted that most lighting replacements have been completed. The replacement lighting in the classroom areas will be done during the first part of this year.

### 3. Roof Replacement Preparations

Karen reported that it is hoped to bid out this project soon, so that the work can be placed on a schedule. The pool side of the building will be bid out first.

## C. Parks and Maintenance

### 1. Alan Wood Basketball Court Improvements

The repaving of the basketball courts at Alan Wood Park has been completed.

### 2. Parks Projects

Karen noted that the Colwell Park bathrooms are to be renovated. New water fountains are being ordered and are expected to be installed in the Spring in all parks. The new water fountains will be ADA compliant, and will include a water bottle filler.

Barbara Thompson asked if a water fountain will be placed in Bicentennial Park, but Karen Franck stated that there is no water line available for a water fountain at that park. Barbara also inquired as to when the wood will be replaced on the bridge at Bicentennial Park. Karen will check on the status of this.

## D. Wetherill Park

### 1. Lowe's and DCED Initial Grant Coordination

Karen reported that the funds for the grant from Lowe's have been received.



The funds from this grant are to be used to purchase materials only. The Lowe's grant and the DCED grant will be coordinated to have the work done together. Karen would like to have this grant work completed this year.

## 2. PECO Grant

Karen stated that we have not heard anything on the awarding of this grant yet. Karen expects to hear something in the next two months.

## E. Programming

### 1. Tree Lighting Ceremony

The Tree Lighting Ceremony was held on Wednesday, November 28, 2018. Karen reported that the event went well. In spite of the cold weather, the event was very well attended. Karen noted that new ideas are being considered for this event next year.

### 2. MLK Day Activities

Karen explained that the activity that was scheduled for Martin Luther King Day this year was planned in partnership with Lisa's Army. The activity included decorating "encouragement banners" for distribution to cancer patients.

Additionally, cat and dog toys were made with the remaining fleece from the MLK Day activity from last year.

Participants in the MLK Day activities were offered a \$5 swimming pass on that day.

### 3. President's Day Activities

Karen noted that both the pool and gym will offer special deals on President's Day.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

No items were discussed.

## 6. MISCELLANEOUS

Councilman Chris Manero reported on the following:

- Steps are being taken to preserve Maple Acres Farm on Narcissa Road. Terms still need to be agreed upon between owner Gary McKeown and Montgomery County. When finalized, Maple Acres Farm must be run as a farm and can not be sold to a developer.

- A conditional use hearing has been held for the large office building at the Plymouth Meeting Mall. It is proposed that the building be converted to independent, assisted, and memory care units for seniors.
- A plan to create residential, high-end, apartments in the former IKEA building adjacent to the Plymouth Meeting Mall has been proposed. This planned use would require zoning changes.
- There has been no update on the status of the closure of a portion of Butler Pike.
- Developers have been in discussions with the Prince of Peace Church (across from the Community Center) to build housing on the site. Zoning would need to be changed (presently zoned A Residential) to accommodate possible planned development.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

A motion for adjournment was made by Barbara Thompson and seconded by Jason Sugalski. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Winterbottom  
Rosemary Winterbottom, Secretary