



Minutes: Parks & Recreation Committee – August 10, 2020

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Parks and Recreation Committee was held on August 10, 2020 at Community Gardens Park and began at 6:35pm with Jaime Frailey presiding.

In attendance were: Committee Members: Jaime Frailey (by phone), Javon Hilaire, Belinda Basnight (by phone). Board of Supervisors: Mike Dwyer, Annette Atkinson. MST Liaison: Christopher Rain. Public: Kristine McHugh, Myles McHugh, Vicky Staples.

Jaime Frailey made a motion to accept the minutes from the July meeting. Javon Hilaire seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Correspondence: None.

Public Comment: Myles McHugh presented his proposed Eagle Scout project to the committee. He will build a balance beam at the fitness area in Echo Lake Park. It will be the fifth project in that area. Mr. McHugh provided the committee with his project proposal and a drawing of the balance beam. The committee recommended that he research the regulation width of a balance beam and requested that he add a central support to prevent sagging. The committee approved the proposal.

Events: 1000 Feet of Street will run through September and October as a clean on your own event, without a single event day. Mike Dwyer and Chris Rain have a meeting with the Pocono Mountain Visitors Bureau on 8/12 to discuss Pick Up the Poconos with them.

Trunk or Treat will be held Saturday 10/24. Stations will be set up throughout Resica Park with space between them to encourage social distancing. There will be no activities this year, but candy and pumpkins will still be provided. Chris Rain proposes to require preregistration and attendees must pick a time, with each slot being capped at 100 people to spread out attendance. Javon Hilaire recommended signuugenius.com as a way to administer the registration. Volunteers will monitor traffic control. Vicky Staples suggested that the event be drive through only to collect candy and pumpkins, to minimize interactions. The committee will also looking into holding simultaneous events at Resica and Echo Lake to further spread out attendance and allow social distancing.

Community Gardens: Vicky Staples reported that the bees are very happy and that gardeners have seen her using the observation hive. She demonstrated to the committee following the meeting. She also recommended that the clover at the park be cut regularly to encourage growth and reblooming to provide food for the bees.

The Township is looking into ways to deter rodents at the gardens. Carolyn Jones reported by email that she delivered several pounds of produce from the Bushkill Outreach plots to the food pantry in July and August. The master gardeners display garden is now designated a monarch waystation and a sign has been installed.

Dog Park: No report.

Echo Lake: Mike Dwyer reported that electricity is installed at the Community Center and that the library may start moving in on August 24.

Judy Putek: No report.

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Resica: No report.

Litter and Beautification: No report.

EMC Regional Parks: No report.

Announcements: None.

The next Parks and Recreation meeting will be held on Monday September 14, 2020 at 6:30pm. The meeting will take place at the pavilion at Echo Lake Park, weather permitting, or in the Community Center if it is available. Javon Hilaire made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20pm. Jaime Frailey seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Christopher Rain
Parks and Recreation Liaison