

Parks and Rec October Minutes, 10/23/2023

Taken by Louise Feder, P&R council liaison

In attendance: Beth, Randy, Diana, Jane (on phone), Louise. Pamm Kerr in attendance as public

- Randy motion to accept the minutes from September, seconded by Jane.
- Reminder about the Laurie McHugh Celebration of Life at Havana in November
- No official report from Christina Szabo, but we have approximately \$1800 for holiday plantings
- Leslie not present because she has Covid – hopefully her first official meeting will be next month
- Joanne and Sally leaving Parks and Rec committee
 - Bricks to be dedicated to each former committee member, Spring installation
 - Costs the committee \$50 each
 - Lenape Park as brick donation
- New Hope Helping is buying and dedicating a brick for Frank and Patty Cosner (\$100 fee)
 - Location TBD, should know more in early November
- Discussion on brick engravers, the typical manufacturer vs. the service in Mechanicsburg the Bucks County Playhouse uses
- Beth introducing idea of subcommittees for next year (see attachment)
 - Also need for official Secretary to take minutes
 - Discussion on whether we need an official Treasurer, or can this be spearheaded by the chair, cross checked by committee members (the later appears more appealing)
- Beth sent draft of budget to Pete Gray for 2024
 - See attached for budget draft
- Discussion on birds sculpture installation at Ferry Landing Park
 - Some concern re possible fall/installation. Has been put to Shade Tree Committee, waiting to hear back.
- Planning for Fall Decorations break down/Winter set up
 - Asking public works whether it's worth it to keep hay bales/scarecrows
 - Possible pest issues
 - But helpful to reuse if possible
 - Girl Scouts may make new, fresh scarecrows next year
 - Week of November 27 for holiday decorations/planters
 - Randy led discussion on which plants to use/reuse for the winter planters, especially at the Visitor Center
 - Concerns on costs for hayracks/lampposts given costs of greenery
 - Possibility of using foraged/found greens
 - Lack of cuttings from Christmas Tree stands because most won't have their trees yet
 - Jane can get some holly
 - Discussion whether to use light up elements we presently have vs bulking up white lights and greenery

- Yes to deer, need to see which lights work on which elements
 - Still have bows
 - Where are the white lights? Beth to ask Matt Decker (was given a supply of white lights last year)
 - Question re which greenery where
 - Lights in emptied water feature?
 - Red Ribbon sculpture from New Hope Arts destined for Lenape Park (corner near Bridge Street entrance)
 - Santa mailbox to go back in Lenape Park
- Discussion on getting Santa into Lenape Park
 - Tree Lighting Sunday the 26th, Parade Sunday the 3rd, Santa w fire department later in the season
 - Need to reach out to Chamber to see if it's possible to get Santa into the park connected to one of those dates
- Takedown for Fall Décor Monday November 27
- Install for Winter Décor Thursday and Friday, November 30 & December 1
- Old Business
 - Natural Habitat Certification Program Update
 - Lots of materials submitted to Diana (brochures, etc)
 - Diana and Pamm have questions but will bring to a future meeting
 - Discussion on getting word out – how to disseminate info/which email to use to collect info? Parks and Rec email possibly, Beth to check
 - Question about whether to bring this to Council, Louise says likely yes. Prepare an introduction on the program, broad overview of goals, discussion on how it would reach out to/involve the Borough community
 - Monarch butterfly as point of focus (vs general “wildlife”)
 - Naturalizing New Hope as potential name, Monarch as logo image
 - Bucks Beautiful Update
 - Pilot program, to get daffodil bulbs
 - Beth offering to pay for it, Louise advises to check in with Pete Gray first
- Public Comment from Pamm Kerr, thank you for sculpture installation so far