

**Middletown Township Parks and Recreation Board  
Minutes from November 12, 2024 (Tue)**

Present: Debbie Marchesani, Kris Belser, Dori Bower, Helene Ratner, Dan Giacomelli, Bill Fuller, Joanne Morelli, Nicole Tener, Paul Kopera  
Absent: Missy Kitzmiller, Patrick Graham  
Guests: No guests

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Debbie Marchesani and there was no public comment. The minutes from the October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved with a motion by Dan Giacomelli and seconded by Debbie Marchesani and approved 5-0 with Kris Belser abstaining.

**Construction and Capital Improvements:** Paul updated on some topics.

Deck at the Barn is progressing and should be completed by the end of November. Work is under \$125,000 budgeted amount. The new deck is solidly designed and built.

Comprehensive Plan – DCNR Grant – went out for bids in August; interviewed consultants on 7/28 with steering committee; project is budgeted at \$110,000; grant covers up to \$55,000. Consultant Simone Collins and the P&R Staff took a tour of the 19 Parks, 4 preserved properties, and other areas on Nov 6. Very good trip. SC will be at Holiday Open House to promote project. Comp Plan should be done at the end of 2025, to meet the grant requirements.

Cameras and locks are being installed now. \$27,000 will be for cameras and locks for the Barn and which should be done by Thanksgiving.

New fire code for the concession stands and the Senior Center kitchen is about \$15,000 project. Work will get done through the new year holiday, and hopefully completed by mid-January.

The first public meeting for the Comprehensive Plan is scheduled for Thu January 23. Listed in the Winter Guide and social outreach.

**Pickleball news:**

Paul discussed the pickleball fee increase to \$58 and \$120 NR. The nonresident fee of \$120 matches the Lower Makefield fee.

Debby asked if there could be a senior discount. Paul said no because the majority of pickleball players are seniors.

**Upcoming Events:**

The Twp Tree planting will be taking place at Ford Avenue on November 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am (Rt 295 close to Hulmeville line); then three trees at Tareyton with the Boy Scout troop on

Sat Nov. 16, and one tree at Forsythia Park.

**The Holiday Open House** is scheduled for Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 8:30 pm and looking for volunteers to help with the event; Helene, Dan, Bill, Debbie, Dori, and Kris volunteered to help that night. The Neshaminy Choir will be there, three inflatables, food trucks, beer and wine, Amazon Fresh is our main first-time sponsor and the event has vendors inside the tent along with both Santa and the Grinch. We are going to be collecting canned goods and personal items for Family Services throughout the week.

Program revenue for 2024 was budgeted for \$538,000 and the P&R Dept had a great year and attained \$590,000. It's been a good year, and it is a tribute to the great programs and staff persistence. The 2025 Winter guide will be going out late December and the following guides going out at the end of April 1 and September 1. Joanne said she is looking at doing a new event – a 'paint and sip at Styer's' this year.

The P&R Board had a lengthy discussion about Forsythia Hockey Rink regarding an MAA shed and them leaving equipment behind. On a related topic at Forsythia, Paul listed the several occurrences of vandalism in 2024 on the portable toilets.

**Reminder:** There will not be a formal P&R Board meeting in December as we have the Holiday Open House on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Everyone enjoy a happy and healthy holiday season and see you in 2025! Next meeting will be held on Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Executive Conference room on the second floor. January is the P&R Board reorganization meeting, and 2025 meeting dates are voted on.

Dan Giacomelli made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dori Bower seconded; the motion was approved 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm.