

Forest City Parks & Rec Advisory Board

Minutes

Monday July 11th, 2022

Call to Order – Kathy Murphy, Chair

Kathy Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and thanked everyone for coming.

Pledge of Allegiance – all in attendance (list attached to official minutes) stood and said the pledge.

Roll Call was taken – Chair/Treasure Kathy Murphy, Co-chair Vallance Miller and acting Secretary, Deanna Flood were all present. Kathy asked Deanna to share her conversation earlier in the day with Marissa McAndrew to the team.

Questions regarding the Sunshine Act – Deanna Flood. Deanna shared with the team that she had spoken to Marissa McAndrew earlier that day in regards to the minutes she had received from The Action Team Committee and the directive they had been given regarding the requirements for their meetings and to follow the Sunshine Act. Marissa had said that although last year when she spoke at our meeting, she had directed us that we did not have to follow these requirements but with the new ordinance for The Action Team, she thought it was in the best interest of Parks & Rec to follow the same practice. That it was possible that the ordinance that was being written for The Action Team, might actually be changed to incorporate all Advisory Boards in place or newly established going forward. Bob Lesjack acknowledged that it was preferred to follow this format. The team was in agreement that consistency should be kept. We do question that when our Bi-Laws were written that they state they

followed “Roberts Rules”. We are questioning the Borough if the ordinance will re-write bi-laws for all Advisory Boards or how do we go about following Bi-laws that state one thing and meeting the request to follow the Sunshine Act. The biggest question being whether or not the Chair can vote.

Project Reports

- 1. Benches** – Six benches purchased by the Borough have arrived. They were put together by Jim, Mark and Nick. Two have been placed in the gazebo. The men are working to devise a plan for the other four benches that will be placed by Maple St, the flag pole, playground area and the bulk head. One of the benches in the gazebo is currently for the use at Center St when that project is done. The Action team ordinance says that they are now responsible for Center Street, which roll call was taken and it was approved by all in attendance. We will alert the Action Team that the bench is available when they are ready and that a flag pole with solar light is also at borough building already and was donated by Deanna & Mike Flood for the Center Street project. There was discussion that Mark Novak had presented a letter to the Borough about having a placard put on one of the benches in memory of his mother and that Sharon had directed him to Parks & Rec, however since the benches came out of the Borough’s General Fund and not the Park & Rec account, this was not a decision that we could make. Bob Lesjack explained that a placard could only be placed if the bench was directly purchased by the family. Mark Novak asked the price of the benches. Again, we did not have the answer because they were purchased by the Borough.
- 2. Vendor Market / Christmas in July** – Kathy Murphy stated that everything was set for both events in regards to the concession

stand. All paperwork had been turned back into the P&R Team by Michelle Miller. Deanna presented Kathy with a list of Vendors for the July Market and who needed to pay still. As for Christmas in July, Valance Miller pointed out that Reptile Pete was going to be there and we need to have more tables set up. Our turnout is always great. We verified the volunteer list for both events and there is coverage, but more help is always appreciated.

3. Tracy Lazier – Not present at meeting

- a. Playground – Tracy had given an update to Kathy that an engineer was being brought in to determine if the current playground was stable. If it is stable the new equipment will go in an alternate area across from the current area. Bob Lesjack, present at the meeting, stated that he was not aware of any Engineer being brought in to determine the stability. It was discussed that in the event that the current playground system is taken down that it will be destroyed. If it is unstable for the community, we cannot in good faith allow anyone else to take that equipment.

This topic brought much unrest from those present stating that at the prior meeting two different play grounds were chosen but that Tracy was to see how much money we could get from the borough. There had not been a vote taken after Tracy received that answer.

- b. Beach Area – another topic of unrest amongst those present. We had voted previously on \$2500 for sand to be purchased and it was being laid out by Steve Mikloiche as donation. The Borough was presented an invoice for \$6K that was written from the P&R account with no vote taken. Kathy had contacted young Steve regarding the amount of sand lost with the recent rain and he explained that we had

put a pipe down through the drain tile and caused the issue ourself but that he would have it resolved by the weekend. He did not make another trip back. Steve Sr. said that the issue was not the drain tile and that it was actually the run off from the pavilion roof. Still no answers. The advisory board questioned Bob Lesjack how this was paid out of our account when we had not voted on this? Bob Lesjack told us it was important to have a representative present at all future meetings and we would be given time to confirm or negate the reports given.

- c. 3 x 3 Tournament – reports from different people that the concession stand window was never opened. A table was set out back and the door was barely cracked open. Tracy was inside the concession bldg. Report to Kathy from Tracy was that she barely sold anything. \$25. Not very busy at all. Kathy questioned if a donation had been made by the 3x3 organizer as promised and what the donation was. No one was aware of any donation.
- d. Bathroom Project – Nick Cost said that a plan had been presented and asked if anyone had seen it. No one on the park board had seen that drawing yet. Kathy questioned what the next steps are. Where do we go from here? What is required by P&R? No one had any answers. Nick did say that he would see that copies of the blueprint would be given to the team.

There was a motion made “To have the current liaison removed and replaced by another member of Borough Council” Motion was seconded and passed.

A second motion was made “to have a written update provided by current liaison with updates on the playground, beach, 3x3 and bathroom projects. It was seconded and passed.

Treasurer’s Report – none given but will be updated for next meeting.

4. Pavilion Charge – Kathy asked the board what we thought about charging to rent the pavilion. Discussion had. Motion made to charge \$50 to rent the pavilion beginning in 2023. Motion seconded. Roll Call taken due to it being financially related. Deanna Flood – Yes, Valance Miller – Yes, Barb Mihelc – Yes, Mark Novak – Yes.
5. Chicken BBQ – all is in order. Potatoes will be picked up on Friday August 5th and washed and prepared at 5pm for Sunday August 7th. Kathy updated the team that Tracy had reached out to Longhorn for rolls and they would donate them. All other food was ordered. There are enough volunteers.

New Business: - Deanna Flood had sent an email to Pleasant Mount Welding to see if they would be interested in donating some knowledge, time and materials for a new bridge over the spill way. Pictures were sent to of the current bridges. Acknowledgement was received from Paul Non. They are interested in helping us with this project. Brett Pelick provided an update stating that the request had been escalated to engineering and we should hear more soon.

Public Comment

Correspondence & Announcements:

1. **“The Friends of Jeannie Malinowski”** have purchased a blue stone bench that will be placed by the water in honor of Jeannie and her memories of Kennedy Park ice skating when she was a child.

2. Light Parade August 6th, 2022 – Parks & Rec is not participating this year due to most volunteers not being available.
3. The winners of last year's wedding raffle were married. A congratulatory post would be put on the web page.
4. Quote received from 1st Alarm Security. \$2400 to install and then \$22 per month. During the discussion it was mentioned that we paid to have new lights installed. We should try leaving those on first and see if they are beneficial.
5. Next Meeting will be Tuesday August 2nd, 2022 at 7:00pm at Kennedy Park.

Adjournment: Motion made to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Addendum: Copy of the contract for playground was received as well as a copy of the blue print for the bathroom as of 7/17/22.