

**Township of Bloomfield
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2021 – 7:03PM

Bloomfield Civic Center, 84 Broad St

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Board Member Cantalupo requested all present to rise and salute the flag

2. ROLL CALL

P - Mr. Cantalupo

P - Mrs. Francisco

P - Ms. Estrela

P - Mr. Felix

AB - Mr. Gamble

AB - Mrs. Hann

P - Mr. Jenkins

P - Mr. Marek

P - Mr. Tall

AB - Councilman Ted Gamble

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 17, 2021

Committee Member Felix made a motion to approve the June minutes, seconded by Committee Member Estrela. All present approved unanimously.

4. COMMUNICATION

A. Hearing of the Public – None

B. Written – Jenkins Family – Thank You

5. REVIEW OF TREASURY BILL LISTS

No one had any comments, questions or concerns.

6. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Parks Report by Director – See Packet

B. Sub-Committee –

a. Facilities - None

b. Awards/Community Engagement

i. Eagle Scout Recognition

ii. Committee Member Award

iii. October 16th Event

c. Arts/Culture

i. Fiesta Latina – 9/25 Felton Field 1pm to 5pm

1. Committee member Estrela stated Fiesta Latina will be held on Saturday September 25 from 1-5pm at Felton Field with live bands, a DJ, food trucks, vendors, art, and fun activities for kids, with a rain date of Sunday, September 26.

d. Policy/Procedures - None

e. Veteran Affairs – Veteran’s Day

7. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

- A. Programming Calendars – See Packet
- B. Fall Program Guide – Registration Wednesday, September 8th - See Packet
- C. September 11th Event – 9/11 – 6:00PM Town Green
 - 1. Director Scurman stated volunteers are needed to help put sand and LED tealight candles in the 2,977 luminary bags all around the Town Green. The event starts at 7pm, the violinist will be there at 6pm, no parking around the green; parking will be available at the Civic Center parking lot, BOE/HS parking lot, and the College parking lot. He also stated there will be police officers and traffic control crossing people as well.
- D. Outdoor Movie and Overnight Campout – 9/17 – 7:45PM Pulaski Park
 - 1. Director Scurman stated they play an outdoor movie, set up 40 campsites this year at Pulaski park, a police officer is there for the duration of the time, there is a campfire with s'mores with the fire department there, and Hot Bagels Abroad donates breakfast for them in the morning.
- E. Commuter Shuttle Bus Survey Results - Reinstatement – 9/20
 - 1. Director Scurman stated they are going to reinstate the commute shuttle on September 20th. There were 186 responses to the online survey, 81 were back to their jobs full time, 98 said they were on modified schedules. He then stated of the modified schedules the vast majority will be going back in 1 to 3 months. He also stated that one of the questions the Mayor wanted to ask is if the residents were interested in Allwood Park and ride, and the responses were not overwhelming but people were interested in it. After speaking with the Administrator, he said to get the program up and running, see what the demand is, and if at that point in time if there is a high demand we can try and implement it later on.
- F. Fall Music Concerts in the Park – Sept 21, 28, Oct 5
 - 1. Director Scurman stated they have Motown set up for September 21st at Brookside Park, David Cedeno at Wrights Field on the 28th, Mahoney Brothers on October 5th at Vassar, and New Power Soul on October 16th at Foley. Due to damages from TS Ida, Director Scurman stated he believes all the parks will be ready to go for the concerts, but the fireworks and concert at Foley may be in jeopardy. He spoke with the Mayor about it and they were toying with the idea of potentially hosing some of the area off to make it at least habitable, but the insurance company does not want anyone to do that, so he then stated they are kind of in a state of flux. He then stated he does not think we will be able to postpone again this year without paying. An alternate way to have them in a different park would be to possibly partner with Brookdale Park or do it on the field at Foley.
- G. Concert and Fireworks – Saturday, October 16th – Foley Field - Fee Vs Donation
 - 1. Director Scurman stated the most difficult part of the entire event is making change at the gate, so they decided to make it free and add donation jars at the gate. They would then use those donations to help out small businesses in Town or put toward their Financial Assistance

Program. The Board is not opposed to the suggestion and the Director will email the Town Administrator, Kim Duva, and the Mayor to let them know there will be no fee at the gate but a donation jar, and the cause would be towards some relief program.

H. Summer of Fun – Fundraising update

1. Director Scurman stated after all expenses they have a little bit over \$36,000 remaining in their Summer of Fun account, about \$9,000 in the overtime account, and \$4,000 remaining in the celebration of public events which he keeps on reserve for the stage rentals.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Summer Camp - See Packet

B. Sports Clinic

1. Director Scurman stated they had about 384 registrants, it was 6 weeks, they did not have any Covid cases. He then stated it was nice utilizing Lion Gate for some of the clinics and is looking into getting some shade structures since there is no shade there.

C. Special Needs Programming - See Packet

1. Director Scurman stated he would like to thank the Board of Ed for their hospitality, willingness to work with them.
2. Director Scurman stated since they had to augment the ROID Grant this year, their request is to run a Team Tebow Project for them. He then stated they are going to run a Spring Formal for their special needs group. They are going to try and have it at Oakside with a caterer, DJ, limos, photo booth, and much more mid to late Spring. They are also going to try and talk to local businesses to try and get discounts for them, from tuxedos shops to

D. Outdoor Movies in the Park

1. Director Scurman stated it went well, there were about 75-100 people at each one. He liked having them at different locations, it was very well received from those who went, and is thinking of doing a laser light show set up on the big screen next year because that has been their most popular event.

E. Bloomfield Little League Request – 50/70 League

1. Director Scurman stated Committee Member Cantalupo and himself have been dealing with Bloomfield Little League and Babe Ruth League about creating a 50/70 team, and after much deliberation Bloomfield Little League will have a 50/70 team. He then stated next year they will get the approval from the little league to have a 13-year-old 50/70 team next year. The league is saying they are concerned that kids are not ready for the jump from 40/60 to 60/90 and 50/70 is good for them.
2. Committee member Cantalupo stated he thinks there are different skill levels of a child and there is definitely a place for the intermediate field level “recreational baseball player”. He is nervous that the child that has aspirations and has the skill to play at a higher level but stays back at that intermediate field just to play with his friends is an issue. With that being said, he thinks they need to find a 50/70 field for those

players. Director Scurman stated DPW is sinking 50/70 bases tomorrow at big Memorial, this week they are cutting the mound out, Ed Abplanalp will come clean up the edges of the field, and the portable mound will be used for that. Steve Pekar and Director Scurman met at the JV field at the Middle school and they are going to try and tackle that in the late Fall/late Winter to try and get that 60/90 and 50/70.

F. Local Recreation Parks Improvement Grant –Vassar Field Turf – Submitted

G. Urban Parks Grant – Clarks Pond South Re-Turf – Due 6/30

H. Green Acres Grant – Vassar & Clarks - Due 7/15

I. End of Year Report

1. Director Scurman stated he promises he will have it done by the end of this year along with the new one.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Montclair YMCA – Potential Partnership

1. Director Scurman stated he met with Councilwoman Davis at the Montclair YMCA, and there were talks about potential partnership with them and vice versa. Then he said Committee member Hann, who worked there part time for just about 20 years, called him and she fully supports it, and the mayor and Council support it.

B. Park Bench Donation Plaque – Review Sample

1. Director Scurman stated he ordered the bench for Pulaski on February 9 and it is still not there with no estimated time on when it will be delivered.

10. CLOSED SESSION

A. Personnel

1. Committee Member Marek made a motion to go into the closed session, seconded by Committee Member Felix. All present approved unanimously

11. ADJOURNMENT