

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

Meeting Minutes – October 21, 2021 – 7:05PM

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

P - Mr. Gamble

P - Mrs. Hann

P - Mr. Jenkins

P - Mr. Marek

AB - Mr. Tall

AB - Councilman Ted Gamble

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 9, 2021

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

4. COMMUNICATION

A. Hearing of the Public - None

B. Written – See Packet

1. Sheppard Family

2. McGowan Family

3. Garden State Fireworks

5. REVIEW OF TREASURY BILL LISTS

Committee Member Cantalupo stated he saw the 2nd part of the fireworks were paid, and then stated they were excellent, but he wanted to know how much the first deposit was in total. Director Scurman stated the fireworks were originally \$23,000, and they had to send the company half of that (\$11,500). He then stated since they did not have the fireworks in 2020, they were able to take the \$11,500 and put \$5,750 towards 2021 firework show, and then there's another \$5,750 that would be put towards a future show in 2022 if their bid were to be successful.

6. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Parks Report by Director – Project updates and Storm Damage – See Packet

B. Sub-Committee

1. Facilities – Park Bench Donation

- i. Director Scurman stated the bench is still not in for Pulaski, and he checks every week. He is happy to report someone is going to sponsor a bench at Lion Gate, which already exists, and Committee member Jenkins picked up the plaque yesterday at Sign Post and will install it tomorrow or Monday.

2. Awards/Community Engagement

i. Eagle Scout Recognition

- Director Scurman stated they had multiple Eagle Scout candidates' complete projects in their parks and talked about recognizing those Eagle Scouts at a meeting, so maybe in the May or June meeting they can recognize them with a small plaque or small individual plaque as a token of their appreciation.

ii. Independence Day 2022

- Committee Member Cantalupo stated they have to make sure the Committee does the voting of the awards a specific way every time every year. He then stated they will set a date after the meeting, figure out when the 3 of them can get together, and make sure everything is done for next year, so they are not in the same position in 2022.

3. Arts/Culture

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

- Committee Member Estrella stated she was very pleased with the outcome and thanked Director Scurman for helping put everything together because it was a lot of work that went into the Fiesta Latina. Director Scurman stated he would like to recognize Maria and Luis for their efforts because the event was very nice, and he was proud to be part of it.

ii. Native American History Month – November

- Director Scurman stated Gabriela is working on it, and they did have plans to try and do something at Oakeside, but it is still in a state of flux, and are hoping to do something live and in person. If they cannot have live and in person, because they are having difficulties with their one contact, they will still try and have Native American artists. He then stated they will paint over the murals on the first floor, the hallways, and room 1 with the pictures hanging and will highlight different artists on a monthly basis. The first one they will do is Native American artwork.

4. Policy/Procedures – None

5. Veteran Affairs – Veteran’s Day Luncheon

1. Director Scurman stated in the past the Bloomfield Joint Memorial Committee has run the Memorial and Veteran’s Day Parade and they are no longer running it, so they took over this year he was thinking of having a small parade, and then have a luncheon at Town Pub after the event.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

- A. Programming Calendars – See Packet
- B. Fall Program – Update – See Packet
- C. Basketball Registration – Update – See Packet
- D. Transportation – Update – See Packet
 1. Shuttle Bus
 2. Dial A Ride
 3. Senior Citizen Bus
- E. Summer of Fun – Fundraising Account Status – See Packet
- F. Winter Holiday Celebrations
 1. Director Scurman stated they are planning on doing a Hanukah/Kwanzaa/Christmas Celebration, and in the past they always did the tree lighting on the first Monday of December but has always coincided with the Mayor & Council meeting. He then stated he and Gabriela were talking and decided to have it on November 29th, on December 11th they will have Santa live at the Civic Center with other fun activities, they are doing a gingerbread house making contest and house decorating contest. Kwanzaa is on the 26th through January 1, so they will light the Kinara at Town Hall towards the end of December. It was decided to have the event on 11/29.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. September 11th Event – 9/11 – 6:00PM Town Green
 1. Director Scurman stated it was very moving and as they were putting those bags together, lighting them it was remarkable to see. Committee Member Felix stated he would like to thank all the volunteers that came out to help
- B. Summer Outdoor Movies
 1. Director Scurman stated the attendance was low anywhere from 65 to 100 people.
- C. Outdoor Movie and Overnight Campout
 1. Director Scurman stated it was awesome, and they did have about 15 minutes of rain while everyone was setting up their tent, but other than that, the event is always something everyone looks forward to.
- D. Fall Concert Series
 1. Director Scurman stated the attendance was low, and they were battling it being a school night, having the concerts at 6pm (instead of 7pm) so it was not pitch dark by the time people got there, the Yankee game, and having to cancel one night because of rain with a makeup at Wright’s, and also

moved the concerts around and not just have them at Brookside. He then stated moving forward for the upcoming year if the pandemic continues to subside, he thinks they need to go back to the concerts being at Brookside Park. He stated he would like to have 2 laser light shows and 3 live bands total starting and ending with a laser light show.

E. Fall Fireworks

1. Director Scurman stated overall the event went very well and the fireworks were fantastic. The band was very entertaining as well.

F. Bloomfield Little League Request – 50/70 League

1. Director Scurman stated they are currently running a 50/70 fall league at Big Memorial. He reached out to the Board of Ed to try and partner with them to work on the JV field at the Middle School. He then stated they will ask the Board of Ed to purchase the clay and he will hire a landscaping contractor, and the little league is going to purchase the portable mound.

G. Montclair YMCA – Potential Partnership

1. Director Scurman stated he met with them and they are going to try and have a summer water safety program and utilize the pool for their summer camp.

H. End of Year Report

1. Director Scurman stated he promises he will have it by the end of this calendar year.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Town wide Clean Up – Spring

1. Director Scurman stated it has been very successful the last 2 years, and would love to see the Committee piggyback and do that with every park

B. Grant updates

1. Collins House

- i. Director Scurman stated they received approval for \$450,000 with a 1:1 match

2. 5310 Grant for Dial A Ride and Sr Bus

- i. Director Scurman stated they received a \$25,000 reimbursement grant from this calendar year.

3. TAP Grant – Morris Canal Tow Path Grant

- i. Director Scurman stated he is happy to report they received back their signed financial agreement and will be meeting with the approved consultant to start the design work to the towpath of Wright's field.

4. Essex County Local Arts Grant – Public Art Mural – Spruce St Footbridge

- i. Director Scurman stated they applied for and had a review of a public art mural on the Spruce Street Bridge.

5. Local Recreation Parks Improvement Grant – Vassar Field Turf

- i. Director Scurman stated he is not sure where that one currently stands.

6. Urban Parks Grant – Clarks Pond South Re-Turf

i. Director Scurman stated they did not get this grant.

7. Green Acres Grant – Vassar & Clarks

i. Director Scurman stated they did get the grant in the amount of \$503,160. The total grant is for \$670,880 with a 25% match

ADDED:

8. Committee Member Jenkins stated he has some new business he would like to discuss like their holiday party approaching, and thinks it will not be a bad idea to have food brought in after the meeting. He feels like at a restaurant you are locked in where one sits and cannot really interact with everyone else.
9. The other thing he mentioned and said this is long term and with Director Scurman's permission to run it by Gabriela which has been one of his visions and dreams for a long time and doesn't know what event they can coordinate it with, but a few years ago it was very common in communities to paint these trails of cows and it has been in his vision to do a parade of Bengals.

10. CLOSED SESSION

A. Personnel

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

11. ADJOURNMENT