

MINUTES
BUTLER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY COMMISSION
JUNE 20, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 pm. There was a quorum present. President of the Park Advisory Board, Dave Zarnick, conducted the meeting by asking if anyone would motion for the approval of the April 18, 2023 meeting minutes.

MINUTES

The April meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion by Virgil Cousins, Second by Lisa Campbell. Motion carried.

REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES

Michele Burd – Michele reported that they are still working on their DCNR grant for new restroom improvements. Michele reported on Marion Township’s pavilion rentals and said that they’ve increased the rate to \$50 this year.

Chris Ziegler – Chris reported of working on a lease agreement for the parking lot under the 356 bridge. Chris also reported that Armstrong Trails will be laying 10 miles of new trail surface material. Chris reported of Armstrong and Butler County working together to tour the Great Alleghany Passage. Chris also reported about working with Butler Township on the Community Center.

Perry Latimer – Perry reported that Pittsburgh Power Softball Tournament has over 200 teams and also reported that planning for 4th of July is underway. Perry reported that many requests for proposals have been coming in from groups trying to find fields for all sorts of new sports (Quidditch, Footgolf, Teqball, and Lacrosse) as well as sport fields.

Commissioner Osche – Leslie Osche, reported as Butler PM Rotarian, saying that they received word from the Pennsylvania Council and Art Grants that their application is being fast-tracked.

Lisa Campbell – Lisa reported as Butler AM Rotarian, saying that the memorial project is done and is completing the sponsorship sign. AM Rotary has a new president as of 7/1 (Jeff Geibel). Lisa reported that AM Rotary is in conversations about creating a life size/portable Bantam Jeep from upcycled materials. They’ll be working with Butler Downtown and the Cultural District. Lisa also reported for Butler County Community College (BC3) stating that Sips in the City at Diamond Park worked out well and they had over 350 tickets sold.

Brian Perry – Brian reported that their splash pad opened 2.5 weeks ago at Adams Township. The weather has made attendance a little slower. Brian reported that they have 4 attendants manning the splash pad during the week. Brian also reported that they are in the middle of their rental season for pavilions. They are also doing baseball and softball clinics. Brian reported on the aquatic center that ATTACC and Adam’s Township are working together, drafting up an agreement to decide if they want to build a 50-meter, D-1 size Olympic competition-style pool.

Denton Zeronas – Denton at Slippery Rock Park Borough reported that they are putting up their 40x80ft flag on a 150ft flag pole and it will be ready by July 1st for the dedication of the Grand Old Flag. Denton reported that their fireworks festival is from 2:00pm-10:00pm. Denton also reported that their 9-hole Disc golf set has been very popular. Denton also reported about the success of their Addams Family Musical that sold out every night at the end of April.

Virgil Cousins – Virgil reported that summer has allowed baseball to be in full swing. Virgil reported that 3-4 nights out of the week the baseball fields are well used. Virgil also reported that they are redoing work on the concession stands.

Jason Mentel – Jason at Zelienople Park reported that they are in full swing for pavilion/shelter rentals. Jason reported that their snack stand has had (2) fires due to electrical issues. Jason also reported that they are upgrading their bleachers and planning for good weather for their 4th of July Firework and bands night out.

Dave Zarnick – Dave reported that the Guys Who Grill event had over 20 men who signed up to cook and was a great turn out. Dave reported that there were over 200 people in attendance and they are already planning for next year. Dave reported that they plan to host 2 movie nights at the pool. (June 21st – Madagascar, and July 16th) and July 22nd is the Christmas in July craft show in Preston Park.

THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

The Director, Lance Welliver notified the board members that Frank Masi had resigned. Lance reported that Parks and Recreation Department has a new intern, Van Stefaniszyn.

OLD BUSINESS

The Director, Lance Welliver, reported of the DCNR grant application for 2023 with Butler and Emily Brittain Elementary School, Harmony, Connoquenessing and Alameda Park's Comp/Master Site plan. Lance reported that Seven Fields and Marion Township is on-hold and the DCNR grant for phase 2 is waiting for approval that should happen next week.

NEW BUSINESS

The Director, Lance Welliver reported that Butler County Parks and Recreation has made improvements at the pool. Lance reported the installation of new lockers, new floors and the reconstruction of the splash pad. Lance reported of a pool crisis where there is a patch in the concrete that has come up. Lance reported that Diamond Park is researching phone charging stations and chargeable bike racks. Lance also reported that the concert/family free entertainment has begun. Lance reported that Bill May is scheduled to talk June 22nd and the park is planning on 450 people in attendance. Lance reported that pool yoga/exercise classes and drum therapy were all added programs this summer and will be starting soon. Lance also reported that there is no camp the week of July 4th but there is a supplemental Mad Science and Soccer Camp scheduled.

President of the Park Advisory Board, Dave Zarnick, reminded the Board that Pete Geis is no longer the Vice Chair and that we have received his resignation letter. Dave motioned for Michele Burd to be the new Vice Chair. Second by Lisa Campbell. All in favor and motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:12pm. Motion by Virgil Cousins. Second by Perry Latimer. All in favor and motion carried.

Respectively Submitted,
Nicole Tropf