

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

September 14, 2023

Borough Hall – Council Meeting Room

### MINUTES

1. The meeting of the **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE** was called to order at 6:06PM by Sue Yenchko, Chair. In attendance were Sue Yenchko, Rebecca Coleman, Judy McAlister, Rebecca Yearick, Jenn Erickson\* and Amanda Seibert\*.
2. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.
3. **Minutes** of the August 10, 2023 meeting were presented. On a Coleman/Yenchko motion, the minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **Old Business** –
  5. **Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan Work Plan (CRPOS)** Mrs. Coleman gave an update on the Plan. The DRAFT Plan was received on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Printed copies will be delivered to Study Committee members who want them. A CRPOS meeting will be set up but needs a one-month advertised public notice, so the date is not firm yet. The Study Committee will review the Plan as received and bring notes, recommendations and concerns to the meeting. It was noted by Ms. Yearick that the Land Partnerships Program (LPP) funds in the 2023 county budget will be carried over to 2024. The county currently has an online survey regarding the LPP program and officials/residents are encouraged to participate in the survey.
  6. **Susquehannock Dig Artifacts: Display Opening** – Mrs. Coleman noted the exhibit was officially opened on September 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7PM during the Borough Council meeting. PHMC's Janet Johnson briefly reviewed the importance of the Susquehannock Village in the history of this place we now call Lemoyne. There will be further advertising efforts made to schools and home-school organizations. There will be signage connections to the photographic mural showing the dig itself in the hallway by the main door. We want to keep energy around having the artifact display so that the general public is aware and can view it while it is on loan.
  7. **Update on Dolbin Sculpture** – Ms. Yenchko reported that the River Spirit sculpture may be bought by a group building a new museum in Wrightsville. Sculptor, Steve Dolbin, reportedly will donate another sculpture for placement in Negley Park if River Spirit is sold. All plans are on hold for now.
  8. **Market the Borough as a Livable Community (Strategic Plan)** There was no update other than the Block Party sponsored by the Methodist Church on Herman Avenue will take place on September 21<sup>st</sup> from 3-7PM.
9. **New Business**
  10. **Bequest to Negley Park from Mrs. Patricia Ritchey** – A \$10,000 bequest was recently received from Mrs. Patricia Negley Ritchey, a former Lemoyne resident. Her father was Paul Negley for whom the park was named. Mr. Negley was a former Borough Council member who worked diligently to promote Lemoyne's parks and arranged for the purchase of Negley Park. The bequest was specified for Improvements to Negley Park and will be deposited in the Heart of Lemoyne Fund (in the 501 ©3 TFEC non-profit organization) Thanks have been expressed to the Negley family.
  11. **Pool Concerns** – There was discussion regarding a deficit in funding for the Lemoyne Pool. \$46,000 will be needed from the ARPA allotment to cover the deficit accrued during the COVID summers. Family passes have sold well. However, during COVID, there were no daily walk-ins, parties and limited group sales. This year (2023) only Harrisburg Academy and Best Friends Daycare were groups using the pool before opening hours. Discussion revolved around reinstituting a walk-in rate for 2024, and perhaps allowing physical therapy businesses to use the pool which could help to balance the pool budget. Mrs. Coleman will discuss this with Todd Miller from the WSRC which staffs the pool.

- 12. Dogs Off-leash in Lemoyne Parks!** – Concerns have been expressed by some residents about the growing frequency of dog-walkers unleashing their dogs in the parks. Lemoyne does not have a dog park where dogs may run free. Park rules are still in place that pets/dogs must be on leashes. The committee reviewed all current signage and noticed that entrance (to parks) signage states “no unauthorized animals” are allowed in the parks. We will explore placement of signage at entrances specifying dogs must be on leashes.
  - 13. Doggy Bags on Hummel Avenue?** – Discussion followed a Hummel Avenue resident noting that several newer residents are not picking up after their dogs when walking them. The question was, “should the borough be placing doggy bag holders in that area”? General feeling is that people need to be responsible for picking up after their pets. Since most dog-walkers do that, a reminder can be posted in the next newsletter and/or on our website.
  - 14. Caboose/Rail Car in Maple Park** - That rail car is owned by the West Shore Historical Society (WSHS) and was placed in the corner of Maple Park 10 years ago with grand plans for the upkeep and restoration/use of the car. Those plans have not come into fruition over the years. After concerns were expressed by a neighbor about possible lead contamination, extensive testing was done by UPMC and the only railing where it was found, was treated with special paint expressly for containing the contaminant. Further discussion will be held with the WSHS about the disposition of the rail car.
- 6. Other Business?** Ms. Yenchko mentioned a CAP-COG presentation about a social media platform for keeping residents informed weekly about events, meetings and deadlines named SAVVY CITIZEN (S.C.) She encouraged Council to look into S.C. during the 2024 budget negotiations since it is a subscription service and has budget implications.
- 7. Next Meeting – November 9, 2023 @ 6 PM (Note that there will be NO OCTOBER meeting!)**
- 8. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned on a Coleman/Yenchko motion at 8:45 PM.

**\*ZOOM attendee**