

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

March 11, 2021 – MINUTES

1. The meeting of the **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE** was called to order via Zoom at 6:03 PM by Sue Yenchko, Chair. In attendance were Rebecca Coleman, Kasha Griva, John Leverentz, Rebecca Yearick, Judy McAlister, Gene Koontz, Todd Miller, Shirley and Rick Stark, Amanda Seibert, Libby Smith, Matt Salkowski, Brad Mills, Marsha Everson, Gaylon Morris, Cindy Foster, Borough Manager and Jenn Erickson.
2. **Public Comment** – John Leverentz brought up 4 issues: 1) A question of whether there would be an entrance into the new Dunkin' from Market St.; 2) More graffiti appearing in Lemoyne; 3) Misalignment of the 10th and Hummel traffic Signal; 4) Fort Couch – park sign posted without any acknowledgement that it's an historic location.

Rick Stark – mentioned the temporary signs that go up periodically around town and that an individual can take them down or call the Borough Office and leave a message for Codes enforcement to remove them (they are illegal).
3. **Minutes** of the January 14, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously following a Coleman/Griva motion.
4. **Old Business** –
 - A. **Aesthetic Overlay** - Third Street Possibilities (Meeting not scheduled due to COVID-19 considerations.)
 - B. **Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan Work Plan (CRPOS)** – Mrs. Coleman and Mrs. Griva reported that the Statement of Work and the RFP are being worked on and should be submitted soon. The RFP will be issued in April-May to a list of consultants; Consultants interested will respond; The Study Committee will interview in the early summer and make recommendation to borough council for approval; Consultant will be appointed (August?); Notice to Proceed will be sought from funding agencies; and Key interviews will begin.
 - C. **Negley Park - a) Survey progress** – Rettew Engineering has been conducting a survey of the boundaries of the park, has accessed records in the courthouse to check conflicting boundary maps, and should soon be finishing the survey.
 - D. **Public Wi-Fi Discussion** – Ms. Yenchko contacted the Manager of Kutztown and explained that they provide many infrastructure services directly (electricity, water, sewer, cable, public wi-fi) which necessitates many staff and a payment of \$200K per year for bandwidth. Discussion ensued with many suggestions for pursuing cell coverage at our parks (as a safety service) and ideas for seeking expertise to look into this further, as well as possibly some private funding to cover the costs.
 - E. **Composting** – Mrs. Foster again advised that after having looked into Lemoyne providing residents with composting availability, we might explore a partnership with Lower Allen next year. This will be tabled until next year.
 - F. **"Cool Factors" about living in Lemoyne** – Mrs. Coleman listed factors that could help with marketing Lemoyne as a great place to live. They are: Location, Quick access to I-83, Small town feeling, Access in minutes to Pennsylvania's capitol complex, Negley Park's cityscape and river views, Great library system, Farmer's Market, Community pool, Green spaces, Public transportation, Views for fireworks, Wonderful mix of people, Rich culture and history (Civil War, Susquehannock Village area), and Walkable/Bikeable.
 - G. **Movie Night** – Mrs. Griva announced that our summer Movie Night will be Saturday, August 22nd at Memorial Park at dusk.
5. **New Business** –
 - A. **Strategic Plan** – Ms. Yenchko pointed out that Borough Council has produced two Strategic Plans – on March 25, 2014 and on March 12, 2016. (see attached) Some of these plans have been implemented and others have not. Interestingly, the 2019 Community Survey included some of these previous "plans" and a summary of what residents would like to see in Lemoyne (see attached). Three overarching issues raised in the survey are: 1) Dealing with Drug and Alcohol Abuse; 2) Litter and Trash; 3) Exercise, Biking and Walking Paths. Borough Council will be updating Strategic Plans in August and the committee can suggest directions for Community Development/Parks and Recreation Committee going forward after reviewing all of this information.
 - B. **Market Street Church Use** – Discussion regarding possible community uses of this church space followed, an inquiry from a United Methodist source after the church ceased its services and activities. Suggestions included co-working space, co-studio space, pop-up library, community gathering space, tech. center with wi-fi available, after/before school location for kids, homework help. Questions arose about rent, heat, and meshing community wants with church ideas about further use. Contact will be made with church authorities.

- C. **2021 Pool Season** – Mr. Miller from the West Shore Recreation Commission reviewed considerations (pro and con) for opening the community pool in 2021. Many items were discussed: Possible financial losses, 75% capacity restriction, prep time needed to open, staffing, raising non-resident rates, walk-ins?, early opening (10 or 11AM), camp and day-care groups, possible time-slots?, reminder that a season pass is a 'discount' not a membership which guarantees admittance before anyone else. Keep in mind that if all COVID restrictions are lifted during the summer, we could open all the way! **Suggestions** made included: No 'after 5pm' rate; Close pool at 7pm; Have groups from 11am-1pm; And 1pm-7pm regular season pass holders with guest; Increase group rates by \$10.
- D. **May Meeting an IDEA Meeting?** – Ms. Yenchko proposed that we invite ideas from the community at the public comment portion of the May meeting since the 2019 community survey added some new things to consider i.e. social media contact. The Spring newsletter will announce this opportunity.
- E. **Rebuilding the South Bridge** – A brief update on the PennDOT proposal to rebuild the South Bridge to 10 lanes across and to toll the bridge brought forth discussion about the possible impact on the borough. Especially if the bridge is tolled, it is likely that traffic through Lemoyne will increase dramatically as commuters try to evade the tolls. Gridlock morning and evening could ensue. And The Lemoyne Passage mural will be underneath a 10 lane bridge where it will no longer be able to be seen!!! We have called that to PennDOT's attention asking them to help with that problem. There is an audio Q and A meeting on March 16th to which everyone is encouraged to attend. Stay tuned.
- F. **Municipal Directory** – Using the Wormleysburg sample of a map surrounded by local businesses, Ms. Foster explained that there was money in our budget to produce a similar Municipal Map with some businesses featured around the sides.
- G. **Lemoyne Merchandise** – It was noted that there were T-shirts with the Lemoyne logo available for purchase about 10 years ago. The shirt was so popular, the amount available sold out in no time. The question was raised about offering logo T-shirts again. There are several places nearby that produce such items and we will seek some avenues to pursue making the shirts available again. Another question was whether we could use images from the mural on T-shirts. That will be checked with Daniel Finch who created those images.
6. **Other Business ?** A Master Watershed (Stormwater) Group would like to do a group tour in Lemoyne of our Raingardens, unnamed tributary and other measures taken to reduce stormwater pollution. They would like to do a small group tour in May. Mrs. Foster and Griva will follow up on this request.
7. **Public Comment** – There was none
8. **Next Meeting - April 8, 2021 @ 6 PM** (still probably ZOOM. Stay tuned.)
9. **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned on a Coleman/Griva motion at 9:30PM.

STRATEGIC PLAN – March 25, 2014

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| PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE | |
| #8 A covered venue to hold larger events | 5 years |
| #7 Upgrades to the parks, such as lights and new play equipment | 5 years |
| #6 Add permanent restrooms to Negley and Memorial Parks | 5 years |
| #1 Create a plan for recreation should the West Shore Rec. Commission close | 1 year |
| #5 Create a dog park | 3 years |
| 3# Have base maps of the parks drawn up | 2 years |
| 2# Create a marketing brochure with information on all the parks | 1 year |
| #9 Work with RR and others to develop a trail network | 5 years |
| #10 Create a new recreation center or hall with new programs | 10 years |
| #11 Work with others to turn the CAT Bridge into a linear park | 10 years |
| #4 Finish building the new pavilion at the pool | 3 years |
| COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE | |
| #1 Create a plan for recruiting volunteers and organizing them | 1 year |
| #4 Create a new "signature event" for the Borough | 3 years |
| #6 Plan for a new downtown growth center with parking | 3 years |
| #5 Work with other municipalities on shared opportunities | 3 years |
| #3 Create a long term plan for the care of the rain gardens and planters | 3 years |
| #2 Create a plan for use of social media to communicate with constituents | 2 years |

BOROUGH OF LEMOYNE

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN - MARCH 12, 2016

COMMUN DEVEL, PARKS & RECREATION

permanent restrooms at Negley

permanent restrooms at Memorial

new playground equipment at Maple

new uniform ID signs for all the parks

plan to improve Frazer Park

alternate plan to West Shore Rec

~~explore options for the Middle School~~

move Borough Hall to center of town

WIFI accessibility in public places

Streetscape plan on Market for 8th to 10th Streets

residential "Welcome" package

support Smoke in the Park as "Signature Event"

support several other community events

including Smoke in Park, Clean Up Day, & Concert in Negley, NNO

plan a community Parade

market the Borough as a livable community

explore opening the CVRR Bridge for recreation

OTHER

engage with Councils in adjoining communities

sharing equipment with other municipalities

LEMOYNE COMMUNITY SURVEY - 2019

Dominant Issues to Better Our Neighborhoods

- 1) Update and Improve Parks; Enforce Codes ; Offer Meeting and Get-together Spaces (and more Community Events); Safety for Pedestrians and Bicyclists; Meet Firemen and Police Officers; Speed Enforcement
- 2) Deal with Drug and Alcohol Abuse; Litter and Trash; Exercise, Biking and Walking Paths
- 3) Streetscape and Commercial Façade Improvements; Trash and Litter Removal; Landscaping and Pedestrian-friendly Improvements
- 4) Share Services with Other Municipalities – Police, Fire, Sewer, Codes
- 5) More Public Art (Murals); Events (Concerts); Adult and Youth Programs; Shared Studio Space
- 6) More types of Recycling Options (Including Electronics); Solar on Public Buildings; Clear Site Lines at Negley Park; Attract Young Professionals; Public Wi-Fi