Huntingdon Borough Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 4, 2021

The Huntingdon Borough Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee meeting was held in the Borough Council Room, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652, virtually by Webex Conference, Huntingdon Borough Facebook page and in-person.

Committee members present were Chairman David Fortson, President Johnathan Hyde and Councilwomen Dee Dee Brown.

Members present were Councilman David Quarry, Councilman James Bair, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Chairman David Fortson called the Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

There were no guest virtually or present for this meeting.

Chairman David Fortson called on the Parks Commission report.

Parks Commission Chairman Robert Jackson updated everyone on the Parks Commission meeting held on March 2, 2021. Items that Robert mentioned were:

* A hike on the trails to be Friday, March 26, 2021 at 5:00 PM
* The commission would like to do a yearly memorial hike in honor of Geary Bunn.
* The commission to clean-up and refurbish the Bocce Ball courts in Portstown Park. Committee is ok with this.
* Schedule a fundraising tournament.
* Volunteers to put new mulch down.
* Hold an event at the Dog Park with Huntingdon County Humane Society.
* Portstown Park will be getting a new roof.
* Woodward Camps of Woodward, PA was contacted to explore holding a joint event on borough trails or skate park.
* April meeting we will make formal plans to start the campaign for donations from local businesses, and civic organizations for equipping Bryant Park.
* Kelly Sitch is still not able to meet in person until around late summer.

Robert Jackson asked Chris Stevens if they had a budget and Chris Stevens said the Borough Committee has a budget and you will need to go thru them.

Robert Jackson said their April 6, 2021 meeting will be held here in the Borough Council room.

Robert Jackson said that when the weather breaks, that our meeting will be held at Portstown Park.

Chairman David Fortson called on the Borough Managers report.

Chris Stevens reported that there are two proposals for minimum wage hikes and said the state wants to start at $9.50 on June 1, 2021 and go up .50 each year after and Governor Wolf’s proposal is to start at $12.50 on July 1, 2021 and go up each year. Chris said if this happens then the Isett Community Swimming Pool will be in the red.

Chris Stevens recommended that for 2021 Memberships that the Individual rate be $75.00; Family rate $200.00; Senior Rate $65.00; a maximum of 2 add-ons to a Family members will be $35.00 per person and the daily rate to be $4.00 per person.

Chris Stevens recommended that the 2021 Pool Rental will be $200.00 per hour with a minimum of 2 hour rental and the Wibit Rental add on be $75.00.

Chris Stevens recommended that the 2021 Pavilion Rental be $100.00, which includes 2 hours of use and 5 daily entrance passes and the Wibit be $125.00 which includes 2 hours of use and 5 daily entrance passes.

**The Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee recommends a motion to raise the rates of the 2021 Membership Applications, 2021 Pavilion Rental Form and 2021 Pool Rental Form to the above rates.**

Chris Stevens said the City League Baseball Field Fence Bid is ready to go out for bid.

Chris Stevens said that maintenance will be shoot grade next week and will be installing the water, electric, tree rings and pavers.

Chairman David Fortson called on old business.

David Quarry gave and update on the talk he had with Jack Troy about the Geary Bunn trails.

David Quarry said that he didn’t want a plaque at the main gate. David said he asked him about the Cemetery Trail and this would not be a problem. David said he wanted something like this area is known as the Geary Bunn Nature Trail. David asked Jack Troy to come in to the Borough Council meeting and give an overview of this. Example made was Oak Trail in memory of Geary Bunn.

**The Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee recommends a motion to allow a sign be placed at one of the trails the Geary Bunn Nature Trail or in memory of Geary Bunn.**

Chairman David Fortson called on new business.

Chairman David Fortson said that spring is coming and he talked about Weaver Park. David said we need to look at the basketball court for paving, swings need repaired and sand needs placed in the volleyball court.

Johnathan Hyde said that we will need to get with Mayor Wessels to check with Weis Store Management to see how much they are going to donate.

Johnathan Hyde said that we have a turkey vulture problem and a resident confronted him about this.

Johnathan said they contacted USDA and they told them to call the borough that there are steps that need taken. Johnathan said that we need to give USDA permission to go in.

David Quarry asked about getting a second pavilion at Portstown Park over on Laney’s side.

Chris Stevens said that we are working on getting permits and GHD is working on several pavilions and maybe a camp site.

Chairman David Fortson called for any other business.

Chairman David Fortson asked if the walkway under the Smithfield bridge will affect the walking trail at Portstown Park.

Chris Stevens said no.

After no further business the Parks, Recreation & Public Property Committee meeting was adjourned at 6:38 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary