



**COUNTY OF DELAWARE
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PARKS AND RECREATION
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Delaware County Park Board Meeting

March 9, 2022

12:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

- Marc Manfre, Director of Parks & Recreation; Stephanie Gaboriault, Nicholas Furman; Kathleen Lopez; John McMullan; Kelly Johnson; Peter Williamson; Nicholas Hoyt
- **County:** Elaine Paul Schaefer, Delaware County Council
- **Guests:** Darren Spielman, Executive Director – Pennsylvania Resources Council
- **Call to Order:** 12:01 pm

Meeting Minutes from January 12, 2022 were approved by the board.

- **Call to Order**..... Stephanie Gaboriault

• **Guest Speaker**

Pennsylvania Resources CouncilExecutive Director Darren Spielman

- PRC was founded in 1939. One of the oldest Environmental Nonprofits in PA and we are statewide organization dedicated to a vision of PA where nothing is wasted.
- We have offices in Pittsburg and Media.
- We think of ourselves as dedicated to issues that are critical to the long-term well-being of people, PA, and the planet. We are centering on the idea of circular economy. The faraway economy creates a string of problems depleting natural resources, damaging biodiversity, human health, contaminates waterways the places we live and play and drives climate change. At the end of the day, operationally we are committed to waste reduction, education, and water.
- We both work to improve the environment on the ground every day and, also, have a broader impact to the spread of our expertise and innovations across the field and briefly this is how we do it.
- Waste reduction – we partner with communities across the state to build infrastructure to divert waste. Whether assuring it is reused, recycled, or safely managed. We divert something more like 2 million pounds of waste per year and through stuff like building and hosting hard recycling events, e-waste events, household hazardous waste events, hosting

what we call ReuseFest (bringing people together with goods and people who need goods and marry those folks, so instead of the goods going to landfills it gets put back into use)

- A few years ago, in Southwestern PA, haulers stopped collecting glass for recycling and so we popped up a recycling initiative, which is now known as Glass Recycling Collaborative of Southwestern PA. Its growing last year we collected glass from around 31,000 residents at almost 1.2 million pounds.
- We also convert dozens of major events every year into zero waste events. We work with vendors, asking what type of stuff they use, at the events where does the food end up, we want it to end up in compost and other stuff in recycling.
- Education – we help people of all ages learn to steward the environment. We have a very long proud history of environmental education. We teach students the importance of watershed what it takes to keep them healthy, energy, smart energy use, waste reduction, and recycling. We work with more than 2,000 adults around recycling, waste reduction, individual watershed protection, composting and even staffing the PA Recycling hotline.
- Water – work we are proud of that focuses on the Delaware River Watershed and Cobbs Creek Watershed. We build green storm water infrastructure in particular ways. The projects right now are estimated to divert about 26,000 pounds of sediment manage about 2.5 million gallons of storm water per year. We have devised a strategy in some of the surrounding counties in suburban areas there's no one central spot that you implement to change the environment. We go and conduct our stream smart audit. We go to individual residents and businesses and we figure out where are the storm water opportunities and the challenges. We design solutions. We help build them by building rain gardens, flow thru planters, and distributing rain barrels. That model has been replicated across the Delaware River Watershed. We are building a website for training and modeling a community rain garden course for people to go out and do it yourselves. We are interested in doing more stream smart audits.
- We advise institutions on how to reduce – and ways to manage – their waste. We are proud of the practices we innovated. They have been adopted and become standard operations of how Pittsburg does in curbside recycling program.
- Over time, we incubate organizations that wind up spinning off PRC and then advancing the mission for a long time. We incubated the Green Building Alliance and Construction Junction.
- Thankful for the partnership with Marc and Delaware County Parks & Recreation.
- We will be breaking ground on the Rain Garden on Earth Day next to the Kent Dog Park.
- We will be doing zero waste help with the Summer Concert Series at Rose Tree Park.
- May 10th is our E-Waste Event
- Our missions are aligned, and we are hoping to grow our relationship with Delaware County Parks and Recreation.
- Any questions, please contact me at 610-353-1555 or email at andrejczak@prc.com
- Currently, we are ramping up strategic planning and would like to get Marc's input

- County updates**
Directors Report..... Marc Manfre

- We are heading into our busy season.
- We have a week’s work of activities planned for Earth Day at various facilities.
- We are preparing for the Rain Garden for Earth Day next to Kent Dog Park starting on April 20th. Planting will start on April 22nd. We are collaborating with PRC, Jamie Anderson’s Storm Water Group, Upper Darby Trail Folks, Darby Trial folks, some residents in the surrounding area, and Kent Dog Park.
- We are planting 15 trees at Smedley Park. We are working with PHS and 4H from the Penn State Extension, Friends of Smedley Park, and volunteers that the 4H Gardeners. That will take place on April 23rd.
- Clean up at Glen Providence Park sponsored by Keep Media Green folks. We will be working in conjunction with the Friends of Glen Providence.
- We are working with Ken Hemphill to have a Clean-up Day at Don Guanella. Save Marple Greenspace Folks will be involved with the clean-up.
- Our routine maintenance schedule is in place. We are starting the mulching and scarifying the infields of our softball facilities.
- Glen Providence Pond Project will start next week.
- The Stream Bank Stabilization Phase 2 starts next week. Maintenance Crew has started the prep work already
- Permitting process has begun thanks to Ed Margaree of Soil Conservation District took care of that piece of information we needed.
- Redwood Coordinator, Derrick Ford, has left us. We are now in the process of vetting out future candidates for that position.
- We are starting the interviewing process for the Deputy Director Position. The committee who will be involved in the interview process will be me, Ann Toole, Francine Locke, and John McMullan
- Rose Tree Park Summer Concert Series will celebrate Juneteenth on June 19th. I met with County Council Chair, Dr. Monica Taylor with her team and will work on the logistics for the event.

- County Council Liaison**Elaine Paul Schaefer

- Sustainability Commission will be sponsoring a Sustainability Fair in connection with Earth Day on April 21st at Subaru Park. It will be all day long (9:00 am – 4:00 pm). It will be completely recyclable, no waste event, everything vegan. We will have speakers and other counties are coming to join. We encourage everyone to come.
- We are supposed to be receiving the proposal for the Master Plan for Don Guanella. If it does come in this week, it will be on next week’s County Council Agenda. Then we will get that process started.

- Old Business**

- Delaware County Mission, Vision, and Values for Parks, Recreation, and Trails:
 - Board voted unanimously to approve draft dated February 22, 2022 by Kathy, Marc, Nick F. and Stephanie, which was previously forwarded to Board
 - It will be posted on the website.

- Memorial Moratorium:
 - The committee working on the Memorial Moratorium has a question on the proposed wording we are putting out to the group. There is one point in which we did not have consensus. There is an existing 8-page Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations where memorials are already addressed. We are adding to that. We would like to integrate the new wording onto the Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulation. Should we include an option to carve out benches, picnic tables and specimen trees? Should we allow these exceptions?
 - The Park Board voted unanimously to approve the *Memorials, Plaques, and Other Installations* draft dated February 9, 2022 by Peter W., Pete A., Marc, and Stephanie – with the optional section that allows for benches, picnic tables, and specimen trees.
 - Stephanie would like to propose to look at the 8-page Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations because she thinks there are other updates that need to be made.
- Park naming policy:
 - Nick Furman informed us the Park naming policy Committee has met and are still working on a draft to present at the next board meeting. Nick F., Nick H., Peter W., Marc
- Bylaws:
 - Draft worked on by John, Marc, Nick H., and Stephanie, with help from County Solicitor Jonathan Lichtenstein
 - Proposing an addition of a vice chair, to be successor to Chair
 - Proposing shortening the term length from 5 to 3 years, with Chair and Vice Chair terms of 1 year
 - Recommending Attendance – not to miss more than 2 meetings per year
 - Park Board voted to approve the proposed bylaws, to be ratified at our next meeting in May
- **New Business:**
 - Guidelines & Nominating Committee: John, Nick H., Marc and Stephanie agreed to work on as a continuation of Bylaws task group, to have Nominating Committee proposal for our May meeting
 - Review County Parks Rules & Policies: task group of Kelly, Marc, and Stephanie agreed to look through current 8-page rules to see what should be updated. Would like to post PDF of updated rules on website.
 - Upcoming: Finance Committee May-July; Board representation on Don Guanella advisory committee
- **Open discussion:**
 - By end of the year, Stephanie would like us to look at Park Board description in County Administrative Code
 - Peter W. discussed Rose Tree Park playground bathrooms

Meeting adjourned: 1:18pm