

Delaware County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 7, 2022
Zoom Meeting

Board present: M. Manfre (Director of Parks and Recreation), S. Gaboriault, K. Lopez, N. Hoyt, K. Johnson, N. Furman, T. McFarland, J. McMullan, P. Williamson

Guests: J. Diehl (Chief of Park Police), E. Schaefer (County Council), K. Wilwol (Conservation District), B. Chapman (Parks & Recreation)

Not Present: C. Chauncey, R. McClintock

Called to Order at 12PM

Minutes from the September Meeting have been approved

Guest Speaker: Chief John Diehl, Delaware County Park Police

- Reviewed Ordinances and Penalties, including tickets, incident reports and types of citations
- Four arrests in the parks this year (2 Auto Theft, 2 Drugs)
- Community and Park visitors have responded positively to the bike patrols, increasing community engagement with the Park Police
 - Currently five Officers on Bike Patrol with hopes to train more in coming year
 - Patrolling Don Guanella, Smedley, Rose Tree, Upland and Kent Park
- Reviewed the rules in regards to E-Bikes
 - Discussion on the types of e-bikes and the impact on park goers
 - Agreed to change current wording in the new updated park rules in regards to pedal assisted e-bikes allowed on trails, with 15 mph limit. S. Gaboriault to amend and send via email for review by the board

County Updates: Marc Manfre, Director of Parks and Recreation

Project Updates

- Upland Park Playground and Field moving forward
 - Turf installation started, playground to be completed prior to field
- Festival Lights installation has commenced
 - Electrician for the huts to come this week
 - More lights are being installed again this year
 - Discussion regarding the type of decorations and installations in respect to religious viewpoints
 - Motion: In regards to religious affiliated decorations for 2022 the park staff will use their discretion on what is installed, but going forward all religious affiliated decorations will not be placed within the park grounds*
 - Approved by the board unanimously 8-0

- Two Riding Mowers have been approved, one will be our first fully electric mower
- K. Wilwol reviewed the Storm Water Basin Project for Smedley
 - Basin has been regraded and the large drain pipe has been replaced
 - Will meet with Master Gardeners to naturalize basin once complete
- Don Guanella public meeting has been moved to Cardinal O'Hara gymnasium on January 14 in the morning

Old Business: Stephanie Gaboriault, Board Chair

Park Visits

- Last month visited Glen Providence. Stephanie talked about both the potential and limitations of what Friends group can do, and how the work with County Parks
- Next Visit: Mineral Hill 12/14

Park Rules and Regulations

- Will update to change E-Bike wording
- Discussed the penalties and fines
 - Motion: The upward limit of the fine will be increased to \$300 allowing the Magistrates to assess the most appropriate fines*
 - Approved by the board unanimously 8-0

Don Guanella Meeting

- Mark, Stephanie and Kathy attended the first meeting
- Approx. 300 people from across the county applied to be on committee, there are about 20 on the committee
- Currently no major reports

Governance Of Board

- Reviewed the draft of Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members
 - Motion: Approve the updated Board Member Description to be sent to County Council, with links to our Mission, Vision, and Values, and to the County Districts map*
 - Approved by the board unanimously 8-0
- For next year, vacancies to be posted in February. New members would start in April.

Friends of Park Alliance

- Reached out to existing Friends of Parks groups to set up Zoom meeting to help link groups and to review and have cohesive policies across the parks. Will meet in January.
- Will discuss at later time board members being "Liaisons" at certain parks across the county

New Business: Stephanie Gaboriault, Board Chair

- Board members to be present at County Council meeting when new Park Rules and Regulations are up for approval
- For any 2023 Ideas or Projects, please forward via email prior to the new year

-Upcoming board member renewals will need to re-submit a letter to County Council

Mission Minute: Kathy Lopez, Vice Chairman

-Individuals expressed their positive views of the Parks, engagement with community and impact of being on the Board

Adjourned at 1:24