

**Township of Bloomfield  
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2021 – 7:00PM**  
***VIA ZOOM***

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mr. Cantalupo requested all present to rise and salute the flag

**2. ROLL CALL**

**P - Mr. Cantalupo**

**P - Mrs. Francisco**

**P - Ms. Estrela**

**P - Mr. Felix**

**P - Mr. Gamble**

**P (7:06) - Mrs. Hann**

**P - Mr. Jenkins**

**P - Mr. Marek**

**P - Mr. Tall**

**P - Councilman Ted Gamble**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** January 21, 2021

Committee Member Marek made a motion to approve the January minutes, seconded by Committee Member Felix. All present approved unanimously, with the abstention of Committee Member Gamble.

**4. COMMUNICATION**

A. Hearing of the Public – NONE

B. Written

1. Director Scurman stated there are no current emails but did receive one he wanted to share with the Committee from Melanie Willet. She wanted to express her thanks to the Department for the Black History month series, she was impressed on many levels and wanted to send her thanks to those responsible for the work and has learned a lot from it.

**5. REVIEW OF TREASURY BILL LISTS**

No Bill List due to 2021 budget roll over

**6. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. Parks Report by Director – See Packet

B. Sub-Committee Review – See Packet

1. Committee Member Estrela stated she has 2 people to add to her sub-committee referred by Councilwoman Mundell.

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

A. 2021 Meeting Schedule – See Packet

B. 2021 Advisory Committee Contact Sheet – See Packet

C. Winter Programming – Programs ending at the end of February

D. Basketball Update

1. In town Basketball

- i. Director Scurman stated the season is going well and is about 2/3 done. There was a quarantine situation of a possible close contact. No other child tested positive, and they were able to adjust the schedule for the other teams.

2. Intramural Basketball

- i. Director Scurman stated it is going very well and the championship game is Saturday.

E. Wrestling – Registration to start on 2/19/2021

1. Director Scurman stated registration begins tomorrow at 9am and will be a no cost registration to gauge interest and they do not want cost to be a factor. He also stated they will be following the NJSIAA guidelines the same way they did for basketball and will start on March 8<sup>th</sup>. He then stated those who registered for free can partake in the program for free for the week as well, if they like and want to continue then there will be a nominal \$25 fee to cover supplies and coaching.

F. March Programming

1. Bird House Challenge

- i. Director Scurman stated they are giving out the kits to each family that registers. There will be a contest, and they will drop off additional bird feed, and have the resident enter the challenge. Director Scurman then state they were toying with the idea of asking the residents to put their birdhouses along either the Morris Canal Greenway, Morris Canal Park, or any of their parks but his only concern is having residents climb a tree to put up their birdhouses. He then stated they will do 75 kits in total.

2. Family Cooking Program

- i. Director Scurman stated they are going to have appetizers, traditional drinks, dinner, and a dessert with this 4-week cooking program. They will also be dropping off all the supplies, ingredients, and recipes needed for the programs to each registered resident.

3. Three – four-week programming “Bring a Friend”

- i. Director Scurman stated

G. Spring Programming – Registration to start on or about Wednesday, March 17

1. Director Scurman stated they will start that week after Spring break April 5<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>.

H. Softball

1. Director Scurman stated they are going to hold off on registration and will do a no cost registration for softball grades 3,4, and 5 for the junior division, and 6, 7, and 8<sup>th</sup> for peppermint. He then stated as of right now they do not know how many suburban/travel teams there will be. If there is no travel league they will intermingle and disperse

those girls into the peppermint league and should make for higher skilled teams.

2. Men's Slow Pitch
  - i. Director Scurman they reached out to 8 teams that previously played for them in the past, 3 of them are confirmed and ready to go, and are looking for a 4<sup>th</sup> team which will allow them to run a modified league.

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **A. Financial Assistance Program – See Packet**

1. Director Scurman stated he is happy to report it was on the agenda at the last Mayor and Council meeting and loved the idea, and that it was fully vetted by the Policy Committee. He then stated it is going to be turned into a Resolution for the 22<sup>nd</sup>'s meeting, and he is not sure if it needs to become an Ordinance or could just be a Resolution, but the Resolution is the first step. The form is up on the website, and the Mayor was able to get them a \$1,500 donation and have about \$3,800 from private donations. He then stated they are toying with the idea of potentially offering a recreation donation shirt and is hoping to try to get one of his vendors or benevolent groups to sponsor the shirts for them so if they charge \$20 a shirt, they can make a decent profit which will go towards the funds as well.

### **B. Municipal Park Bench Donation Program – See Packet**

1. Tree Donations
  - i. Director Scurman stated there was a concern from one of the Council people that that is a very high cost for the common person. He then stated they did ask him to maybe potentially come up with the idea of doing a tree donation program. He stated he met with the Town Arborist about that, and there is nothing they can do right now based on the snow being on the ground. Director Scurman and the Town Arborist are going to work on a full audit, so he will talk to the facility sub-committee about it as well. They would go to each and every park by them meeting once a week and going to two different parks and identify trees that are in danger of dying, dead fall, widow makers, and they will assess them and have their tree department go and take down trees that need to be taken down. With that being said they would know what trees that could be planted in place of or identifying other areas. Director Scurman stated if this program is within their parks then he will take it on because it is more amenities to their parks, if it is not then he will try to turn this over to the tree department.

### **C. Little Library – See Packet**

1. Director Scurman stated they approved in theory the Community Garden group to move forward trying to fund raise and get the little library. Once that comes in, they he will speak to the facilities sub-committee about identifying the best area for that. He then stated

Halcyon Park, last year, they approved them in theory to go out and do that but then COVID hit.

D. Senior Citizen Vaccine Transportation

1. Director Scurman stated they are still waiting on the County for from the meeting that was on January 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>. It has taken longer than they like, and all the municipalities asked for was a way for seniors to register in bulk. He then stated what he had asked for was a form that if a senior citizen called them and they wanted to make an appointment for the vaccine that they would be able to take the permanent information they needed to register for a vaccine and put it on a standardized form. When they get the number of seniors going, they would send that to the County, the County would then register all those seniors from Bloomfield on the Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday that they pre-determined they were going to work. To date, they still have not got the form from the County.

E. Car Show Coloring Contest

1. Director Scurman stated that is something they may be able to do in April or May. The car show is going to start with the BCA in June, and that is something they can work on with the Cultural Affairs Sub-Committee.

F. Bloomfield Quiz Show

1. Director Scurman stated again this is something they are going to keep on the back burner and are committed to doing like a Jeopardy game show. He they stated there is one taking place next Friday with senior citizens that he and Dana are going to be on that zoom meeting to see how it is conducted.

G. Cedar Street – Parcel of land

1. Director Scurman stated they discussed it and then the snow came. It is on the facility sub-committee's radar when the snow goes away.

H. (ADDED by Director Scurman) Director Scurman stated he wanted to recognize the Broad Steps Program, they had some tremendous art work that was submitted. They took over 50 pieces and had a professional photographer come in and digitize all the artwork and will start on April 1<sup>st</sup>. He then stated they are going to put up the artwork on light poles throughout the BCA Business Improvement District and will be able to promote that to be an outdoor gallery. They are going to work with the BCA to highlight some of the businesses along the walking path and might try to do a walking committee with the outdoor gallery so they can not only add education and art, but the physical component as well.

I. End of Year Report

1. Director Scurman stated he is sorry to say he did not have the opportunity to finish it.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Summer of Fun Sponsorship Package – See Packet

B. Summer of Fun Events

1. Director Scurman stated it is hard to gage what they are going to be able to do and not do and thinks at minimum they will be able to have a modified Memorial Day Ceremony, Summer concerts might be doable but based on the amount of people they can have together and protocols that need to happen, Drive in Movies and movies in the park are also things they can do that had success last year. The big problem is going to be the 4<sup>th</sup> of July because they routinely get 4/5,000 people at Foley Field and is not sure an event of that magnitude can take place. He then stated at some point they are going to have to determine as a Committee and work with their Mayor and Council to determine what the best course of action will be.

C. National Fitness Campaign – See Packet

## **10. CLOSED SESSION - NONE**

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Member Felix made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Board Member Hann. All present approved unanimously.