



BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES

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PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING **Thursday, February 9, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.**

Gina Calhoun, Chair
Lynne Fitzgerald
Martha Lottes
Robin Parker
Timothy Pilcher
Sarah Whelan, Co-Chair
Rachel Wise, Secretary

MEETING: February 9, 2023, 7:33 P.M., EST

CALL TO ORDER made by Gina Calhoun, Chair.

ROLL CALL: Gina Calhoun, Chair – Present
Lynne Fitzgerald – Present
Martha Lottes – Present
Robin Parker – Absent
Timothy Pilcher – Present
Sarah Whelan, Co-Chair – Present
Rachel Wise, Secretary – Present

One member of the public was in attendance: Elliot Sadlon.

- **Public Comment**
None.
- **Consideration: Approval of Minutes: Thursday, December 8, 2022**

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2022, meeting was made by Lynne. The motion was seconded by Tim. There were no changes or comments regarding the minutes.
Motion Passed.

- **Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 1**

Gina shared that rain date is set for April 2 and she has drafted a flyer. Board discussed reconsideration of staggered start time to avoid kids jumping in multiple groups. Board agreed on non-staggered start time – 10:45 AM arrival and 11 AM start for all. There was discussion of having areas roped off and staked for age groups. Board expressed interest in using borough-owned materials for stakes and ropes. There was mention of utilizing megaphone or speaker from police car to make announcement as this took place in prior years. Gina relayed that Christine is ordering prestuffed eggs; there will be chocolate bunny prizes

and stuffed animals (avoiding chocolate for the pre-k age group). Gina mentioned the only physical preparation for eggs will be putting tickets in random eggs (not color-coded).

- **Community Garden – May 20th**

Rachel relayed update from Master Gardener Leigh Kieser that she is available. The board discussed preferring an informal discussion rather than formal presentation. Gina mentioned interest in seeking out whether local churches like St. Peters and St. Rose will list it church bulletins to help get the word out, and board discussed that the blurb from event calendar could be used. Board discussed wanting hands-on activities for children to take part in and ideas were mentioned including newspaper pots (to plant seeds), rock painting, leaf rubbing, and flower ID. There was talk about events geared towards children tending to draw more attendees but also want to keep the event inclusive of all ages so that adults are comfortable attending without children too. Rachel asked about what topics the board would want to suggest Master Gardener focus on and topics mentioned were composting, container gardening, and raised bed gardens. Tim raised topic of planting the gardens in the park and board discussed and agreed for this year to have attendees do the hands-on planting during the event. There was discussion of what plants to obtain for the gardens and board expressed interest in the same plants as last year. Tim will compile a list of what vegetables that was and Gina will present to Christine what plants are requested as well as request for one bag of potting soil. There was discussion of planting bulbs – lilies, hyacinths, daffodils, or other flowers by the masks. Martha mentioned she is donating some bulbs to plant as part of an activity. Board also discussed the need for board members to bring supplies to this event – folding tables, spades, buckets, other materials for the activities. Gina said she will draft a flyer.

- **Other Item**

Board discussed Rachel's idea of seeking beneficial, native, perennials and shrubs for the rain garden at Hess Park. Rachel said the questions she has are: 1) whether the Borough has a long-term plan related to this, whether funds are available for this, and what is the process for that project? And 2) if the Borough does not have a plan and funds, what would be the process for a project designed by volunteer effort and donated plants? The board discussed possibilities for the route of this improvement project – including whether it is worth the effort of us exploring this as a committee or whether it should be pursued as a private citizen's interest. There was discussion of the rain garden having been a failed attempt before – and members of the board expressed interest in obtaining information/data the Borough has about this. Tim mentioned an improvement in the rain garden would be of benefit both aesthetically and ecologically.

- **Summer Kick-Off – June 3rd**

Gina shared that the flyer hasn't gone out yet because Borough is waiting to hear back from potential sponsors for the fireworks so that information could be included in the flyer.

She said the if those sponsors don't work out, then more sponsors will need to be sought and that process would need to be formalized. Gina said she plans to send reminder to vendors so this event stays on their radar. Lynne said that Christine anticipates being able to work things out for necessary electric for one local vendor. Gina said Christine is waiting for permit from school district about the fireworks. Gina recapped the vendors signed up for the event including a cider vendor, two beer vendors, one wine/spirits vendor for alcohol; cupcakes, funnel cakes, and Little's for dessert; and a good variety of food trucks. Rachel said she will follow up with Alice and Green Fork, giving deadline of 3/7 to determine whether they can participate. Gina relayed that the band, bike helmets, kids activities, face painting are all confirmed. There was discussion of having temporary tattoos for kids to use while waiting for face painting. Member of the public shared update that Love Food Truck business shut down, so further efforts to contact them will not be made.

- **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Gina. Seconded by Rachel. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30P.M.

Attest: Rachel Wise
Secretary for Parks and Recreation