

Bernards Township Recreation, Parks & Pathways Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes – April 1, 2019 APPROVED MAY 6, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER – Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Anna Scanniello

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Members Present

Michael Conley, Jr	Debbie Nungester
Charles Cunion	Goutham Puppala
Joan Harris	Carol Regner
Debbie King	D.J. Salvante
Jim Milito	Anna Scanniello
Ned Nelson	

Members Absent

Victor Hatala

Non Members Present

Jennifer Gander, Director, Parks & Recreation
Sean O’Grady, Assistant Director, Parks & Recreation
Ruth Cucinell, Recording Secretary

Public Present

Reilli Cambria, 74 Annin Rd, Far Hills, NJ
Heather Cortese, 60 Granville Way, Basking Ridge, NJ
Sameen Zaman, 55 Countryside Drive, Basking Ridge, NJ
Asad Zaman, 55 Countryside Drive, Basking Ridge, NJ

Motion made by Anna Scanniello to add to the agenda, under the topic Discussion, a review of the draft Walk, Bike, Hike Somerset County Network. Seconded by Debbie Nungester. All in favor; Motion approved.

4. MOTION TO APPROVE January 28, 2019 JOINT MEETING MINUTES – Motion made by Jim Milito to approve the January 28, 2019 Joint Meeting Minutes. Debbie King seconded the Motion. All committee members present agreed with the abstention of D.J. Salvante who did not attend that meeting. Motion approved.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

A. None

6. PROJECT TEAMS

A. Cultural Arts Project Team Members – Debbie King, Anna Scanniello, Joan Harris and Jim Milito. – The Cultural Arts Team met last month and selected the winners for the Mayor’s Art Awards. The team will meet again on May 6, at 6:30pm, just before the next scheduled RPP meeting, to select winners of the 2019 Photography Competition.

- B. Playground Replacement Project Team – Jim Milito, Anna Scanniello, Debbie King and Charlie Cunion. Jennifer Gander will send website links to playground equipment companies to review some photos and gather ideas of different playground elements to be considered. The team will narrow down options and hold further discussion with the full RPP committee at a later date.

7. REPORTS

A. Charter Day

- Art Show – Volunteers Needed – Jennifer announced that volunteers are needed for the set-up and breakdown of the Charter Day Art Show. She will email a sign-up sheet. Set up would be between 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM on Thursday, May 16 and Friday May 17th. Breakdown would start at 5:00 PM on Saturday, May 18, and should only take about 15 – 30 minutes.
- Parks & Recreation Booth – Volunteers are needed to man the booth between the hours of 11:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Sign up in one-hour intervals. Volunteers will answer questions regarding the various Recreation Dept programs and memberships.

B. Programming

- Spring Programs – All spring programs begin this week for both adults and youth. The Rebel Hill tennis courts have been striped for pickleball and we are now offering instructional classes for both beginners and a more advanced class for those with some experience. Registration is going well.
- Spring into Summer Week – Held during the school spring break, this week is comprised of some of the programs we offer in the summer, such as tennis, pickleball. The week ends with the annual Fishing Derby at Southard Park on Saturday, April 13.
- Summer Programs – Registration for summer programs is underway. The Oak Street School Camp site is full and has a waitlist. Both Cedar Hill and Mt Prospect Camp sites have limited availability. Trip camp continues to be very popular with 4 of the 5 weeks sold out. Summer concert bands have been selected and will be announced soon. More information regarding Plays in the Park and summer movies will be announced soon as well.
- Summer Employment – Several job openings are still available and listed on the Bernards Township website.
-

C. Cultural Arts

- Annual Photography Competition
 1. Photograph Drop Off at Recreation Dept. by April 30 – Photographs are being collected for the annual Photography Competition until the April 30th deadline. Photos are to capture the Essence of Bernards Township.
 2. Photo Review Meeting – Cultural Arts Project Team – Team will meet prior to the May 1st RPP meeting and will select 1st, 2nd and

3rd place and Honorable Mentions in each age category. All entries will be displayed at Charter Day.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. None

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discussion of the Walk/Bike/Hike Project – Jennifer Gander led discussion reviewing the draft maps from the Walk, Bike, Hike Somerset County: Connecting Vibrant Communities study. The maps illustrate future potential walking, biking and hiking connections along county roads as well as pedestrian, biking and hiking connections to municipal roads and facilities. All committee members were asked for their ideas/comments. Jen will compile the ideas and forward to Tom Timko who will provide committee's feedback to the April 11 county meeting on the subject.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT – Mr. Asad Zaman inquired about the possibility of a tennis wall for tennis players to practice hitting balls against. Jennifer Gander will look into that possibility.

11. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS – Jim Milito inquired about snow plowing of the Mountain Park turf fields. Jennifer Gander explained how all turf snow plowing specifications are followed to safely plow the turf fields when necessary. Jim also remarked about seeing the Dunham Park roller rink used as an area where owner's allow their dogs to run unleashed. Jennifer will notify Animal Control.

12. MOTION TO ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn made by Joan Harris; seconded by Ned Nelson. All in favor. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm

13. GROUP PHOTO – Photo of all committee members present was taken following the meeting. This photo will be posted on the Recreation, Parks & Pathways Advisory Committee page on the Bernards Township website.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Cucinell
Corresponding Secretary