

## **NEW FREEDOM RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**

**May 4, 2023**

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

M. Michels - President  
R. Garvey - Secretary  
S. Boyle - Treasurer  
K. Butcher - Mayor  
E. Rearich - Councilwoman  
Mike Williams

**CALL TO ORDER:** M. Michels at 7:00 PM. The March minutes were approved and the March meeting was concluded.

**APPROVE MINUTES:** M. Michels made a motion that the April minutes be approved as written, S. Boyle seconded, motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Our balance as of April 30, 2023 was \$19,703.82.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Larry O'Brien, Scoutmaster for Troop 24, appeared before our Commission, proposing a community wide camp out in Marge Goodfellow Park. The event would be one night only, Saturday, August 5, 2023. Registration will be required and a parent must accompany a child. The Scouts will run the program. We discussed having various programs running, such as tennis, basketball, and pickleball. We also discussed the need for PortoPots, which hopefully we could keep from the previous weekend's Smoke on the Rail. FirePits were also brought up. They would have to be self contained, on the gravel only, and would require Council approval. The event would be promoted on our website, Savvy Citizen, and Facebook. R. Garvey made a motion to give them no more than \$250.00 for the purchase of snacks, M. Michels seconded, motion carried.

Mike Williams, a Borough resident, spoke of the need for a walking trail connecting New Freedom and Shrewsbury. He inquired about the use of the old Stewartstown Rail line. We agreed it would be a nice improvement, but not feasible at this time. We suggested he contact the Railroad.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT:** Shrewsbury Township has agreed to the three seated positions on both Boards, plus the liaison for each. It is unclear how the hiring process for the new Director will take place..

**FARMER'S MARKET:** No Farmer's Market this season. Tabled until Fall of 2023.

**TENNIS:** The New Freedom Summer Youth Tennis program will begin the first Tuesday after the end of the school year, approximately May 30th. The program will run for six weeks, on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM and 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM, and on Friday evening from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Adult Tennis will start mid to late May and will run every week until it gets too cold to play.

Regarding the cracks in the surface of the tennis courts in Marge Goodfellow Park, the Borough has solicited a contract for the repairs which will have to be voted on by Borough Council. Depending on when, and if, the repairs begin, it may require the Tennis program to temporarily relocate.

**PICKLEBALL:** Pickleball continues to be a successful program. There were 32 participants in April, netting \$430 (\$630 less the Borough fee).

A conversation was again held about the cleaning of the floor in the Community Center. Frequently, after the Center is rented, the floors are not cleaned, resulting in slippery conditions. These conditions have caused falls and injuries. R. Garvey did speak to the Borough Council at their last meeting and we were assured the situation would be remedied. To date we are not aware of any action. It was suggested that the Borough hire a professional company to clean the floors on Sunday's after events.

**PARADE:** The theme for this year's Parade will be to honor First Responder's. We had discussed contacting the Baltimore City Fire Department, who lost four firefighters last year, to see if they have an interest in participating. It was brought to our attention that the York City Fire Department had also lost firefighters and should be included. That was an oversight on our part and every effort will be made to include all area agencies.

**CONCERTS IN THE PARK 2023:** There will be two concerts in the park this year. The Sesquicentennial concert will be on August 19, 2023 and a Karaoke concert on September 23, 2023. All arrangements have been made with the exception of food. We discussed possibly having the Fire Department prepare something like hot dogs and hamburgers.

**PARKS:** No report.

**CHILDREN AND TEENS:** No report.

**ADJOURNMENT:** M. Michels made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM, S. Boyle seconded, motion carried.