



Matt West
Township Manager

TOWNSHIP OF NEW BRITAIN

Bucks County, Pennsylvania
Founded: 1723

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Gregory T. Hood
William B. Jones, III
Helen B. Haun
Cynthia M. Jones
Mary Beth McCabe

MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2021

A Meeting of the New Britain Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held in person on April 20, 2021 and with the Zoom meeting platform beginning at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were James Bender, Kathi Sexton, Nancy Jones, Cynthia Jones, Charles Maeyer, and David Turcich. Also, in attendance was Chelle Clancy, Michael Walsh, and Bill May, New Britain Township Staff.

1. Approval of Minutes of March 16, 2021: Upon motion by Mrs. Nancy Jones, seconded by Mrs. Cynthia Jones, the March 16, 2021 minutes were approved as written.

2. Easter Bunny & Food Drive Summary: Mrs. Clancy presented:

- The New Britain Baptist Food Pantry sent a letter thanking New Britain Township for their generosity. Donations totaling 380 pounds along with the monetary and gift cards totaling \$229.
- The Easter Bunny visit had about 35-40 families come out to visit.
- Remaining unused easter eggs were donated to Windmill Day Camp who thanked the Township for their generosity as well.

Mr. Bender and the Advisory Board liked the idea of including a Food Drive at each Easter Event, though moving forward, to have the location of the Food Drive closer to the main event, perhaps by the Administration Office and North Branch Park parking lot next time.

3. Tri-Municipal 4th of July Parade: Mrs. Clancy reported the Tri-Municipal 4th of July Parade is posted on the New Britain Township Website Newsfeed, Park & Recreation Events Page, the New Britain Township Facebook Event Page, and the Summer Newsletter also has Parade participant form— arriving at resident mailboxes in May.

Mailers went out to Sponsors. Donations started to come through from local businesses. Participant forms are arriving at the office on a steady basis. Scanlin Funeral Home for location of the Parade Voting Station. Fire Company, Fire Police, EMS invitations to participate.

American Flags were ordered and arrived. Mr. Greg Hood generously paid for this year's flags which amount to \$460. The Boy Scouts will be contacted to pick up the flags a few days before the parade.

The New Galena Brass Band is booked for the parade in the amount of \$900 as in previous years. Aqua String Band asked to be considered in this year's parade and provided videos of their past performances for review. Their all-inclusive parade performance amount is \$2,250. The Board showed interest in having the Aqua String Band at the parade, however, asked Mrs. Clancy to review the budget, and due to COVID State and CDC Regulations, allocate the funds that would have normally gone towards food and refreshments towards the Aqua String Band. There will be no gathering after the parade this year. Mr. Bender will also be inquiring with North Wales Water Authority for the water stations at the parade in an effort to cut costs.

Mrs. Nancy Jones inquired if Doylestown was having their Memorial Day Parade. Mr. Walsh will reach out, and if they are not, we could see if they would like to participate.

For COVID Parade Guidelines. The Pennsylvania State and CDC guidelines were reviewed by Mrs. Clancy. A limit of 50% for outdoor gatherings, staying six feet apart for those not in the same household, and for everyone to wear masks. Mrs. Clancy spoke to Bucks County Board of Health contact Donna, assigned to the New Britain Township jurisdiction. Donna asked the Township to follow Pennsylvania State guidelines. She also acknowledges that it is an outdoor parade which moves from the Borough to the Township. She mentioned to await PennDOT's application approval for road closure which Mrs. Clancy has applied for since March 16, however, has not heard back yet.

Upon review with Mr. Bender about the idea of Ashton Bender to be a potential Jr. Parade Marshal, Mr. Bender placed the motion for recommending Ashton in the hands of the Advisory Board who in turn provided a unanimous motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that Ashton Bender be the Jr. Parade Marshal for this year's parade.

Mr. May and Mr. Bender mentioned that instead of the sponsor signage, we can use the Township website and social media pages to thank sponsors moving forward.

Mrs. Cynthia Jones addressed the Board from the perspective of a local governing body on the community's safety. She would like to ensure we limit participants and residents' risk and ensure everyone's safety by being cautious along the staging areas and parade route. The Township is doing their due diligence to prepare a protocol guidelines list reinforced by using visuals at the parade. Mr. Walsh added if there is still a concern as the parade nears, he and Mr. West, will put the concern in front of the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors to make the decision whether to move forward with the parade or not. In addition, there will not be a newspaper announcement about the parade this year to keep the event on a local level. Food, refreshments and gathering after the parade will be eliminated this year. Visual guideline signage will be posted on lead vehicles to help remind the public and participants to follow PA and CDC Guidelines. In addition, we will be in touch with Yardley Borough after their parade in June to follow up on what they have learned. We will also reach out for any protocols they can share. The words "Socially Distant" will also be added to the website and social media event listing.

Mr. Maeyer will not be able to help with staging vehicles at the parade this year. Staging Areas are usually manned by:

- Area 1 will be Bill and Nancy Jones
- Area 2 will be Mr. Bender
- Area 3 will be Ashton Bender
- Area 4 is for the Fire and Emergency Vehicles who usually are able to stage themselves independently

Next steps for April and May are as follows:

- Order car magnets for four (4) COVID Visual Guidelines for lead vehicles, Mary Beth McCabe, Parade Marshal, and Jr. Parade Marshal.
- Mr. John Otte from the Veterans Committee will discuss the Parade Marshal tomorrow.
- Contact car dealerships to reserve convertibles for the day of the parade: Fred Beans, Bergey's, Landsdale Chrysler.

4. Other Business: Mr. Bender requested a letter be signed by Chief Scafidi addressed to surrounding neighborhoods in the Fairwoods and Forest Park area asking for the community's help in helping stop the

vandalism at North Branch Park. Mr. May added that the roof of Field 5 Dugout was removed and is now able to be used again.

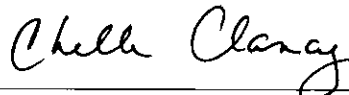
The next P&R Meeting will be on June 15 at 7:00PM due to Primary Election Day being May 18th.

5. Public Comment: There was no public comment at this time.

6. Adjournment: MOTION: A motion was made by Mrs. Cynthia Jones, seconded by Mrs. Kathi Sexton and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


James Bender, Chairman


Chelle Clancy, Secretary