



# New Britain Township

## Park & Recreation Board

### MEETING MINUTES

April 16, 2024

A Meeting of the New Britain Township Park and Recreation Board was held on April 16, 2024, at the Township Administration Building, 207 Park Avenue, New Britain Township, Pa., and with the use of the Zoom Video Conferencing Platform, beginning at 7:04 p.m. In attendance were Jessica Young, Marco Tustanowsky, Nancy Jones, and Brooke Newborn. Also in attendance was Bill May New Britain Township Staff.

- 1. Approval of Minutes from February, 2024:** A motion was made by Marco Tustanowsky seconded by Nancy Jones and carried unanimously the March 19, 2024, minutes were approved as written.
- 2. Recap of Easter Event:** Bill May informed the Board that the event raised eighty-two dollars in monetary donations, and one hundred pounds of non-perishable food donations. All leftover candy filled eggs were donated to Windmill Day camp on Chapman Rd. in New Britain Township. There was an estimated turnout of approximately sixty children. The recommendation of reinstating a rain date for the event was again brought up and agreed upon unanimously, it was decided that the subject of a rain date will be further discussed pending the start of a new event coordinator, and when preparing, and scheduling for the event next year. The confirmed start date and meeting attendance for the Event Coordinator Susan Gelb are not yet clarified. Marco Tustanowsky informed everyone that she has served on the Veterans Committee and is familiar with the events within the Township.
- 3. Fourth of July Event Planning:** Bill May informed the Board that the fourth of July parade was added to the agenda in case the Event Coordinator would have started and the possibility of attending the meeting. No current information or speculation of volunteers running the parade was able to be confirmed, however Jessica Young, Nancy Jones, and Brooke Newborn all stated that they are available to volunteer with the parade this year.

Marco Tustanowsky stated that the fourth of July parade was the only event that is currently scheduled once the new Event Coordinator starts. He also suggested the possibility of a rain date for the Veteran's Committee's Fall Festival event. Jessica Young stated she is a supporter of the rain date, she then asked what the disadvantages for a Fall Festival rain date would be. Marco Tustanowsky said that the booking of the vendors, food trucks and car show participants would be problematic as they may be booked for other dates, reservations for rental activities may have to be paid out for two weeks in advance to hold the reservation.

Bill May had asked the board since the only item currently on the May agenda was the fourth of July if they wished to cancel the May meeting. It was decided to keep the May



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meeting as scheduled for the consideration of the Event Coordinator and parade planning details. Brooke Newborn asked if there would be an announcement when the event coordinator starts, Bill May assured the Board that he would send an email to all when she officially starts, and it would more than likely be posted on the Township website.

- 4. Other Business:** Marco Tustanowsky asked about the status of the Memo concerning the motion from the March meeting regarding the reinstating advisory members and junior member to the parks and recreation Committee. Bill May advised that it was sent and confirmed the receipt of the Memo, he also stated that he unaware when it will be on the Board of Supervisors meeting agenda.

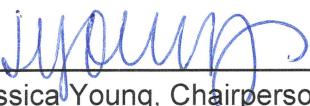
Marco Tustanowsky mentioned the fact that on Easter Sunday there was organized soccer leagues from outside the Township utilizing the field at West Branch Park. Bill May interjected and informed everyone that the problem was remedied. He stated that he had received an official notification of the league using the field from an affiliate with PARush soccer who currently has the proper field use permit for the spring season. Bill may informed the Board that the Chief of Police was notified, and that New Britain Police approached the league members on Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> and explained that they are required to have a field use permit for league play, the organization left without incident. Jessica Young then asked about the proposal from PARush to install synthetic turf and have right of first refusal. Bill May stated that nothing had ever come of it. It was speculation of the Parks and Recreation Board that it would have created too many legality issues and backlash from residents. Jessica then asked about Cotton Park, Bill May stated that it is not currently on the Capital Plan, but there were discussions of starting trails for Cotton Park. North Branch Park Capital Plan projects for 2024 Which include prep and resurface of the 1.3 miles of walking trail and basketball court were then stated.


- 5. Public Comment: None**

- 6. Adjournment:**

- Motion:** A motion was made by Jessica Young and seconded by Brooke Newborn and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Jessica Young, Chairperson

  
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William May, Parks &  
Recreation Coordinator

**Next meeting – May 21, 2024**