

PARKS + PUBLIC SPACES COMMITTEE
 Regular Meeting
 Minutes for July 10, 2023
 Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/95803575323>
 Meeting ID is :958 0357 5323 By phone @ 1-646-558-8656



The regular meeting of the Allentown Parks and Public Spaces Committee was called to order by Chairwoman Jan Meerwarth at 7:00 PM.

Salute to flag

Compliance Statement:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P. L. 1975, Section 5, adequate notice has been given of this meeting by posting a Notice in a public place and by transmitting a notice in two newspapers, The Trenton Times and the Asbury Park Press as required by law.

Roll Call:

	Present	Absent	Absence Excused
Barb Pleva	X		
Jan Meerwarth	X		
Rick Jakober			X
Terry Brown	X		
Vince Tavernite			X
BC Liaison Nikki Darling	X		

Approval of Minutes: March, 2023

Motion Terry Brown

Seconded Barb Pleva

All in favor: yes

Public Comment: Resident Linda Cotte of 37 Pondview and the EDC commented on her concerns about what the Monmouth County Municipal Parks Grant be used for. She is concerned that there's a lack of upkeep of parks and equipment in our parks. Weeding, mowing and general upkeep. She mentioned regrading needed at Heritage as well as putting in park equipment. Also, Lakeview Drive Dr. Farmers Park boat launch at banks of Conines pond for fishing and launching boats are too dangerous to navigate (especially slope has gravel and is very slippery to navigate. Also, trees need to be trimmed to accommodate casting for fishing. A floating dock would be ideal. Concerned that Monmouth Co. grant application money be used for improvements and upkeep of existing parks as a priority.

New Business:

- Discussion of statue for Ashby Park
- Environment commission will be meeting Aug 3rd 6:30 p.m. at Sarah Barns Park to take tour of all parks.
- Touch base with DPW about maintenance schedule for parks mowing and also watering newly planted trees, plants & shrubs

- Make sure strategic plan include things for those of all ages and mobility.

Old Business

- Foraging Forest
- Strategic Plan for Parks and Public Spaces

Updates from Borough Committees & Commissions

1. Nikki Darling - Borough Council Buildings & Grounds Committee & DPW

Nickie gave updates on grant application includes fencing for Allentown Union AME cemetery, dog park at Heritage, play equipment & basketball at Sarah Barnes. We should also add fencing for Sarah Barnes to match new fence at cemetery.

2. Barb Pleva – Recreation Commission

Historic 5K will be on Sept 30th

Rec Commission will be doing Carriage Ride weekend of Dec 3 and want to add an additional weekend. Movie night will continue going forward.

3. Rick Jakober – Environmental Commission

4. Terra Brown – Shade tree Commission

Will be doing a tree check and trim trees along Main St.

5. Vince – Planning Board

6. Jan Meerwarth – Historic Preservation Commission

2023 Project Discussion:

1. Strategic Plan
 - a. See planning simulations to connect parks

Meeting adjourned at 8:15

Next meeting scheduled for August 14, 2023