



TOWN OF MILLVILLE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2023 @ 10:00 a.m.

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Parks & Recreation Chairman Pat Plocek called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with the *Pledge of Allegiance*. **Present:** Commissioner Cathy Scheck, Commissioner Wally Kohl; Town Manager Debbie Botchie; Town Clerk Wendy Mardini; Parks & Rec Administrator Liz Kane-Bolen and Groundskeeper Joe Balasus.

2. **Approval of Park & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes**
 - A. December 7, 2022
Motion by Commissioner Cathy Scheck to accept the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Wally Kohl. Motion carried 3-0.

3. **Citizens Privilege:** None.

4. **New Business:**
 - A. *Review and discuss the park survey draft for residents/property owners in Millville on what they feel the park needs are.*

Town Manager Deborah Botchie advised that she approved of the draft survey, and it is now in the hands of the Parks & Rec Commission. Ms. Botchie advised that she has met with the team that does the Town's drone videos and they will be utilized for the Parks & Rec Commission when they start on the master planning. She added that there will be some costs involved which she will be reporting at the next meeting, along with discussions regarding the new parking lot and giant splash park. Commissioner Scheck asked Ms. Botchie if this was in the budget and Ms. Botchie advised that it is budget time and that it will be a part of the FY24 budget.

Ms. Botchie gave an update on the Dukes House and that some council members did not want it taken down. She went on by saying that the house is full of asbestos and there is no insulation, there are old windows, it has been added on to about 3 or 4 times leading to outrageous propane bills. Ms. Botchie advised that the Town wants to put a pole barn there along with a workshop.

Chairman Plocek noted on the survey that the community garden idea was not included. Ms. Botchie answered that was because there was a lot of back and forth with Millville by the Sea regarding who was going to maintain their garden. Even though we have a groundskeeper now, she felt that if this was a community project, the residents should be involved in the upkeep. Ms. Scheck would still like it in the survey, stating that it would still be good to get some feedback from the residents.

Mr. Plocek commented on the Christmas lights on Rt. 26, pointing out that there were many that were not lit and wanting to know if the company putting them up was responsible for the maintenance. Ms. Botchie acknowledged that they were and that is no one tells us about it, then we can't do anything about it.

Wally Kohn confirmed that a question about the community garden will be added to the survey prepared by Liz Kane-Bolen. Ms. Bolen went on to clarify the survey and reviewed with the commission what they wanted to add or eliminate to the survey.

Mr. Plocek requested that the reference to "Tournaments" be limited to pickleball or tennis and not any field sports since there are no plans at the moment to install any and we don't want to give the impression that we are going to be installing same in the near future. Ms. Scheck suggested requesting an email address at the end of the survey. Mr. Kohl suggested putting a question regarding additional playground equipment.

Mr. Plocek wanted to add a question regarding starting a "Park and Ride" or shuttle service to the beach. Wendy Mardini advised Mr. Plocek that Ms. Botchie has looked into DART and/or a trolley system and it would prove to be quite costly. Mr. Plocek suggested that we speak to Bethany Beach about their system, but Ms. Mardini was not sure if she spoke to Bethany Beach or not at this point. It was agreed by all that Millville should explore options in this regard. A discussion was held regarding how to get the survey out to the residents.

Mr. Kohl also brought up the idea of a child zip-line which was well received by the Commission.

Commissioner Kohl made a motion to proceed with the park survey with suggested changes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scheck. Motion carried 3-0.

5. Announcement of next meeting – March 1, 2023 (tentative)

6. **Adjournment** – Commissioner Kohl made a motion for adjournment at 10:43 a.m. and Commissioner Scheck seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Mardini
Town Clerk