

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – MARCH 9, 2020

Members: Melvin Weiler, Chairman, Tim Barr, Linda Martin, and Vic Richard (Alternate)

Attendees: Melvin Weiler, Tim Barr, Linda Martin, Thomas Reinhold, Vic Richard, Sue Rowe, Chris Moore, Tracy Roseberry, Jim Summers, Kelly Withum, (5) Guests

The Community Services Committee met on February 24, 2020 and discussed the following:

Action Items:

1. The Committee reviewed a request from Jerry Guldin, owner of KneadIt Massage & Bodyworks, LLC, to use the Richard Winter's Memorial Trail for the Running on the Rails 2020 event to be held on Saturday, June 6, 2020 from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Setup will begin at 8:00 am. The layout of the race is exact to past years. There will be EMT's onsite for any medical emergencies. Proceeds will benefit the Ephrata Linear Trail. Staff member, Tracy Roseberry, contacted Maria at the WRRC to make sure there are no conflicts. There were not and it has been placed on their calendar. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve the request as part of the Consent Agenda at their March 9, 2020 meeting, subject to the receipt of a Certificate of Insurance naming the Borough as an additional insured and an Incident Support Plan approved by the Emergency Management Director.
2. The Committee reviewed a request from WellSpan Ephrata Community Hospital to use Grater Memorial Park on Friday, June 5, 2020 for setup and Saturday, June 6, 2020 to host their Annual Healthy Day in the Park event per their letter dated January 15, 2020. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve the request as part of the Consent Agenda at their March 9, 2020 meeting, subject to the approval of an Incident Support Plan by the Emergency Management Director. We are in receipt of a Certificate of Insurance naming the Borough as an additional insured.
3. The Committee reviewed a Contract submitted by Professional Wildlife Control Services for the removal of muskrats from Bethany Park utilizing trap devices. The muskrats are damaging the park and storm water facilities. This process has been successfully done several times in the past. The last time was approximately 6 years ago. It is an ideal time for trapping because growth is down. The cost to the Borough is \$6,700.00. It is an unbudgeted expenditure but will be paid out of funds already in the budget. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve at their March 9, 2020 meeting, the removal of muskrats at Bethany Park contingent on the review and acceptance of the Agreement by the Borough Solicitor.
4. The Committee reviewed the bids received for Bid #20-3 Turf Maintenance Services. The bid is for a 3-year total amount of \$142,000.00. Years 2 and 3 are optional and at the discretion of Borough staff upon satisfactory vendor performance each year. The Committee

will recommend that Borough Council award the bid, at their March meeting, to the low bidder, E.W. Reiff Lawn Care, Ephrata, PA in the amount of \$45,000.00 for year one. This item will appear on the Consent Agenda.

5. Jim Summers, Executive Director of the Ephrata Rec Center, reviewed pool rate increase data, 2019 membership comparison data, day pass comparison data, and presented the 2020 pool pass options. Increases are on a two-year cycle, with 2020 being an increase year. After much discussion, the Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve at their March 9, 2020 meeting, a 5% increase to membership fees and a \$2.00 increase to the adult day pass fee. Pre-school, student, and senior will remain the same at \$4.00, \$10.00, and \$6.00 respectively.

Discussion Items:

1. The Committee reviewed and discussed the 2019 fourth quarter budget report for those areas under the Committee's responsibility. The Committee had no concerns. No further action is required by the Committee.
2. A schedule of planned events to be held at Whistle Stop Plaza was distributed to the Committee as a means to keep them informed regarding the activities planned for the 2020 season.
3. Linda Martin and a couple of volunteers were present to discuss the Dog Park. As a starting point, the Committee was presented with an organizational chart. Since the funds have been approved and are in the budget for this year, there were a lot of questions that the group was hoping to get answered. Press releases? When can they go public? Fundraising? After further discussion, it was discovered that the Dog Park is also on the agenda of the Development Activities Committee. It was originally brought to the Community Services Committee as a concept and for approval of capital project funds. It was approved for the 2020 Budget & Program of Services. It is now on the agenda of the Development Activities Committee as a standing agenda item because it is not an ordained park yet, but is on Borough property. The DA Committee will handle the footprint of the project and the distinction of duties and timelines. It will move back to the Community Services Committee when it's time to discuss the amenities of the Dog Park and naming the park. No further action is required by the Committee at this time.