

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – OCTOBER 12, 2020**

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**Members:** Weiler, Chairperson, Martin, Barr, Richard (Alternate)

**Attendees:** Weiler, Martin, Barr, Rowe, Thompson, Moore, Roseberry, 6 Visitors

The Community Services Committee met on September 28, 2020 and discussed the following:

### **Action Items:**

1. The Committee agreed to move the following from a Discussion Item to an Action Item.  
The Committee discussed a request from Kelly Withum of Mainspring of Ephrata to use the Winters Leadership Memorial Plaza and Warwick Ephrata Rail Trail, to hold a celebration honoring our Veterans. Luminaries will be placed along the trail with the names of Veterans who have served in the Armed Forces from our Community. In addition, it was requested to close Railroad Ave. to have a fire truck there to hang a flag across the trail. (Referred to the Highway Committee) The Event is scheduled for Wednesday, November 11, 2020 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Set up for the Event will begin at 3:00 PM. At the end of the Event, cleanup will take approximately one hour. Mainspring of Ephrata is partnering with Fulton Elementary School, a community Boy Scout group, VFW, and Pioneer Fire Company. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve Mainspring of Ephrata's request at their October 12, 2020 meeting subject to an approved Incident Support Plan from Randy Gockley. The Certificate of Insurance has been submitted. (Move to Consent Agenda)

Kelly Withum also asked for approval for Mainspring of Ephrata to submit requests for all of their events in January of each year. The Committee agreed, with the understanding that if anything would change before the Event, it has to go back to the Committee.

2. The Committee agreed to move the following from a Discussion Item to an Action Item.  
The Committee discussed a request from Jennifer King, and therapy dog, Nova, from United Disabilities Services, Service Dogs, to use 3.1 miles of the Warwick Ephrata Rail Trail on Saturday, October 31, 2020 for a 5K Event. It is not a private event and is open to the public, nor will it prohibit others from using the trail. Registered participants will report to the parking lot near the Fulton Elementary School at 11:30 AM with the race starting 12:00 PM, with scheduled start times of every 15 minutes to ensure social distancing. Racers will also be encouraged to wear a face mask. Those attending the Event do so at their own risk. The route will be marked with signs, placed and removed, by UDS Service Dogs volunteers and/or staff. The UDS Service Dogs Ford Flex will be parked at the congregating point with runner's bags and a donation box for participants that choose to donate an item to the service dogs. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve the request at their October 12, 2020 meeting subject to receipt of a satisfactory Certificate of Insurance naming the Borough as an additional insured.
3. The Committee agreed to move the following from a Discussion Item to an Action Item.  
The Committee reviewed a request from Revs. Marissa and Hans Becklin to place a Little Free Library at the entrance to Sycamore Acres Park, near the sidewalk on Dawn Ave. The project will be funded and installed by the Becklin's. Little Fee Library is a nonprofit organization that inspires the love of reading, builds the community, and sparks creativity by promoting neighborhood book exchanges. The box is made of composite material to hold up

in the weather. The inside of the box is constructed to be weatherproof. The Becklin's will take full responsibility for maintaining the Library, keeping it clean and stocked with books. President Susan Rowe suggested that they contact the Ephrata Public Library. They may already have the boxes built and available. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve the installation of a Little Free Library at their October 12, 2020.

**Discussion Items:**

1. Borough Manager Thompson advised the Committee of the Adopt-A-Trail announcement made by Maria Tivoli-Attah, WRRC/LrCRegional Recreation Coordinator. The Warwick to Ephrata Rail Trail (WERT) has been enjoyed by many in our region. Recently, friends of WERT have volunteered to adopt-a-trail, similar to the Adopt-A-Highway Program where a group of people or organization maintains a portion of a highway. The Adopt-A-Trail Program will provide trail care for a section of the trail. The Borough has been invited to participate. The Program will be coordinated through Maria. The Borough's Solicitor will be asked to prepare a waiver in lieu of a Certificate of Insurance. The Committee had no objections. Maria will be informed that the Borough will participate. No further action is needed.
2. Chris Moore, Director of Budget and Finance, reviewed pool membership numbers and revenue for the 2020 season. Mrs. Moore explained that a number needs to be put in the 2021 proposed budget draft. Borough Council will need to decide their philosophy of operating the pool for the 2021 season as it relates to attendance and revenue: should it become a Member Only or a Members Only and guests?, as well as, do we want to continue selling day passes? These decisions will significantly affect the budget. For example, if we decide on Members Only, there will be a loss of revenue that will need to be made up somewhere perhaps in membership fees. Linda Martin stated that there is a need to have to further discussion before a decision can be made. It was decided that \$270,000.00 will be put in the budget and adjustments will be made after Council meets to review the budget draft.