

**Glen Arbor Township
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
Thursday, May 11, 2023 - 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Township Office Meeting Room**

MEETING MINUTES - Approved July 13, 2023

Call to Order

John McIlvried called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. The following board members were present: Susan Betzig, Bob Merritt, Annabel Moore, and Kim Volk. Pam Laureto, Township Clerk, was also present.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Pledge of Allegiance

All in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Public Comment

No public comments were submitted from the public in advance of the meeting and no members of the public were present at the meeting.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2023 PARB meeting as presented. *Motion carried.*

President's Report

John McIlvried thanked everyone that participated in the Park Cleanup on May 10th and expressed gratitude to Ron Calsbeek and Rick Schanals for their willingness to pitch in to show new PARB members and volunteers what needed to be done as part of the transition the PARB is making. Other transition issues were discussed too, most notably, the fact that the PARB is an advisory board to the Township board and Staff. Since Brian Clark has been hired as the Township's new part-time maintenance person, the PARB will be working with him to review and possibly revise the maintenance tasks that need to be done on a daily, weekly, monthly, and annual basis.

John also updated the rest of the board on the meeting he and Kim Volk had with the new co-presidents of the Glen Arbor Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of the meeting was to explore potential opportunities for collaboration and the new Chamber leadership seemed supportive of future collaborations. He noted that he would like to schedule a meeting with the Glen Lake School superintendent and Friends of Sleeping Bear (Kerry Kelly).

The Pickleball Tournament will be held on the weekend after Labor Day this year, September 9 & 10. Rick Shanals is willing to coordinate this and Bob Merritt volunteered to assist him and function as the board's liaison. There was some discussion about whether this tournament should be for locals exclusively or open to any pickleball players and an idea to allow local players to register for the tournament prior to announcing the tournament more broadly was

discussed. In the end, however, the PARB agreed to leave those decisions to those coordinating the tournament.

Clerk's Report

Pam Laureto reiterated thanks to those who helped clean-up the park - 16 people participated and Susan sent a list of names to Pam so the township can have it on file for insurance purposes. Pam suggested and the PARB agreed to bring a trailer to the park for future clean-ups with notice given to all helpers that the trailer should be loaded so that the bags are put in the hitched end first. Pam also noted the ant problem at the park is being dealt with. Ant hills have been sprayed around the tennis courts but someone will have to come back to address the serious ant problem on the septic field. She also clarified that Glen Arbor Outdoor will pick up trash four days a week (Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday) during the season and trash cans will be installed next week. Linda Turner will clean the bathrooms at both the Township Park and the Glen Arbor Garden. The PARB asked that the park bathrooms be opened daily at 8:00 am instead of 9:00 am and Pam said she would arrange that.

Lastly, Pam noted that a few signs have been removed from the building in the park that houses the restroom and supply closet as Tom Laureto was concerned about how it looked and the possibility of the stain being marred by tape, pins, etc. Pam asked the PARB if she should look for a bulletin board and the PARB agreed with the understanding its use would be for the Township only. Kim Volk also suggested a Lost & Found sign be posted once the new bulletin board is in place so people know who to contact if they left something at the park.

Kim also asked if we were going to pursue developing a Friends group or wait until the new maintenance person has a feel for whether one is needed and/or how it could be used. The PARB decided to revisit this idea next year.

The Township is working with Johnson-Hill on a proposal to apply for the second round of Sparks Grant Funding, provided they are better able to address the State's feedback on the Township's round one application.

John McIlvried asked for an update on potentially installing new lights in the township gym and Pam indicated the township is in the process of collecting bids for the work which will involve replacing the lights with dimmable LED lights.

Treasurer's Report

Annabel Moore informed the PARB that the township used approximately \$500 from the PARB supply budget to purchase tablecloths for the upcoming potluck. The tablecloths can be reused and there are enough for all the Township's tables plus a couple of extras. Members of the Recreation Committee will launder them after the potluck and other township sponsored recreation events.

Operations & Maintenance

Susan Betzig explained that after further exploration with the Township, she is recommending we do not move forward on implementing a pickleball reservation system. The idea was to allow local players (i.e. GA Taxpayers/Residents) the opportunity to reserve a court a few afternoons a week during the summer within a two-hour time period. However the Township is concerned that, while legal, the practice could be challenged by visitors and would require

township staff to manage the reservation system, which they do not have the time to do. The PARB agreed to discontinue additional work on a reservation system.

Susan made a motion to install four QR code signs in the park, one at either entrance, one on the pickleball courts, and one on the restroom building, to encourage visitors to make a donation to help with park maintenance costs. The motion further suggested wording for the signs “*This park is funded by Glen Arbor taxpayers. Guests who would like to contribute may donate by using the QR Code.*” The motion was duly seconded and *carried unanimously*.

Lastly the PARB reviewed and approved the new Operation & Maintenance Plan that Susan and Pam developed and approved it as presented. Pam will be working Brian Clark, the township’s new part-time maintenance person to implement the plan, making any necessary revisions that may be needed.

Community Potluck

Kim Volk reminded the board that the Community Potluck would be held on Thursday, May 25 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm in the Town Hall Gym. Additional information is on the Township’s website with a Signup Genius Link if you’d like to indicate what people are bringing to share. The Township will supply tables/chairs, serving utensils, paper plates/flatware/cups/napkins and ice water. Attendees are welcome to bring the beverage of their choice as well. Notes were sent to various civic groups to see if they’d like to have a table to share information about their respective organizations and so far, the GL Garden Club, the GA Women’s Club, and the Empire Emergency Fund have expressed an interest in participating. The Recreation Committee also hopes to get community input on additional recreation opportunities for the September - May time frame.

Adjournment: A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Volk, Secretary