

**HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
January 24, 2023**

The meeting of the House Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Gene Gabel. Present in addition to Mr. Gabel were committee members Keith Endy, Barry Christman and ex-officio member Frank Deery.

Also in attendance were Council members Charles Heller and Jeff Cascino; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Bruce Hansley, Street Supervisor; Ralph Schoenly and Alex Eidle, Inframark, LLC; Jason Newhard, SSM, Inc., and interested citizens.

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2022 meeting of the committee was made by Mr. Gabel, second by Mr. Endy, and approved.

Mr. Gabel called for public comment; no comment was forthcoming.

Unfinished Business

Community Swimming Pool – YMCA Lease – SSM Pool Inspection Report – Mrs. Loder advised the committee that as requested by the Finance Committee she, Mr. Neubauer and Mayor Carnes met with representatives of the YMCA to discuss their long-range plans for the community swimming pool. The YMCA informed us that they do not intend to enter into another lease agreement for the facility. The current lease expires in February 2025. They discussed with us their annual operational losses and their concern about the age of the pool, which is 60+ years old.

They shared with us a quote from Deep Run Aquatic Services to repair the pool joints; the cost is \$28,900. They also provided us with photographs of two skimmers and two areas of the wall of the pool which require repair. They stated they would have their commercial pool company provide a quote to make those additional repairs. They also advised that they will not consider opening the pool in 2023 without a microgravity study to determine if there are any voids under the pool as a result of the significant water loss in the 2022 and 2023 pool seasons. They are requesting the Borough assume the costs to perform the microgravity study, joint repair and repair of the damaged skimmers and pool wall.

Discussion was held on the subject relating to the terms of the Borough's current lease with the YMCA, which states that the YMCA is responsible for maintenance of the pool. The committee asked Mrs. Loder to request a legal opinion from Solicitor Hartman on the matter. Due to the financial implications of this request, the matter will be referred to the Finance Committee for discussion at the February 1st meeting.

New Business

Boyertown Historical Society Park Use Request – The committee considered a request submitted by Rachael Kehler, President of the Boyertown Historical Society for use of the community park on May 13th between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to host a Frisbee Golf

Tournament Fundraiser. The anticipated participation is 100 – 200 participants, the event will host one food vendor between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They are requesting use of the 18 hole disc golf course, the Rohrbach Pavilion, and bathrooms. In addition, they request the walking trail and Playground for Everyone be closed for public use during the event.

Discussion was held on the request and Mr. Deery requested an explanation for why the walking trail and playground should be closed. Their response was safety related noting their expectation for a large number of participants.

Following discussion, the committee agreed that Mrs. Loder should prepare a Park Use Agreement for consideration by Borough Council.

Public Comment

There being no further business to conduct or public comment the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the House Committee is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, February 21st, 2023 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Manager