

**HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
February 21, 2023**

The meeting of the House Committee was called to order at 7:45 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 Lorraine Carnes, Mayor; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Bruce Hansley, Street Supervisor; Ralph Schoenly and Alex Eidle, Inframark, LLC; and interested citizens.

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2023 meeting of the committee was made by Mr. Gabel, second by Mr. Endy, and approved.

Mr. Gabel called for public comment; no comments were forthcoming.

Unfinished Business

Community Swimming Pool – SSM Pool Inspection Report – Mrs. Loder advised the committee that Rettew is scheduled to perform the void detection survey beginning Monday, February 27th. The YMCA staff will provide Rettew with access to the facility.

New Business

Boyertown Historical Society Park Use Request – Mrs. Loder briefly reviewed with the committee a Park Use Agreement for the Boyertown Historical Society Tractors in the Park event scheduled to be held on September 9th with a rain date of September 10th, 2023. Mrs. Loder noted that the event details remain the same as the previous year. This item will be listed on the agenda of the March 6th meeting of Council.

Boyertown Community Library – Story Walk Project – Mr. Gabel recognized Ms. Sairra Cloen, Boyertown Community Library, who addressed the committee concerning the addition of a permanent Story Walk at the Community Park. Ms. Cloen stated that the library would like to utilize permanent Story Walk displays in place of the temporary displays they have been using. The library would purchase twenty permanent signs from Barking Dog Exhibits Story Walk Solutions, which would be installed along the walking trail at an approximate cost of \$6,000. The library will install the signs using staff and volunteers. A map showing the proposed sign locations was shared with the committee. Discussion was held on the request and it was noted that the Park and Recreation Board recommends Council approve the request. The committee members agreed the permanent Story Walk displays would be a great addition to the park. Mrs. Loder will discuss with the solicitor whether this project should be done through a Park Use Agreement or a temporary lease or both.

Vacancy Planning Commission, Term Expires 2024 and Water Authority, Term Expires 2025 – Mrs. Loder advised the committee of the need to replace the late Marianne Deery on the Planning Commission and the Water Authority. The committee asked Alex Eidle if he would be interested in serving on the Water Authority. Mr. Eidle is a resident of Colebrookdale Township and is a customer of the public water system. Mr. Eidle agreed to serve.

Public Comment

There being no public comment or further business to conduct a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. was made by Mr. Gabel and seconded by Mr. Christman. The next meeting of the House Committee is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 21st, 2023 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Manager