

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
SYKESVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
February 25, 2021**

Present: Eric Valenstein Alex Ries
Chris Sevick Bryan Troast
Nick Sheets

Stacy Link, Council Liaison
Joe Cosentini, Town Manager
Jana Antrobus, Staff Liaison
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk

Absent: Billy Shifflett

Call to Order

Alex Ries, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion was made by Alex Ries and seconded by Chris Sevick to approve the January 28, 2021 Minutes as presented. All voted in favor.

Business

Buddy Bench

During the January meeting Kim Bolte on behalf of Girl Scout Troop 2946 presented a request to place a Buddy Bench at South Branch Park or Millard Cooper Park. The Town is in full support of the project and wanted to provide options on where the bench should go. Staff is recommending the bench be placed in Millard Cooper Park near the new playground. Staff will contact to the Girl Scout Troop to confirm they approve of the location.

April Events

Due to the Covid limitations the Easter Egg Hunt will be modified to a Scavenger Hunt spread out between several Town parks.

- Friday morning event at Cooper Park 10am – Easter Bunny available to hand out a craft-to-go bag, bag of candy, and instructions. Instruction will include clues to parks and email town@sykesville.net for participants to send contact information and the secret word. Two names will be drawn to win a prize.
- The ScavEGGnger Hunt will be begin Friday following the morning event through sundown Saturday.
- Flat wooden Easter Eggs on stakes will be placed in several parks with a single letter that will spell a secret word. The challenge will be to unscrambled the letters to create the word.
- Staff will purchase four gift certificates for two prizes.
 1. Likely Book Store \$15 and Norwood Ice Cream \$25
 2. Likely Book Store \$15 and Firehouse Creamery \$25

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- To do:
 - Pick the parks and the clues to the parks – Staff
 - Create the eggs, paint, and add a letter to each - Bryan Troast
 - Place the eggs and remove - XXXX
 - Put together the craft-to-go and line up volunteers - Eric Valenstein
 - Buy candy and fill bags - Chris Sevick
 - Bunny Costume – Nick Sheets
 - Volunteers for Friday - Alex, Nick, Stacy, Eric and his volunteers

Spring Cleanup April 24, 9am to 12pm

Alex, Bryan, Nick, Chris, Eric (maybe), and Stacy to participate along with three students who have already volunteered. Locations will be posted on SPARC's Facebook Page.

Movie Sponsorship

The Town will cover the costs of the movies this year due to the hardship of businesses this year. But we welcome those businesses who want to sponsor. Total costs for the 2021 movies is \$2070.

Event Flyer

Two drafts of the flyer were reviewed and the following changes were discussed:

- The green flyer was chosen
- Add movie names
- Remove BBQ from the Spring Cleanup Event
- Change the Easter Egg Hunt to a ScavEGGnger Hunt
- Flyers will be printed by Staff

Marketing Events

- Add flyers to the Easter Event bags
- Alex will post events on Carroll County Office of Tourism's website
- Alex will design single pages of each event and Staff will print and add to foam board to be displayed at the Farmers Market
- Post pictures from events on the SPARC Facebook page
- Staff will work with Carroll Community Bank to post events on their sign

Keep America Beautiful is a collaboration of the Down Town Sykesville Connection (DSC) and the Town of Sykesville that includes Public Works and SPARC. Keep America Beautiful is partnering with a local group called Trash Troopers for a Plogging Event (Jogging and picking up trash) called Trotting for Trash and No Butts About It on Saturday March 27 at 1:00 pm. Check in available at Fountain Park on Oklahoma Avenue. Prizes will be given. This is a kid and dog friendly event. More information will be available on the Town website and the DSC Facebook page. SPARC will provide contact information to interested student who want to volunteer.

Committee Request

- The swing set frame at Jones Park needs repainting.

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Town Updates

- The ordinance establishing SPARC as a Town Commission was introduced to the Mayor and Town Council on February 22.
- The Comprehensive Plan Draft will be introduced to the Planning Commission on March 1 and will be available on the Town website.

Adjournment

There being no other business, Alex Ries motioned and Chris Sevick seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 PM. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Jana Antrobus, Staff Liaison