

**OFFICIAL MINUTES**  
**SYKESVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
**October 22, 2020**

Present: Alex Ries                                 Billy Shifflett  
          Nick Sheets                               Bryan Troast

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

Absent: Chris Sevick                           Eric Valenstein

**Call to Order**

Alex Ries, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes**

Motion was made by Alex Ries and seconded by Bryan Troast to approve the September 17, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. All voted in favor.

Motion was made by Alex Ries and seconded by Bryan Troast to approve the September 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented. All voted in favor.

**Business**

Debrief Summer Events

- Movies in the Park
  - Movie attendance was good considering the challenges of Covid.
  - Billy Shifflett and Bryan Troast will test the new movie screen before packing it away for the season.
  - A larger PVC tarp will need to be purchased for the new movie screen to sit under.
- Concert Series
  - Historically the “JoeyDCares” Band has been the biggest act but due to Covid they had to cancel. “Here till Sunday” did well with approximately 50 people in attendance. “Roe” did not have a very good showing.
  - Plans for next year include a discussion on having a small Music Festival. Continue the discussion at the next meeting.
- Marketing
  - Add toppers to the existing movie signs with movie names.
  - New concert signs or recycle the existing signs.
  - Contact Carroll Community Bank to use the digital sign for advertising events.
  - Create event flyers to hang in merchant windows.
  - Print Event Schedule in early Spring for distribution. (Should include how to sign up on the Town Website to receive an Event News Flash.
  - Creating an on-line survey to see what events people are interested in.

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- Publish 2021 Event Schedule in Maryland and Carroll County free publications. Billy Shifflett noted that these publications usually need submittals by November/December. He will check into what publication would publish the SPARC Event Schedule and their deadlines.
- Clean-up Day
  - 35 volunteers divided into 3 groups that went to the Linear Trail, River Road and Oklahoma Avenue. The 3 groups collected a total of 10 bags of litter, 7 bags of recycling and 5 tires.
  - It's important to note this is the first cleanup as "Keep Sykesville Beautiful" organization, an affiliate of "Keep America Beautiful" a nationwide organization. Scoring these cleanups before and after will help to provide data on the successes of these events and will give us the opportunity to be allegeable for grants and funding.
  - One of the main goals for "Keep Sykesville Beautiful" is to encourage community engagement. There are still locations in Town that could use some attention. Council Woman Link encourages the public to do their own cleanup as a coordinated effort to "Keep Sykesville Beautiful". People interested in organizing their own cleanups should reach out to Council Woman Link and she will provide them with the necessary information.
  - Suggestion for future cleanup events when possible is to do a site visit the day(s) before to take pictures and score the location.
- Advertising
  - Poll attendees at each event to see how they heard about the event.

**Town Updates:**

- Joe Cosentini introduced a Draft Park Improvements Plan and asked the Committee to review and provide any additional information.
- Comprehensive Plan – For the month of October a survey is available on the Town website, all are encouraged to take the survey. Also, there will be a 2-day virtual Vision for Downtown Sykesville Event to gather feedback from the public. Please go to the Town Website to RSVP for the event.
- South Branch Park should be open next week.

**Adjournment**

There being no other business, Alex Ries motioned and Bryan Troast second to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jana Antrobus, Staff Liaison