

Following are the unapproved meeting minutes for the FPC meeting held at 4 Nibang Avenue on Monday October 10, 2016 at 10:00 AM.

In attendance from the FPC: Robyn Gengras, Peter Bulkeley, Bob Gay and Frank Keeney.  
Borough residents in attendance: Cindy Patterson, Carol Robertson and Dinny Bush.

1. Open meeting at 10:05 AM.

2. Public forum. Cindy Patterson asked about the tree plan for this winter and was told the subject would be addressed later in the meeting. Dinny Bush asked about the golf course plan and was told that the plan would be presented to the board of burgesses at the November meeting. Additionally she was assured that no action would be taken until the plan has been presented to the residents during summer 2017. Carol Robertson expressed concern that not everyone using water craft are wearing approved PFD...especially those using paddle boards. This led to a greater liability issue discussed later in the meeting.

3. Robyn Gengras reported that there were no issues related to the tennis area and/or programs this summer. Additionally, she said how happy she was with the response our new golf pro received from our children involved with play class. She also addressed some issues that need to be discussed before our summer 2017 program begins...we all agreed that they can all be overcome with a little better pre-season communication. The group also discussed a topic from last week's burgess meeting...that of liability and our play class program. This will be an issue that must be resolved by the board of burgesses.

4. Frank Keeney talked about progress on the golf course...project to reduce flooding on first and ninth fairways is well underway, the long awaited turf farm is under construction in a small area just south of the first tee and the board of burgesses approved a Tom Ryder (through FIF) financed enhancement to the Ryder Course. Additionally, Frank reported that the board of burgesses had approved the rate and fee schedules for 2017. They will remain unchanged from 2016. Finally, the issue of our trees was discussed. Frank disclosed that he and Daryl Aresco had made two loops around the golf course and areas close to the golf course...first with the arborist from Bartlett Tree and second with Jessica and Bob Gay. We learned that a number of our mature trees are dead or dying and in some cases present a safety hazard. Of primary concern is the health of many of our Norwegian Maples that are losing the battle with girdled roots and a canker disease. Daryl is going to put together an action plan that will address the tree situation...those that need to come down and those that we can try to save. Important note is that we believe there will need to be additional funding in the borough budget to cable, prune, remove, treat or replant trees.

5. Peter Bulkeley spoke more about the golf course plan...Larry and Daryl are continuing to fine tune it, and they along with Tim Gerrish will present the plan to the board of burgesses at the November meeting. Peter also discussed the Q1 golf revenue results...July was flat with LY, August was down to LY but that is attributable to the revenue lost during Member-Guest, September was down significantly (20%) against last year. We believe course condition and very aggressive marketing campaigns by our competition impacted our September results. We will continue to keep a close watch on these numbers going forward. We talked about shortening the window for "open" golf...maybe pushing the start time for Fenwick residents on Saturday and Sunday out to 5:00 PM. Robyn was adamantly opposed to this idea and after additional discussion, it was tabled. Next summer we will take a close look at course use after 4:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday. We also agreed to address the ongoing problem of borough residents not showing up for and not calling to cancel confirmed tee times and taking punitive action if necessary.

6. Meeting was adjourned at 11:20AM.