

NEW HOPE PARKS & REC BOARD MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026 @ 7:00PM IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM

Beth Hasher  
Bev Okulicz  
Stephanie Nagy  
Diana Williams

Randy Ragasto  
Lesley Larson  
Hitomi Margadonna  
Pamm Kerr

AGENDA

- ❖ Meeting will be called to order.
- ❖ Roll call/attendance taken
- ❖ No meeting in January due to snow

Finances:

Borough Treasurer Report will be presented and reviewed.

Sub-Committee Reports:

- Bricks – Stephanie – go over new procedure
- Landscaping/planting – Randy, Diana, Hitomi, Beth
- Naturalizing New Hope – Diana and Pamm
- Beautifying Our Borough – Leslie and Bev
- Info & Projects – see below

Projects to Discuss:

➤ *Holiday Decoration Removal:*

I think it's time to get the holiday decorations down/stored. Public Works will take care of reindeer, penguins, PEACE sign. Hoping they saved the boxes that these items came in. Is anyone available next week for a day or 2 to get everything down? That's as long as we don't get more snow Sunday into Monday! I purchased six 27gal totes to store the items. We may need more totes but we'll see.

- **Landscape Contract Advertised:** the ads went out the week of 2/15 in several newspapers. Since we could not come up with a list of shrubs, perennials and annuals that we need for fill in, Pete worded the contract to state that we will ascertain what is needed, purchase the materials, have them delivered, but the winning landscape contractor will install. The cost of materials and their labor will of course come out of our budget. This will happen in the Spring and Fall. We obviously need to give the contractor plenty of notice on the planting dates.
- **Watering Contract:** watering for the 2026 season will be done by Public Works. Pete and Matt are working together so that watering can be done daily, Monday thru Friday. We have seen how hot and dry it has been the last few summers and the Borough realizes we need watering done on a daily basis. I'm sure whomever they assign to water (possibly a dedicated part-timer?) would be willing to get a tutorial on the proper method.
- **Green Initiative Meeting:** I attended the first meeting on Monday, 2/16. It was a good kickoff lead by Ken Maisel. We spoke briefly about the different areas and since this project is huge in scope, it will need to be broken down by priority. Budget will play another big role and Ken feels that grants can be obtained to match what the Borough will spend. At the next meeting the group will come back with ideas and suggestions. Ken stressed that even though there is a formal plan drawn up for the Borough Complex area, nothing is set in stone. After coming to a consensus on any given area, that plan will be presented to the public before proceeding.
- **Randolph Street** will need additional low shrubs and ground cover this year as well as more stone. Unfortunately, the stone I had put down in late Fall was not enough. The stone is very inexpensive and Pub Works picks it up/dumps and installs it. This will be part of the list we come up with for Spring planting. I would also love to see low voltage 'porch lights' or 'string lights' put up on the wooden fence to enhance the look in the evening. Hopefully the new owner of The Landing property will be willing to let us plug it into the outlet about 10' away.
- **Ferry Landing** needs more shrubs on each side – especially Martine's side. Round garden area needs to be renovated and filled. I would like to revisit the idea of asking the borough if student artists from NHS could paint a (tasteful) mural on the ugly steel plates. This will most likely

need to be approved by BCWS and once I have Council's blessing to move forward, will make an appointment to see someone high ranking and obtain their permission. I think if we stress that the plates will NOT be painted shut, would think there should be no problem. May need Council's help on this in terms of getting through to the right individual and get a quick response.

- Lenape Park needs new shrubs, perennials, annuals, ground cover. Again, this will be part of the list we come up with for the new contractor to install. For the umpteenth time, will speak to them about the lighting that was installed and being underutilized by way of the lights being turned down so low you can barely see them.
- The Berm: this will now fall under the Green Initiative, however, I already mentioned at the first Green Initiative meeting that we are prepared to tackle this eyesore. Will revisit & push that at subsequent meetings.
- Last but not least, I will not be here for our March meeting. I need someone to run the meeting and go through the agenda.

#### Old Business:

New sculpture for in Lenape Park: *Trinity Series #7 by Kevin Forest*

Kevin would like to install it in Lenape Park as part of New Hope Arts' Public Arts Program. Kevin helped John Mathews install *Loo Ba Dah*, and he is very sensitive to nature (as owner of Buckingham Winery), so I trust him about his placement idea. You can learn more about Kevin at <https://bucksco.michenerartmuseum.org/artists/kevin-forest/>.

Where do we stand on this item?

Hopefully in March Public Works will be able to cement the finials onto the posts in Randolph Street Park. I had a discussion with him about that. We don't want them walking away.

#### New Business:

New business topics/ideas are always welcome to be presented.

Next Meeting: March 23, 2026

