

OFFICIAL**BOROUGH OF FOREST HILLS
ORDINANCE NO. 1121**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FOREST HILLS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 1, PART 6, OF THE FOREST HILLS BOROUGH CODE OF ORDINANCES, ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT, AS AMENDED, TO REPEAL AND RESTATE SECTION 1-611, RECREATION BOARD, IN ITS ENTIRETY TO REESTABLISH THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH, ITS POWERS, AND DUTIES.

WHEREAS, Section 2708 of the Pennsylvania Borough Code, 8 Pa.C.S. §§ 101 *et seq.* authorizes the Borough of Forest Hills (the "Borough") to establish a Parks and Recreation Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, the Borough on March 9, 1966, by Ordinance Number 472, codified as Section 1-611 of the Borough of Forest Hills Code of Ordinances, as amended, did establish a Recreation Board for the Borough; and

WHEREAS, Borough Council, in consultation with the Borough Solicitor has reviewed the provisions Section 1-611 regarding the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council (formerly Recreation Board), and has determined it is in the best interest of the Borough to revise the same in accordance with the Pennsylvania Borough Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the Borough of Forest Hills hereby ordains and enacts as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1-611, Chapter 1 of the Forest Hills Borough Code of Ordinances, Administration and Government, is repealed in its entirety and restated as follows:

§ 1-611 Parks and Recreation Advisory Council.

1. A Parks and Recreation Advisory Council, to be known as the "Forest Hills Parks and Recreation Advisory Council," ("PRAC") is hereby established. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Council shall possess all the powers and be subject to all the responsibilities and duties provided by this ordinance.
2. The PRAC, in coordination with the Recreation Director, shall advise Council on policies, programs, maintenance and use of all parks, playgrounds and swimming facilities not inconsistent with the provisions of the Borough's Code of Ordinances, in order to meet the recreational needs of all age groups, plan for both long-range and immediate improvements to Borough parks and recreational facilities, and develop parks and recreation programs.
3. The chairperson of the PRAC shall serve as liaison to Borough Council.
4. The PRAC shall work with other Borough committees and groups and its members shall be aware of and respect the powers and duties granted to other boards and committees established by Borough Council to avoid duplication of effort.
5. The PRAC's advice and recommendations will be taken into consideration by Borough Council prior to motions or actions taken involving matters under the scope of the PRAC's responsibilities when such advice and or recommendation are available to Borough Council.
6. The PRAC shall be notified prior to committee discussions and/or council votes that require their input such that the PRAC has at least one month to consider and advise on any action. However, Borough Council, in its sole discretion, may proceed with discussion or a vote on any such matter prior to PRAC's input if doing so is in the best interests of the

Borough.

7. PRAC Members are encouraged to attend Borough Council meetings and shall receive via email the agendas of Borough Council committee and Borough Council meetings that require their input.
8. The PRAC shall be composed of not less than five (5) nor more than seven (7) persons, all of whom shall be residents of the Borough. Council shall give preference to those with relevant knowledge and expertise in parks and recreation. Appointments of the members of the PRAC shall be made by motion of the Borough Council for a term of three (3) years.
9. The PRAC shall meet at least monthly, at its discretion, and shall keep minutes of its meetings and records of its activities and shall make a written report annually to the Borough Council by March 1st of each year.
10. The PRAC shall elect its officers annually from among its members. A chairperson and secretary shall be elected.
11. The PRAC shall follow its bylaws and reasonable rules and regulations for administration of its business. PRAC's bylaws, rules, and regulations shall be established by Borough Council.
12. Borough Council may appoint no more than three residents of the Borough to serve as alternate members of the PRAC. Appointments of alternate members of the PRAC shall be made by motion of Borough Council for a term of three (3) years.
13. If, by reason of absence or disqualification of a member, or members, a quorum or a full complement of members is not reached, the Chairperson of the PRAC shall designate as many alternate members to sit on the PRAC as may be needed to provide a quorum or a full complement of members. Any alternate member shall continue to serve on the PRAC only so long as deemed necessary by the Chairperson. When seated pursuant to the provisions of this section, an alternate shall be entitled to participate in all proceedings and discussions of the PRAC to the same and full extent as provided by law for PRAC members, including specifically the right to cast a vote as a voting member and shall have all the powers and duties set forth in this section and as otherwise provided by law. Any alternate may participate in any proceeding or discussion of the PRAC but shall not be entitled to vote as a member unless designated as a voting alternate member by the Chairperson pursuant to this section.
14. Any member of the PRAC once qualified and appointed may be removed from office for malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance in office or for other just cause by a majority vote of the Borough Council taken after the member has received 15 days' advance notice of the intent to take such a vote. A hearing shall be held in connection with the vote if the member requests it in writing. Any appointment to fill a vacancy created by removal shall be only for the unexpired term.
15. Vacancies during a term shall be filled by an alternate member selected by the Chairperson upon approval made by motion of Borough Council. If an alternate member is not willing to fill a vacancy, Borough Council shall appoint a resident of the Borough to fill the vacancy in accordance with § 1-611.8 herein.

SECTION 2. All prior ordinances are hereby repealed in whole or in part to the extent inconsistent herewith.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall take effect in accordance with applicable law.

ORDAINED and **ENACTED** this 19th day of June, 2024, by the Council of the Borough of Forest Hills in lawful session duly assembled.


SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF FOREST HILLS



Seth Abrams
Borough Manager
(SEAL)

By: 
Barbara Martin
President, Borough Council

EXAMINED and APPROVED this 14th day of August, 2024.



Frank Porco
Mayor