

**WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
September 17, 2018**

Doug Arone opened the Recreation Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation Office at 195 Woodland Avenue with the reading of the Open Public Meetings Act. “This Regular meeting of the Wyckoff Department of Parks and Recreation Board is now in session. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting has been posted on the bulletin board in the Memorial Town Hall and the Recreation Office; a copy has been filed with the Township Clerk, *The Ridgewood News*, *The Record*, and *The North Jersey Herald and News*, all papers with general circulation throughout the Township of Wyckoff.” At least 48 hours prior to this meeting the agenda was similarly posted, filed and mailed to said newspapers.

Members Present: Doug Arone, Chris Beane, Moe Ismael, Heather Alnor, Tom Valente, Rich Sica, Hayley Rooney, Ann Smith

Members Absent: Mike Ferrara, Sue Buchanan, Jeff Eischen

Staff Present: Andy Wingfield, Recreation Director

Guest Present: None

The minutes of the August 13, 2018 meeting were discussed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Tom Valente and seconded by Moe Ismael. The motion was carried.

Recreation Director’s Report:

Girls Volleyball Program Director Recommendation:

The Director recommended James Parks as the 2018 Fall Girls Volleyball Program Director to the Board. The Director advised that Mr. Parks has run the program since its inception and has also run our summer volleyball clinics for the past several years. Mr. Parks has received numerous complimentary emails over the past several years and has a passion for teaching the sport of volleyball. After a motion to approve Mr. Parks was made by Rich Sica, and was seconded by Heather Alnor, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Parks as the Program Director.

Travel Baseball and Softball Tryouts:

The Director advised that the 2019 Travel Baseball and Softball Tryouts will take place in early October. Once again, the tryouts will be conducted by an independent evaluation group from outside the area to eliminate the perception of bias among the parents who felt that our own coaches who ran the tryouts years ago would select the teams based on who they knew. Our independent company now comes in, runs the entire tryout, and submits the results to the Recreation Office for distribution to the families.

Fall Seasons Underway:

The Director advised the Board that Football, Soccer, and Cheerleading, along with our increasingly popular Chess program, are all underway this fall.

Movie Night Success:

The Director advised that the final Movie Night of 2018 was a success with approximately 200 people in attendance at Memorial to watch “Jumanji – Welcome to the Jungle.” Several residents stayed after to thank the Director for running the free movie nights for the residents in town.

Facility Maintenance Quotes Sent Out:

The Director has sent out quote forms to several companies in order to achieve the lowest cost possible to maintain the Recreation Office, the bathrooms at Community Park, the township's irrigation systems, and to provide portable toilets at our facilities. Sending quote requests to several companies maximizes competition which, in turn, keeps our costs at remarkably low numbers. As an example, the Recreation Department pays \$70/month for each portable toilet while the industry average monthly cost is around \$125/month.

Summer Camp Bid Renewals:

The Director requested that the Board consider extending our current camps for 2 years as per the Township resolution that allows us to do so if the Director and the residents are satisfied with their performance. The Director advised that the camps continue to provide a needed and convenient service to the Township residents who can attend a high quality camp right in their own town. After Rich Sica moved to authorize the Director to make the request of the two year extension of the Township Committee, Ann Smith seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved. The camps affected are Emerge Lacrosse Camp, Bergen's Best Soccer Camp, the Middle School Summer Camp (run by the Wyckoff YMCA), and Tennis Dynamics Tennis Camp. Additionally, the Board recommended that the Township renew the bid process for the Multi Sport Camp for younger children as well as the Arts and Crafts classes we've run for the past 4 years. The Director will make the recommendation to the Township Committee and start the bid process for those.

Facility Review Requests:

The Director presented applications for two groups to rent our facilities. The first was the Christian Health Care Center who is requesting to use Memorial Field for a company kickball game/team building event on Saturday, 10/13, from 1-4pm. The Director confirmed that the field was free at that time and that no Wyckoff program would be adversely impacted by their use of the field. Second, Horizon Landscape Company from town requested the use of Pulis Field for a company soccer game on Monday, 10/8 (Columbus Day) from 12-2. The Director confirmed with the Torpedoes and the YMCA that they were not using the field at that time on Columbus Day. The Director advised that the paperwork, including the Application, the Hold Harmless Agreement, and the Insurance Certificate for both companies are in order. Chris Beane motioned to approve the applications and Hayley Rooney seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Director will notify the groups of the permission to use the fields and collect the fees.

Pulis Field Scheduling - Clarification:

During the past month, the Wyckoff YMCA has been requesting to use Pulis Field for their Flag Football, Lacrosse, and Soccer training during evening hours during the week and on Saturday mornings. Their lease agreement with the Township indicates they may utilize the fields for up to 15 hours during the fall. However, the Torpedoes lease agreement indicates that they have the use of the entire facility during the fall season from 4:30 until the end of the day. Having gone back and forth between the Torpedoes and the YMCA, it became apparent that the Torpedoes did not have 15 hours to spare for the YMCA. They did give the YMCA some time during the week and Saturday mornings but not enough to satisfy the needs of the YMCA. After the YMCA expressed their displeasure, The Director was forced to call the Township Attorney who wrote the leases to find out why the lease agreements appear to contradict each other. The Township Attorney advised that one lease agreement can not be read without the other. He confirmed that the fall evening times that the Torpedoes have is theirs exclusively. He advised that the YMCA is allowed to use the field for up to 15 hours per week during the day for their programming but they can't infringe on the Torpedoes time. Similarly, the Torpedoes, or any other group, can not

infringe upon the YMCA's exclusive rights to the field during the summer when they hold their summer camp. The Director communicated this to the YMCA and to the Torpedoes. The Torpedoes did end up giving the YMCA 7 hours and 15 minutes per week on the field for the fall season. The Director will follow the above procedure unless something changes in the future.

Registration Fee Discounts:

The Director explained to the Board that, on occasion, families in need call the Recreation Office and inquire about possible discounts to the registration fees for their children's activities. In the past, the Director has granted an occasional discount but going forward, the Director advised that he would seek Recreation Board approval for such inquiries. If asked, the requestor would remain anonymous to the Board. The Board agreed this is an appropriate way to handle such requests and suggested that anyone requesting a discount should need to make requests each and every time they register for a program, and not receive a discount every time they sign up after asking just once. Upon agreement of the new procedure, the Director advised that a family in town asked to pay \$70 for soccer instead of the \$90 fee, a \$20 discount. The Board unanimously approved the \$20 discount for the family. The Director will inform the family.

Employee/Volunteer Civil Rights Policy Distribution:

The Director distributed the Employee/Volunteer Civil Rights Policy to the Board and advised that if they had any questions, to contact him for clarification.

Football Update:

The Director reported a situation involving the League and one of our players over the past month. On the Thursday prior to the season beginning, the League that we participate in instituted a rule that players that have graduated 8th grade, even if they still meet the age and weight requirements in the league's rule book, would not be eligible to participate in the league. Wyckoff has one such player who is not a "difference maker" or dominant player and the league had advised the Director that he was now ineligible after weeks of practicing with the team and just two days before games began. After much deliberation, arguing, compromising, etc., the Director was able to convince the league that this player, the only player in the entire league affected by the new rule, should be grandfathered under the old rules. We agreed that no additional players that have graduated 8th grade would be added in the future and after a vote of the league took place to grandfather the player, the league informed me that he was eligible to play. In the future, no graduated 8th graders will be permitted to play football in the current league that we participate in and the Director will make sure this is made public information.

Open Comment Period:

Report from Board Members:

New or Old Business:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Wingfield
Director, Wyckoff Recreation & Parks