

WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
September 18, 2017

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

Members Absent:, Sue Buchanan, Chris Beane, Jeff Eischen

Staff Present: Andy Wingfield, Recreation Director

Guests Present: Doug Feick, George Cheah

The minutes of the August 13, 2017 meeting were discussed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rich Sica and seconded by Heather Alnor. The motion was carried.

Recreation Director’s Report:

Further Pickleball Discussion:

After last month’s Recreation Board approval to paint/tape pickleball court lines onto 2 of our existing tennis courts, resident Doug Feick and George Cheah of the NJ Pickleball Association attended this month’s meeting to discuss the potential of not just painting two pickleball courts on top of two tennis courts, but rather painting 2-3 pickleball courts each on two or three of the tennis courts maximizing the potential for residents to utilize our courts for both pickleball and tennis. In addition, Mr. Cheah explained his role on the NJ Pickleball Association and discussed the possibility of having the Township and the Association work together to increase the popularity of pickleball in town and also for the Township to become a partner with the Association. Doing so would attract pickleball players from the area (not just Wyckoff) to our courts where they could compete with other local pickleball players. There are financial incentives to partner with the Association and George also stated that the Association would purchase the necessary equipment if this partnership were allowed to happen. Another idea presented by Mr. Cheah was the possibility of a pickleball camp for residents interested in learning and playing the game. The Board tabled this idea until the spring since the fall is upon us and the pickleball season is almost over.

The Director did report that, per last month’s meeting, the Department did have pickleball lines temporarily taped onto two courts and they were being used daily.

Winter Registration Has Begun:

The Director reported that the Recreation winter registration process has begun. The Department will be offering Recreation and Travel Basketball, Roller Hockey, and Wrestling as well as passive recreation programs such as Chess Club and another Arts & Crafts session. Registration runs through September 30th and all advertising has been posted on social media, with the schools, and via eblast from the Township.

Travel Baseball and Softball Tryouts Scheduled:

The Director reported that tryouts for the 2018 spring and summer Travel Baseball and Softball teams will begin the week of October 2nd. Registration numbers are high once again which indicates we will likely be able to provide the travel baseball and softball experience for two teams at each level from 8u-14u. The Director will have more specifics at the next Board meeting in October but he did clarify that the same company, Wladyka Baseball, will be running our tryouts again to keep our independent tryout process intact for another year.

Further Baseball/Softball Opening Day Parade Discussion – Date Conflict:

The Director reported that the Wyckoff Education Foundation (WEF) has moved their 2018 5k/Fun Run/Carnival from the fall to the spring. While this opens up another date on the fall soccer schedule for the Recreation Department, it will now conflict directly with the spring recreation baseball schedule and is planned for the exact and only day that an Opening Day Parade would work and make sense for the program. The WEF did work with the Township to avoid other conflicts with other Township events but in the end, had to settle on a day. At this point, the Board agreed that an Opening Day Parade 2-3 weeks into the season would make little sense. As we approach the spring, this topic will be revisited but at this time, it appears that a Parade may not be in the cards for the 2018 season.

2017 Soccer, Football, and Volleyball Head Coach Recommendations:

The Director presented the Board with a list of volunteer Head Coaches for the 2017 Soccer, Football, and Volleyball programs. After a brief discussion, Doug Arone motioned to approve the entire list and Tom Valente seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Facility Use/Rental Applications Review:

The Director requested the Board review the following field use applications, based on the Township's procedure of involving the Recreation Board in the approval process for field rental after a review of the paperwork by the Recreation Director and Township Administrator. Two applications were discussed by the Board and approved for use/rental. The applications at this meeting included the following:

1. TGA of Bergen County – this company runs birthday parties with Golf and/or Tennis instruction and fun as their main product. A resident in town is requesting the use of the Tennis Courts at Memorial with TGA running the event. The resident has agreed to pay the Township \$100 for the two hours.
2. Horizon Landscaping – This Wyckoff based company is requesting use of the Pulis Turf Soccer Field in the afternoon for two hours for their employee soccer game. The company agrees to provide all paperwork and pay the \$150 fee.

The Director advised the Board that that his review with the Township Administrator of the applications, Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreements, and Certificates of Insurance for all of the requests determined the applications to be in order.

The Recreation Board unanimously approved all of the above applications after a motion to approve them was made by Rich Sica and seconded by Ann Smith.

Football Update:

The Director reported that the football program has begun game play for the 2017 season and the teams are faring very well early on. He also reported that he worked with a Franklin Lakes resident over the past several weeks to support an Education Fundraiser she was running with part of the day being a Recreation Football game at Giants Stadium. Our Senior B teams and their families enjoyed an afternoon at Giants Stadium including a Punt, Pass, and Kick competition with former Giants players running the event, a visit into the locker rooms of Giants Stadium, and a B game versus Franklin Lakes on the actual field at the Stadium. Reports from the day were overwhelmingly positive and the person who ran the fundraiser will look to make this an annual tradition.

Open Comment Period:

None

Report from Board Members:

None

New or Old Business:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Wingfield
Director, Wyckoff Recreation & Parks