

WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
June 13, 2022

Doug Arone opened the Recreation Board Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Wyckoff Recreation Department 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, John Giovacco, Moe Ismael, Jen Saxton, Tom Valente
Members Absent: Chris Bean, Sue Buchanan, Jeff Eischen, Mike Ferrara, Chris Perneti, Rich Sica
Staff Present:

The minutes of the May 16, 2022 meeting were discussed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jen Saxton and seconded by Moe Ismael. The motion was carried.

Recreation Director Report:

Recreation Baseball/Softball/Lacrosse Review – Seasons Complete:

The Chairman advised that the spring recreation season had come to a close. Baseball, softball, and boys and girls lacrosse, including the 1st and 2nd grade lacrosse clinic finished their seasons within the last week and all reviews and feedback have been positive.

Travel Baseball & Softball Events:

The Chairman advised that the Travel Baseball Boosters hosted several teams at our turf field during its first Community Day. Proceeds from the event were shared between the Wyckoff Baseball Boosters and the Charlie Landers Foundation, created recently in the memory of Charlie Landers, a Franklin Lakes student athlete who passed recently of Ewing’s Sarcoma. The Wyckoff Softball Boosters are holding their annual Girls of Summer Softball Tournament next weekend in which several local towns will participate in a 3 day tournament.

Potential Travel Softball Question:

The Chairman discussed a situation with the Board in which a 7th grade girl from another town that attends Eisenhower, a Wyckoff public school, wants to join the Wyckoff Travel Softball u12 team. The Director has taken the following steps to ensure that the last step is to have the Board discuss and vote on the situation. He called the softball league to ask permission for us to roster a girl from out of town. The league president advised it would be fine with him provided the town she lives in releases her. The Director emailed the Recreation Director and the travel softball director from her town asking if they would release her. The reply from the Recreation Director was that this was not an issue for them and that she could play in Wyckoff. Finally, the Director had the girl come to the Recreation Office for a brief tryout where she showed exceptional skill and strength. With those questions answered, the Board discussed the situation at length. In the

end, it was decided that, since we do allow non-residents to play in recreation sports in town if they attend private school in town, it would make sense that a girl attending public school in town and having played on the school softball team with all of the same girls, would be allowed to join our travel teams with the previous criteria met (league approval, release from town, etc.). The only question left was whether there was room on the roster for her. The team she would be joining has 11 girls which is one short of the optimum number and the team has a need for a catcher which is the position this girl plays. The Board made it clear that these cases should always be brought for approval and that they are not setting policy based on this one situation. Since it is rare that non-residents attend public school in Wyckoff, it is unlikely this situation will present itself again but if it were to, the Board advised that they should have final say on whether or not the player be added. The Chairman advised the Board that he would let the Director know that the player is cleared to join the team.

Summer Camp Preview:

The Chairman reported that the Recreation Summer Day Camps for grades 5-8 and for grades K-4 are starting up on June 27th and July 5th, respectively. The YMCA who runs the camp for us has set a limit of 80 K-4th graders and we are at that maximum for most of the five weeks. The camp for the older children is lighter in numbers and that camp is due to go out to bid again after this summer. The Director advised that he would be discussing this with the YMCA and will also discuss at a future Recreation Board meeting to determine whether or not it is worth the time, effort, and money to hold a camp that averages a low number of children per week.

Football & Cheerleading Update:

Registration Officially Closed – 191 Football Players, 133 Cheerleaders!
Game Jersey Fittings Took Place – Pants Fittings at Farriers Upcoming
NBJFL Ran Free Clinic – Wyckoff With Highest Participation Again:

Report From Board Members:

None

New Business:

None

Old Business:

None

The Board adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Arone
Chairman, Wyckoff Board of Parks & Recreation