

WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
August 15, 2016

Tom Valente opened the Recreation Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Courtroom of Town Hall at 340 Franklin 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: Heather Alnor, Chris Beane, Tom Valente, Moe Ismael, Ed Pettit, Rich Sica
Members Absent: Jeff Eischen, Doug Arone, Hayley Rooney, Sue Buchanan
Staff Present: Andy Wingfield, Recreation Director, Brian Scanlan, Township Committee Liaison to Recreation Board
Guests Present: None

The minutes of the August 15, 2016 meeting were discussed. A motion to approve the minutes of that meeting was made by Ed Pettit and seconded by Chris Beane. The motion was carried.

Recreation Director's Report:

Progress On Coach Training Tools with Wyckoff Library:

The Director reported to the Board that significant progress has been made on creating a Coach Training Tools center within the Wyckoff Public Library. The Director has been working with the Library Director in obtaining a list of pertinent books and websites that the Library will have on hand to assist our volunteer coaches should they need assistance with sport specific training and general coaching training. The information should be available within the next 30 days as the Library obtains the items on the compiled list. This information will be made available to the Recreation Department's volunteer coaches and will greatly benefit the Recreation Program.

Movie Night Updates:

The Director advised the Board that the final scheduled Movies at Memorial was canceled due to inclement weather (thunderstorms). The Department will look to have 2-3 movies next spring/summer to give the residents of Wyckoff a relaxing, free event for the entire family.

Summer Day Camp & Summer Clinics Winding Down:

The Director advised that the Department's Summer Day Camp and Sports Clinics for 2016 are coming to a close. It was another extremely successful summer with an average of 175 children attending our Summer Day Camp per week in addition to at least 20 children in all of our sports clinics. The Director stated that the Camp and clinics not only benefit the children participating in them, but also give Wyckoff teens and young adults an opportunity to work for the Township, gaining great experience working with children along the way. These longstanding programs continue to give Wyckoff residents a low-cost, enjoyable Summer Camp option where the emphasis is on fun and learning.

Fall Programming Set to Begin:

The Director reminded the Board that our extensive Fall Programming is set to begin. Soccer for children in grades 3-12 will begin practice next week and start their games on September 10th. Soccer for children in Grades K-2 will begin on September 10th. Tackle football practice has begun and our Flag Football players will start with their sessions on September 10th. Girls in 6th-8th grade will begin their Volleyball training on September 13th as well. In addition, our passive recreation programming, including Chess Club, Arts & Crafts, and our Adult Fitness program will start up in September and October. Finally, our Fall Tennis Lessons are set to begin on September 30th.

Fall Coach Recommendations:

A list of all Fall program Head Coaches was presented to the Board for Soccer and Football. After one adjustment was made, Tom Valente motioned to approve all Head Coaches & Assistant Coaches for Tackle Football and Ed Pettit seconded the motion. All were in favor. Heather Alnor motioned to approve all soccer head coaches in grades K-4 and Rich Sica seconded the motion. All were in favor. Head Coaches for grades 5-12 Soccer will be presented at next month's meeting.

Harassment Prevention Training for Board:

The Director presented the Board with instructions on completing the "Rights and Duties of an Employee in Local Government" and requested the Board complete the online course as soon as possible and report back to him when complete.

Travel Baseball, Softball & Basketball Registrations Upcoming:

The Director advised the Board that Registration for our Travel Sports programs is coming up from August 22nd – September 23rd on our online registration system. The Director reminded the Board that independent evaluators would once again be used to run the tryouts, evaluate the participants, and report back to the Recreation Office with their results. The evaluating groups for each sport are from outside of the area so that no perception of bias in selecting the teams can exist. Baseball and Softball tryouts will be scheduled for early-mid October and Basketball tryouts will be conducted toward the end of October to early November.

Facility Use Request Reviews/Approvals:

The Chairman requested the Board review the following field use application, 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. One application was discussed by the Board and approved for use/rental. The applications at this meeting included the following:

1. Wyckoff YMCA – The Wyckoff YMCA requested the use of the Pulis Turf Facility for the annual Buddy Walk on October 2, 2016.
2. Torpedoes Soccer Club – The Torpedoes Soccer Club made its official request for use of the Pulis Turf Facility during the fall season for its soccer games.

The Chairman advised the Board that that the Director's 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 the applications after a motion to approve them was made by Ed Pettit and seconded by Tom Valente.

Football Update:

The Director reported that Football practice has begun for all children in grades 3-8. Program participation numbers are consistent with previous years' registrations which is in great contrast with the other municipal programs in the league that we participate in (North Bergen Junior Football League). Heads of those programs indicate that their participating registrants across the board in their football programs in many municipalities are significantly reduced. This year, Wyckoff will field three teams at the 3/4th grade level, four teams at the 5/6th grade level, and three teams at the 7/8th grade level. The challenge to find games for all of our teams is difficult because most towns field only one or two teams at each level. The Director has reached outside of the NBJFL to find games for all the teams and the game schedule is coming together. The Director will report to the Board at next month's meeting whether or not he was able to get a sufficient amount of games for every one of our teams. Lastly, the Director advised the Board that a football parent meeting is being scheduled so that the program's philosophies, rules, policies, regulations, and expectations could be communicated to everyone in person, rather than just in writing. The Football Boosters will also be in attendance at this mandatory meeting to express the importance of volunteering at the program's many events. Recreation Board members were invited to attend.

Pulis Field Update:

The Director announced that one of the final stages of this 6-year project will be complete within the next month. The field and parking lot lights have power to them at this point. All that is left to do is connect them with Musco's remote operating center so that they can be turned on and off by the Recreation Department. The Board was pleased that our programs, along with those of the YMCA and the Torpedoes Soccer Club, will soon be able to benefit fully from our state of the art turf facility.

Open Comment Period:

No comment.

Report from Board Members:

A board member questioned whether Robert Lahue's Board position would be filled. Brian Scanlan advised that he would address this at the next Township Committee meeting and report back to the Board.

New or Old Business:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Wingfield
Director, Wyckoff Recreation & Parks