

**WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
February 8, 2016**

Doug Arone 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: Tom Valente, Heather Alnor, Moe Ismael, Doug Arone, Chris Beane, Sue Buchanan, Ed Pettit, Rob Lahue,

Members Absent: Jeff Eischen, Hayley Rooney, Rich Sica

Staff Present: Recreation Director Andy Wingfield

Guests Present: None

The minutes of the January 11, 2016 meeting were discussed. A motion to approve the minutes of that meeting was made by Tom Valente and seconded by Heather Alnor. The motion was carried.

Recreation Director's Report:

Review of Township's Social Media Policy:

Upon confirming that the Board had reviewed the Township's Social Media policy over the past month, the Director explained the policy and advised that under no circumstance are employees or volunteer Board Members to place editorial comments on the Township's social media pages such as Facebook or Twitter. The Board understood the policy in its entirety and agreed it would be followed.

Soccer Update:

The Director advised that at a recent meeting of the Northwest Bergen Soccer League, the league in which the Township's 5th-12th grade boys and girls participate, has developed a rule regarding the new mandate by U.S. Soccer to restrict heading in youth soccer games. Essentially, all heading in Divisions 4 & 5 (3rd grade – 6th grade) is illegal in games going forward. The first infraction will be penalized with a yellow caution card and the second with a red ejection card. The Board unanimously agreed that this procedure is appropriate and recommended that the Director inform all coaches and parents as the season draws closer.

Additionally, the new rule being instituted by Club Soccer regarding age limits was not adopted by the league so they will continue with their current format having 3rd and 4th graders play together, as well as 5th & 6th graders, and 7 & 8th graders. The Board agreed that Club Soccer is vastly different from Recreation Soccer in this regard and recommended continuing with the same format.

Boys and Girls Spring Lacrosse Coach Recommendations:

The Director presented a list of volunteer coaches to the Board. Upon thorough review of the entire list, Rob Lahue made a motion to accept the list of volunteers and Ed Pettit seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Travel Baseball Age Cutoff Update:

The Director advised the Board that Little League has amended their previous ruling in which they changed the age cutoff for baseball players from April 30th to August 31st for all players from 7-10 years of age. Eleven through 13 year olds had been grandfathered in to the April 30th cutoff and now Little League has also grandfathered in 10 year olds so that they are not forced to skip their 12 & under season which, for our purposes, means their Cooperstown year. The Director explained that our tryouts are complete and teams formed and the Board agreed we could not go back and complete the tryout process again. Our players that are affected by this change will play for the team they tried out for in October this year and, next year, will be given the opportunity to decide which level they wish to try out for. Their choice will be between choosing to play 11 & under again or move on to 12 & under in 2017.

Passive Recreation Update – Movie Nights Announced:

The Director advised the Board that the Recreation Department has set three dates for Movie Nights this coming spring and summer. They are June 29, July 21, and August 11. The Board was asked for its assistance on those three nights in setting up the theatre system and taking it down. The Recreation Board recommended that our sports booster programs be allowed to open the concession stand on those evenings to sell food and drink to those in attendance. The Director will give the dates to the booster groups so they may plan for these evenings. Rob Lahue asked the Director to review the agreement between the Coolidge PTO and the Township regarding amount of times each group could use the system because it was agreed upon between both parties that each group would use the system twice during the year. The Director advised the Board that the Township's finance committee recommended an increased amount of movie nights but that a review and possible modification of the agreement could be in order.

Update to Sportsmanship Pledge:

The Director reported that after a recent meeting between local Mayors and other leadership, a request to update the prohibition of alcohol at sporting events section of the Parent Sportsmanship Pledge to include a no tailgating section was made. The Sportsmanship Pledge, which every family signs off on upon registering their child for a Recreation activity, was updated to include that tailgating prior to or after a sporting event is also prohibited in Wyckoff.

Update to Recreation Board Meeting Schedule:

The Director announced that the October 17th Recreation Board meeting has been moved to Tuesday, October 18th due to a religious holiday on October 17. The Board noted the change and the Director will complete all necessary notices to the Township for proper advertising of the meeting date change.

Football Update:

The Director advised that the Northern Bergen Junior Football League has announced its first meeting of 2016 to discuss the 2016 season. Additionally, Tom Valente updated the Board in regards to the Code of Conduct investigation from last season. He advised that he has been unable to reach the coach in question and will continue to follow up.

Open Comment Period:

No audience present.

Report from Board Members:

None.

New or Old Business:

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Wingfield
Director, Wyckoff Parks & Recreation