

WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
September 15, 2014

Tom Valente opened the Recreation Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation Office 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.

Present: Andy Wingfield, Tom Valente, Robert Lahue, Sue Buchanan, Doug Arone, Russ Whiteman, Moe Ismael, Heather Alnor, Ed Pettit and Brian Scanlan.

Absent: Peter McGuire, Chris Vanuga, and Jeff Eischen
Guests Present: Haakon Jepson

The minutes of the August meeting were discussed. A motion to approve the minutes of the 8/18/14 meeting was made by Ed Pettit and seconded by Doug Arone. All present were in favor.

Recreation Director's Report:

Coaching Seminar – Positive Coaching Alliance

A free Positive Coaching Alliance seminar on Monday, 9/8 from 6:30-8pm at Ramapo High School was offered by the Recreation Department to our coaches. Additionally, a 30 minute summary course was offered to the parents of our participants. The date was sent out months in advance and the course was advertised via thousands of emails and our Facebook page. 30 coaches were in attendance for the 90 minute course and the feedback from the coaches in attendance was very positive. Unfortunately, only 1 parent took advantage of the course. Andy expressed disappointment in the parental attendance and will look to offer the course again in the future.

Fall Football, Cheer and Soccer Underway

Football, Cheer and Soccer season began 9/7/14. Our PeeWee, Junior and Senior teams started the season with victories over their opponents. An ongoing issue of major concern is unsafe driving by parents during pick up and drop off for football practice. The police department has been notified of the issue. Parents have been asked to exercise caution and drive at a slow speed and not stop along the roadside of Woodland Avenue to drop off and pick up their children. In addition, Andy met with the Chief of Police, the head of the Wyckoff DPW, and the Township Administrator to come up with solutions to make the parking/driveway area safer. It was verified that the street lights along the parking area are not on at night so DPW was tasked with getting those lights operational. DPW is also going to paint a crosswalk for the children to cross the street. Trees were trimmed as well so that the light from the streetlamps would laminate the area better.

Online Registration Has Started

Several hundred families have created online accounts and are registering for programs via the Recreation Department's new online registration program, Community Pass. Online registration has simplified the registration process for both users and the recreation department. The recreation department encourages townspeople to create accounts for their families and register online for our winter programming. To date, over 1900 registrations have been received on the new system.

Potential New Programs for 2015 Discussion

Town committee member Haakon Jepson proposed adding additional recreation programming. He suggested that a yoga program be added at the youth level possibly during our Summer Day Camp. The Board agreed this would be potentially beneficial for the children at camp and Andy will look into having the program introduced next summer for at least one hour per week.

Fundraising Efforts Update

Andy reported that the iPhone case fundraiser has not met expectations. 23 cases have been sold so far so the deadline has been extended to purchase a case. Andy hopes that we can get to 50 units by the end of the week.

Travel Baseball and Softball Tryouts to Take Place in October

Travel baseball and softball tryouts will take place in October. Interested players are encouraged to register for tryouts at <https://register.communitypass.net/Wyckoff>.

Travel Basketball Tryouts to Take Place in October/November

Travel basketball tryouts will be held in October and November. To date 90 boys and 60 girls have signed up for tryouts. Interested players are encouraged to register for tryouts.

Report from Board Members:

Heather Alnor raised parent concerns regarding both Senior B teams sharing one game. Andy explained that one of the B teams had a bye on the original schedule but was offered the opportunity to share a game with the other B team. Both coaches agreed it was a good idea so that both teams could play together as a unit immediately after the A game. One team played the first half, the other played the second half and Andy communicated to the Board that this was a one time thing and that both teams would be playing on their own for the remainder of the season. Andy agreed to have an email sent out to the parents to ease the confusion and angst among the parents and also advised that he would communicate these types of situations in the future prior to the game so that parents understand the reasoning behind them.

Sue Buchanan announced the Parks and Recreation Foundation Oktoberfest Benefit will be held on Saturday, October 18th. Townspeople are encouraged to attend this event that supports Wyckoff's recreation fields and associated parks and facilities.

New or Old Business:

Haakon Jepson requested that no practices be held on memorial fields during 9/11 Memorial Services and Andy agreed to follow through on this idea in upcoming years.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lahue

Wyckoff Board of Parks and Recreation