

WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
September 16, 2019

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: Doug Arone, Chris Beane, Moe Ismael, Heather Alnor, Tom Valente, Hayley Rooney, Mike Ferrara, Sue Buchanan

Members Absent: Jeff Eischen, Ann Smith, Rich Sica

Staff Present: Andy Wingfield, Recreation Director
Tim Shanley, Township Committee Liaison

Guest Present: None

The minutes of the August 12, 2019 meeting were discussed. Mr. Ismael asked for clarification on the decision to move forward with the potential purchase of a Lightning Detection system. Mr. Shanley advised that the Board recommended the Township move forward with the project despite the cost as the benefit of keeping our participants safe far outweigh the monetary cost of the project. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Tom Valente and seconded by Hayley Rooney. The motion was carried.

Recreation Director’s Report:

Girls Volleyball Program Director Recommendation:

The Director recommended James Parks as the 2019 Fall Girls Volleyball Program Director to the Board. The Director advised that Mr. Parks has run the program since its inception and has also run our summer volleyball clinics for the past several years. Mr. Parks has received numerous complimentary emails over the past several years and has a passion for teaching the sport of volleyball. After a motion to approve Mr. Parks was made by Doug Arone, and was seconded by Sue Buchanan, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Parks as the Program Director.

Travel Baseball and Softball Tryouts:

The Director advised that the 2020 Travel Baseball and Softball Tryouts will take place in early October. Once again, the tryouts will be conducted by an independent evaluation group from outside the area to eliminate the perception of bias among the parents who felt that our own coaches who ran the tryouts years ago would select the teams based on who they knew. Our independent company now comes in, runs the entire tryout, and submits the results to the Recreation Office for distribution to the families. The Director also explained that he would be emailing families with the results this year by blind copy so as to save on administrative tasks in the office and to speed up the process of communicating results to those that try out. This was tested in March on the 8u baseball teams and it worked out very well. The Board agreed that sending paper letters through the mail was too time consuming and costly when email communications are so much more efficient.

Fall Seasons Underway:

The Director advised the Board that Football, Soccer, and Cheerleading, along with our increasingly popular Chess program, are all underway this fall.

Movie Night Success:

The Director advised that the final Movie Night of 2019 was a success with approximately 150 people in attendance at Memorial to watch “Small Foot.”

Facility Review Requests:

The Director presented applications for two groups to rent our facilities. The first was the NJ Viper Softball club who is requesting to use Community Park for their club softball practices on Thursday evenings in the fall. The Director confirmed that the field is free at that time and that no Wyckoff program would be adversely impacted by their use of the field. Second, the Eastern Christian High School is requesting use of the Tennis Courts this fall for its teams’ practices and matches. The Director advised that the paperwork, including the Applications, the Hold Harmless Agreements, and the Insurance Certificates for both groups are in order. Chris Beane motioned to approve the applications and Tom Valente seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Director will notify the groups of the permission to use the facilities and collect the appropriate fees.

Registration Fee Increases:

The Director requested that the Board approve a \$15 increase in Travel Baseball, Travel Softball, and Travel Basketball fees for the 2020 budget year. Increases in equipment cost, umpire fees, and league fees led the Director to this decision. Heather Alnor motioned to approve the fee increase and Chris Beane seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Director will have the fee ordinance updated for 2020.

Football Update:

The Director reported that upon completion of the National Alliance for Youth Sports Online Coaching Course by every one of our current football coaches, the Director and Township Attorney, Rob Landel, met with the coaches on September 4th to emphasize our current Coaches Code of Conduct which includes not only the Code of Conduct itself but now also contains the Township policies on electronic communications among township employees and volunteers and the Anti-Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying policy. Mr. Landel advised the coaches that if they observe anything during the season that violates the Code or the policies discussed, they are to report it to the Director immediately. The meeting was very well received by the coaches and the Director thanked them for volunteering their time for the betterment of our football program and its participants.

Open Comment Period:

Report from Board Members:

New or Old Business:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Wingfield
Director, Wyckoff Recreation & Parks