

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.

**BOARD OF RECREATION
RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY
January 19, 2023**

President Diane Maglione called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m., it having been duly noted that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., notice of which was published in The Record and sent to the Star Ledger as well as posted on the Village bulletin board. Roll call was taken. Commission members present: Diane Maglione, Hal Bomzer, Howie Jacobs, Gil Bell, Melina Pope, Barbara Steiner, Bella Wagner. Excused: Melinda Lugo, Royce Morris, Mike Ruiz.

The minutes of the November 17, 2022, meeting were approved on a motion made by Melina Pope and seconded by Hal Bomzer. All were in favor of the motion.

Correspondence:

- Email dated 12/7/22 from Goksin Sensoz Re: Interested in Adult Ping Pong
- Email dated 12/20/22 from Mercedes Haines Re: Resignation at end of year
- Email dated 1/9/23 From Maria Escobar Re: Refund due to illness
- Email dated 1/9/23 from Hector Cartagena Re: Technical Fouls
- Email dated 1/9/23 from Carlos Bernal Re: 1/7/22 Game 2 8:40 a.m.
- Email dated 1/11/23 from Stephanie Takach, Administrative Assistant Re: Need Current CO
- Letter from the Fourth of July Committee enclosing grand marshal nomination form

Wish Tree – The wish tree went fairly well. There were 92 names on the list this year. Next year, an email or letter will be sent to the families with a firm cutoff date to pick up the gifts. Some gifts were not picked up before Christmas.

Tree Lighting – Tree lighting took place on December 4 this year. Performers were the Royal Scarlets and Robert Bannon. 7-11 provided free Slurpees. Mercedes ordered four characters and Dickens Carolers to sing. The carolers were hard to hear because they wouldn't sing into the mics provided. Robert Bannon really helped out and ad-libbed with the crowd when there was a slight problem with the sound. The Board was not thrilled with some of the costumes worn this year by the characters.

A motion was made by Bella Wagner and seconded by Melina Pope to pay Robert Bannon \$450 for the tree lighting. All were in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Olson made the following notes for 2023:

Need larger capacity cable trays – existing one were almost not large enough to handle all the cables.

Might need 4 speakers instead of 2 – sound was too loud in front and the back couldn't hear, especially for the choir and carolers

Might need more condenser mics – couldn't hear carolers or choir well. There also might be an issue with echo from the buildings creating feedback. Maybe this is why we couldn't raise the volume for those mics without getting feedback. Dickens Carolers – were an interesting novelty walking around. How much did we pay for them and could we have spent that money better on something else? They didn't sing into the mics. Probably would be difficult to get them to do a sound check.

Not sure if we need to rent subwoofer again

Have high school choir practice with the mics setup before the event – bring system and mics to school so they can practice.

Speaker pointed back at the podium wasn't necessary.

Holiday Display Contest – Contest took place December 16-18. Prizes were delivered by Dayle's Village Flower Shoppe (engraved mug with flowers). Honorable mention ornaments were delivered to the other winners. List of winners is attached. There weren't that many people who took part in the voting for Citizen's Choice Award. The Board might try it one more year to see if participation improves with better advertising on the new town accounts.

Basketball:

Big Mike League – The inaugural season has gone well. As agreed to when the program was formed, all extra money will go to Big Mike's family.

Saturday Night Hoops – There are four teams this season. It will begin next Saturday.

Girls' 3/4 Travel Basketball Team – Carlos Alvarez coaches this team. The Board has not heard from him since the travel season ended.

Girls' 7/8 Travel Basketball Team – Al Ramirez is coaching this team. It will be practicing at Lincoln on Mondays and Wednesdays through June. All is going well. Al ordered uniforms from a new vendor that had a better price. He would like to know what costs the Board will cover this year.

Boys' 7/8 Travel Basketball Team – Deinde Otuyelu is coaching this team. He hopes to practice at Lincoln on Thursdays and Fridays through June.

Basketball – The season began in December. There are some coaches that still did not complete their background check. The Division Leaders will contact the coaches and advise they are not permitted to coach until the background check is completed. The invitation for the background check was resent to all coaches missing this requirement.

There was one problem early in the season that was resolved after a meeting with the parent/coach. It all worked out and there were no further problems.

There has been trouble getting referees for games. Other organizations pay more than RP does. We are currently paying \$45 per game for a referee. Other organizations are paying \$65 and higher. The Board needs to raise the pay \$10 to \$55 per game in order to attract more referees. Using with only one referee per game does not work out so the pay needs to be raised to ensure there are two referees at each game.

A motion was made by Hal Bomzer and seconded by Gil Bell to raise the referee fee to \$55 per game for the 2022-2023 season. All were in favor of the motion. Scorers/timers will still get \$12 per game and site managers will get \$25.00 per game.

Bowling – No activity at this time.

Women's Softball – No activity at this time. Packets will go out shortly to the teams.

Fourth of July – No activity at this time. The form to nominate a grand marshal was received.

Rag-A-Muffin – No activity at this time. A new banner will have to be ordered before the parade to add the new divisions. The parade will take place on October 21 this year with a rain date scheduled for October 28 to try to eliminate conflicts with trunk or treats held the same day.

Adult Trips/Activities – Nothing going on at this time. Howie is looking into a trip sometime during the winter. The Board has a credit from the previous year. He will send out an email when he makes a selection.

Archery Clinic – The program will start up again in the spring. Gil will speak with Commissioner Olson to do some ordering for next season. This Saturday is the last day. Because they lost so many Saturdays, the spring session will be longer.

Tennis – Residents may contact Barry Ruback at barrys10s@gmail.com or 201-568-3946 with any questions.

T2S Basketball – The program is continuing under Larry Umana and Nate Lopez. The Board was copied on an email to the DPW. T2S Basketball Academy will be offering Agility/Strength & Conditioning Training for those who are interested in improving their overall athletic ability in their corresponding sport. I would like to reserve space on the turf field for Monday and Thursday evenings from 5pm-10pm starting March 27th to June 16th.

Former RP Basketball Alumni, Richy Espinal, who is now on the RP BOE payroll as a Teacher Assistant and Freshmen Boys Basketball Coach, is joining the T2S Family as our new Strength & Conditioning/Player Development Trainer. Rich will be running the program, which will be offered to all athletes in our community.

Easter Egg Hunt – No activity at this time. The hunt is scheduled for April 8 this year.

Treasurer’s Report – The beginning balance as of 10/31/22 was \$29,859.15 Total expenses as of 11/30/22 of \$44.65 (annual subscriptions). Total deposits \$4,173.22 (rec basketball, Big Mike’s, Sat Night Hoops) and \$93.22 interest. Net available balance 11/30/22 \$33,987.72.

The beginning balance as of 11/30/22 was \$33,987.72 Total expenses as of 12/31/22 of \$4,803.48 (custodian gifts, donations, scorers/timers Big Mike’s, baskets for tree lighting, rec bb shirts) Total deposits \$187.41 (rec basketball) and \$112.41 interest. Net available balance 12/31/22 \$29,371.65.

A motion was made by Melina Pope and seconded by Royce Morris to accept the Treasurer’s Report. All were in favor of the motion.

Old Business:

Sports Stipends – Commissioner Olson has the form after all changes were finalized. He will be sending it out.

New Business:

2023 Meeting dates at 7:00 p.m. at the civic center are as follows:

JANUARY 19	MAY 18	SEPTEMBER 21
FEBRUARY 16	JUNE 15	OCTOBER 19
MARCH 16	JULY – NO MEETING	NOVEMBER 16
APRIL 20	AUGUST – NO MEETING	DECEMBER – NO MEETING

The Ridgefield Park Education Association has asked the Board if it would like to sponsor a family movie night with it. The RPEA has funding to pay for the rentals. The Board thought that Roosevelt School field or Veteran’s Park might be good locations for the event. The Board will speak with their representative to finalize details.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m. on a motion made by Bella Wagner and seconded by Gil Bell. All were in favor of the motion.

cc: Commissioner Mark Olson

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara DeLuca
Barbara DeLuca