

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

**BOARD OF RECREATION
RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY
September 21, 2021**

President Diane Maglione called the meeting to order at 7:05 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, Gil Bell, Hal Bomzer, Jimmy Coloma, Mercedes Haines, Howie Jacobs, Melinda Lugo, Melina Pope, Mike Ruiz, Bella Wagner. Excused: Scott Garriss, Kaitlyn Maglione. Commissioner Olson was also present for the meeting.

The minutes of the June 17, 2021, meeting were approved on a motion made by Hal Bomzer and seconded by Gil Bell. All were in favor of the motion.

Correspondence:

- Email dated 6/24/21 from Ahura Mayoral Re: 2022 Ridgefield Park Pride – forwarded to BOC
- Email dated 6/24/21 from Belinda Reinhardt Re: Neighborhood Clean-up – forwarded to Environmental Commission
- Email dated 7/5/21 from Brian Costello Re: 501st Star Wars Costuming Organization available for events
- Message received from Berlinda Rodriguez that she would like to see a track program started for youth but she is unavailable to coach.
- Letter dated 7/22/21 from Omar Khan, Director of Library Re: Thank you for donation in memory of Maureen Gibbs
- Email dated 9/20/21 from Steven Hopper Re: Impractical Jokers filming – forwarded to DPW
- Memo dated 9/10/21 from Tara O'Grady Re: Appointments to Board and Oaths of Office
- Thank you card from the Maglione for the expression of sympathy.
- Thank you from the Gibbs family for the donation to the library in memory of Maureen Gibbs.

Diane Maglione discussed the officer openings on the Board and her recommendations for each position. If her recommendations are accepted, changes will be needed in order to fill the officer's positions. Those changes were discussed and will be included in the basketball report but there will now be a three-person committee to run basketball rather than one person as Hal has done for the past 20 years. It is time to give him a break. Howie Jacobs will accept Vice-President with the condition that if the President position opens up for any reason, he is not automatically to move into that position. There will then be an election for President.

Elections were held for President, Vice-President and Treasurer.

A nomination was made by Hal Bomzer and seconded by Gil Bell nominating Diane Maglione for President. There were no other nominations. All were in favor of the motion.

A nomination was made by Jimmy Coloma and seconded by Bella Wagner nominating Howie Jacobs for Vice-President, with the condition that he is not automatically President if that position opens up for any reason. There were no other nominations. All were in favor of the motion.

A nomination was made by Melina Pope and seconded by Melinda Lugo nominating Hal Bomzer for Treasurer. There were no other nominations. All were in favor of this motion.

Bowling – No activity at this time.

Women's Softball – Despite a lot of rain early in the season and then extreme heat, the program ran well and ended pretty much on time. Bob-O was the winning team this year. Peggy Schneider again ran the program and did a great job of keeping things going. Bella Wagner asked Commissioner Olson if it was possible to keep the lights on a little later so games could be completed. He said he will check on this before next season. She also asked about getting keys to the bathrooms and the utility boxes by the fields. Commissioner Olson said the plan is to change the locks each year so he will look into this before next season starts.

4th of July – No activity at this time.

Rag-A-Muffin – Parade is scheduled for Saturday, October 30, 2021, with a rain date of Sunday, October 31 at 1:30 p.m. Since the parade is held outdoors, plans will move ahead for the event. Parties for Peanuts will be providing: DJ, magician and 2 popcorn carts. Candy will be purchased closer to the event and goodie bags made for the participants. Forms will be distributed in the schools in October and posted online. Trophies have been ordered. A notice will be sent to the high school to request community service students. An email will be sent to the DPW and Police Dept. requesting their assistance. Members should meet at 9:00 a.m. on October 30 to help with set up. Bella Wagner said she will have her son put the trophies together as his community service. Trophies will be delivered directly to Bella's house.

Wish Tree – No activity at this time.

Tree Lighting – Tree lighting will be held on December 5, 2021. Mercedes Haines spoke with Parties for Peanuts and made arrangements for: 4 carolers - 3 extra mics from Boulevard, Elsa, elf, baby shark and a unicorn (added two more characters than in 2019). She will speak with Donald Ingwersen about the bicycle donation and will also make up three bags worth \$50 for the runner-up prizes.

Holiday Display Contest – The Board is checking into prizes for this year. There will be an additional prize this year – Citizens' Choice Award. Details for that will be worked on before December. Judging will work same as last year since it worked out well. The contest will take place on December 17 this year.

Adult Trips/Activities – Howie Jacobs is working on tickets to the NJ Devils & NY Boulders game. A deposit of \$200 was sent in for the game over the summer. The requirements around the March 10th game versus Winnipeg is that we guarantee at least 30 tickets. Howie gave them a count of 38 so that's the reduced % they charge for if the original # cannot be met. The count of 38 is done to give us both the tickets and on ice experience based upon the per ticket cost for this particular game. He will work on distributing the flyer in a few weeks.

The cost is \$67 per ticket in the lower bowl of the arena along with the chance for everyone to meet on the ice after the game to take a shot from the blue line. They have put together a flyer for the event.

Basketball – Early bird registration was held. Registrations were sent to the schools. Permits are in for the schools. Registration dates at the civic center are: Friday, September 24 6-8 pm and Saturday, September 25 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Evaluations will be held at Lincoln School on Monday, 11/1 3/4 & 5/6 boys 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. and Wednesday 11/3 All girls 6:30 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.; 7/8 Boys 7:15 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Members will be needed for both registration and evaluations. Gil and Hal will be doing registration on Friday night and Gil, Bella and Melina will handle Saturday.

Diane Maglione advised that she was instituting some changes in the basketball program since Hal's responsibilities have changed now that he is the Treasurer as well. Hal still plans on doing all the pre-season work. He is not stepping down, just sharing some of the responsibilities. The changes are as follows:

- Institute a three-person committee to run basketball operations outside of original scheduling. This committee will handle schedule changes, gym closing, and handle issues if Division Head cannot handle the problem.
The Vice-President will supervise this Committee but not be on the Committee.
- This Committee means that four people will now be handling what one person has done for 20 years. It would be best if this Committee had experience with the basketball program.
 - Appoint: Bella, Melinda & Gil to be this Committee.
- Institute all Division Heads must be Board members this year because of changes and Site Manager position
 - Clinic – Scott Garris
 - Girls 3/4/5 – Gil Bell
 - Girls 6/7/8 – Bella Wagner
 - Boys 3/4 – Melina Pope
 - Boys 5/6 – Mike Ruiz
 - Boys 7/8 – Melinda Lugo
- **Site Manager** – This is a new position we are adding this year so the season runs smoother. Site Manager will not have to sign the scorebook. Responsibilities will include making sure:
 1. All spectators stay under control and exhibit good sportsmanship.

2. Children (especially young children) are watched by their parent/guardian and do not interfere with games and become a danger to the game or themselves.
3. Spectators stay off the stage in both Lincoln and Grant school gyms.
4. Any person who has been suspended does not come into the gym.
5. Keeping spectators (including parents) from entering the floor during a game in case of injury or other incident until beckoned on the court by a referee.
6. To inform division head of any player, coach, or spectator that gets ejected.
7. The SM would have the ability to eject any person that is warned and still behaves poorly.
Should the person not cooperate, the SM would be permitted to call the police.

- The **Division Head** of each division will select and schedule a **Site Manager (SM)** for each game. This person will be responsible for making sure Board of Rec basketball rules are being followed in the gyms during games.
- If there is any incident, the SM must fill out an incident report and deliver it to the Division Head as soon as possible. The Division Head must then submit the report to the Board of Rec within 24 hours. SM must report all incidents to Basketball Operations Committee immediately.
- The SM for each game can be the Division Head, coach, Board of Rec member, or responsible team parent; but the SM **cannot** be scheduled when his/her team is playing in the game.
- The **SM** will be paid a fee of **\$25.00 per game**. This fee will be covered under safety. The fact that we are paying the SM makes them under our jurisdiction.
- The SM will wear a visible vest signifying who they are.
- The SM is equally in control in as far as the SM can stop a game, if necessary, remove someone if necessary or call the police.

Saturday Night Hoops – Permits are in for use of the gym. Howie Jacobs said he would ideally like to set up the program with six teams provided there are enough volunteers but there needs to be at least four. Howie is still deciding if 12th grade should be added to the program. He did get some inquiries. He has also had some inquiries about girls' teams as well. He will also look into seeing if it could work out and if there is enough interest. Tryouts will be held in November and forms will go out in the schools before then.

Girls' 5/6 Travel Basketball Team – The team was selected and \$150 fee will be collected from the girls. The girls were able to compete all summer in various tournaments. The fall season will be a team for 5/6 girls as the older girls can play on the school team. They will start playing shortly.

Tennis – The program is proving to be very popular with an adult session as well as for youth. The program will start up again next spring. There is a group of adults that would like another session in the fall but Barry said he is not able to get enough instructors to handle one class for the fall.

T2S Basketball – The program is continuing under Larry Umana and Nate Lopez. They just held a free clinic on September 12 that was filmed for MSG Network as part of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Easter Egg Hunt – No activity at this time.

Archery Clinic – The fall session started September 18. There will be no session on September 25 due to the Wanda Canoe Club races. Class will be held on Sunday, September 26 instead. Everyone is encouraged to watch the races at one of the viewing spots listed by WCC. A fee will be charged for this session. \$25 if a shirt is needed; \$15 if the participant already has a shirt. Diane Maglione suggested Gil and Melina trade positions every so often so both are prepared in case the other is absent. There are a few new volunteers this session. They were given the instructions on online seminars they needed to view as per the village insurance carrier. They also must submit to a background check and attend a certification class. The Board will be holding a class when basketball is set up that they can also attend.

Commissioner Olson discussed some changes in the archery program. The NASP program that it started under was originally designed for school use. Since this program is continuing, it is better if it continues under the US Archery program which oversees Olympic archery. It will be better for the Rec program in the long term. Coaches will have one year to take the online test. Commissioner Olson is working on someone to come give the class to Rec. The longer range is not available yet. When it is, Rec will be in charge of who can use it, perhaps give someone a permit to use for one year.

Gil spoke to Hal about getting a winter sweatshirt for the instructors.

Board members should also take the opportunity to stop by and visit the archery program when they have the chance. They can see how the program runs in case of an emergency and they are needed to supervise a session. They also could take the opportunity to try out the program for themselves.

Ping Pong – The program plans to start up again in December at the civic center. Sue Chak said with the covid situation, she would prefer to start later so she does not have to start and then stop right away. The Board is looking to purchase a ping pong table(s) for the program. Sue Chak said she would be able to assist with this.

Treasurer's Report – The ending balance was \$20,579.06. Still outstanding: \$1,400.00 umpire's fees; \$225 girls' travel basketball; \$200 deposit for Devil's tickets. The new treasurer will give a more detailed report next month. A motion was made by Jimmy Coloma and seconded by Bella Wagner to accept the Treasurer's Report. All were in favor of the motion.

Old Business:

At the Safety Meeting held on September 14, Matt McArrow reminded everyone that anyone working with children must view the video "[Protecting Children](#) from Abuse for Employees and Volunteers" and "Building a Safe Workplace: Anti-Harassment and Discrimination". Videos must be viewed and certificates of completion submitted by November 1.

New Business:

Commissioner Olson had some suggestions for one-day activities that he thought would be a good idea for the Board to run. Those ideas included, croquet (costs only \$85 for a set for 8 people), corn hole (he has the boards), bocci ball. He likes mini golf but doesn't know if there's a way to incorporate that now. Howie Jacobs suggested maybe an adult kick ball. He'd also like to see more trips once the covid situation improves. He is doing a Devil's game in the winter. The Mayor would be very happy if a square dance was included as one of the activities.

Commissioner Olson also advised that there have been talks about redoing the fields at Veteran's Park. There have been suggestions such as including an amphitheater in the hillside. He will bring a plan to one of the Board's meetings. He said Rec should be included in these discussions as well. This is very early in the planning stages of this project.

Commissioner Olson said he also wanted to thank the Board for all that it has been doing to try to give people something to do during covid. He really appreciates all the efforts made to find activities that people can safely participate in and wanted to make sure the Board knew it was much appreciated by the BOC.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 21, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. on a motion made by Mike Ruiz and seconded by Gil Bell. All were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara DeLuca
 Barbara DeLuca

cc: Commissioner Olson

This link will be used for the monthly meeting when it is held via Zoom: [https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71636345842?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71636345842?pwd=RDZEVE9LaXFxWoxbmXJSgQVdHdWZz09)
 pwd=RDZEVE9LaXFxWoxbmXJSgQVdHdWZz09 Meeting ID: 716 3634 5842 Passcode: Y4rtpt