

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.**

**BOARD OF RECREATION  
RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY  
September 21, 2017**

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, Hal Bomzer, Rodney Craft, Jimmy Coloma, Lloyd Domke, Scott Garriss and Mike Ruiz. Excused: Gil Bell, Mercedes Haines, Kaitlyn Maglione, and Tom Strowbridge.

The minutes of the May 18, 2017, meeting were approved by a motion made by Hal Bomzer and seconded by Lloyd Domke. All were in favor of this motion. There were no meetings in June, July and August.

**Correspondence:** **1)** May 24, 2017, quote from Corby Associates to repair the backboard height adjuster mechanism at Lincoln; **2)** May 31, 2017, email from Cristina, regarding lack of healthy take outs since she considers eating a recreational activity; **3)** permit to use Lincoln School gym for T2S Basketball summer sessions; **4)** permit to use Grant School, TJ School, Roosevelt School and Lincoln School gym from November 1 -March 31, 2018, for basketball as well as evaluations on October 30 and November 1 at Lincoln; **5)** June 19, 2017, letter from Supt. Eric Koenig thanking the Board of Recreation for donating the backboard height adjustment mechanism at Lincoln School; **6)** July 19, 2017, letter from Supt. Eric Koenig thanking the Board of Recreation for the donation of a safety inspection and safety maintenance program for the basketball backboards at Grant, Lincoln and Roosevelt Schools; **7)** invitation from Lincoln School PTA to have a representative present information on Board activities at their September 26, 2017, monthly meeting; **8)** email from Marisa Clarino, Little Ferry PAL, advising that they never received a payment from Ridgefield Park Recreation for the 2017 Football and Cheering season (they were advised that they have been dealing with the private cheering group).

**Hearing of Citizens:** Dan Reeves and Matt McArow were present to advise that they are looking to move the wrestling program from the Board of Recreation to Junior Football Association. Matt McArow said they need to be able to fundraise and Rec has no fundraising ability. They want to challenge the wrestling program to make them better wrestlers who are looking to move onto the high school program. Matt McArow wants to break from the Board of Rec and have Jr. Football Association run the program. Matt said they do not expect anything from the Board of Recreation at all.

The Board of Recreation wanted to make sure it was 100% clear that there will be no stipend for this new program. The Board is 100% against having this program take a stipend from the Village of Ridgefield Park. The Village should not have to pay for elite teams. Programs that handle all the Village children will continue with their stipends but according to Commissioner MacNeill the funding for the RP children has not yet been determined. He is considering a per child dollar amount.

The Board feels if they want to run an elite team, let them do it. They already sent out their registration. The Board of Rec says they have heard that Rec will have no support to run this program. Dan Reeves said this is a program that will be open to everyone. They want to raise money so they want to be on their own.

The Board explained to Matt McArow that last year there were complaints from parents that their kid was not wrestling. Other towns were wrestling at RP meets over RP kids. The Board of Rec was not aware of why certain kids were not wrestling even if it was in the safety of the kids. Dan Reeves explained this after the fact. Teaneck was used when there were not enough RP kids. If he did not have a kid the proper weight, he used a Teaneck wrestler for safety reasons he explained. The Board would have liked to know this information before it happened.

There was a meeting held in August to discuss the wrestling program. This meeting will be discussed in more detail under the wrestling report.

Matt McArow and Dan Reeves want to make the wrestlers part of the RPJFA. Matt McArow said they want to maintain the same participation as was done through Rec. They will also have an elite team they want to fundraise for.

It was explained to Matt McArow and Dan that this program cannot use the term "Recreation" Wrestling since it confuses participants. They will not be allowed to fundraise as Rec. They will not get a stipend from the Village for anything. The Board of Recreation will not deal with Dan Reeves. Dan does not want the sweatshirts that were ordered last year. Matt McArow was given the details of this flawed transaction this year and how there will now be a lawsuit against the company (Tri-Titans) providing the sweatshirts for failure to return the money for pants that were never delivered and tax wrongly charged on this transaction.

The sweatshirts arrived the last week of the program so Rec did not hand them out and was going to use them this season. Dan refuses to use these sweatshirts as he said the black pants will not match the black in these very customized sweatshirts. The Board of Recreation has wasted about \$5,000.00 on sweatshirts that were never used and pants never delivered. He said the sizes will be wrong although they were ordered in general youth sizes. Matt was informed that if Matt decided he wanted to use the sweatshirts, Matt could come to Rec and ask about the sweatshirts. Matt asked if it was possible for parents to purchase the sweatshirt from Rec if they wanted it and he was informed that this could be done. Matt also asked if they would be allowed to use the singlets already purchased for the wrestling program. The Board said he could take the singlets that Rec had purchased.

A motion was made by Mike Ruiz and seconded by Scott Garris that the wrestling program be moved from the Board of Recreation to the new organization, RP Junior Football Association, to run independently with no Village stipend. All were in favor of this motion.

**Bowling** – Nothing to report.

**Wrestling** – Wednesday August 23, 2017, there was a meeting for the Wrestling program. In attendance were Commissioner MacNeill, Lloyd Domke, Matt McArow and Dan Reeves.

Dan proposed to take the wrestling team through the football association. He would like to have a recreation team as well as an Elite team. He already spoke to Mr. Koenig and Mr. Raimondi regarding gym time. Lloyd did tell him that if he is not involved with Recreation there may be a charge for use of the facilities through the Board of Education. Dan mentioned that they told him there would be no fee. Lloyd also told him and Adam reiterated there will not be a stipend for his new program. Both Dan and Matt said they are not looking for one. He was planning on doing fund raising and has two sponsorships, Teterboro Chrysler being one of them. According to Dan, it sounds like the coaches are going to follow him as well as the parents. Lloyd told him the Board would get back to him in a week after it had a chance to speak. Sam Aguilar is no longer in charge of Football in LF.

**Girls' Softball** – No activity at this time.

**Women's Softball** – Peggy Schneider advised that it was a good season. Lanigan's won the championship for the first time ever.

**Fourth of July** – No activity at this time.

**Easter Egg Hunt** – No activity at this time.

**Holiday Display Contest** – The contest is scheduled for Friday, December 22 this year. The same number of prizes will be ordered. Lloyd Domke will check on use of the bus.

**Wish Tree** – It will be held at Oritani Savings Bank again this year.

**Tree Lighting** – The tree lighting is scheduled for December 3 this year. Mercedes Haines was unable to attend tonight's meeting but sent in her report. She contacted Howell and secured all performers for the tree lighting. Roosevelt School will be performing. Their music teacher confirmed. Girl and boy scouts have been contacted. Leaders have changed and waiting to hear whether they will participate. Need to speak to soloist and see if she is interested. Sound system confirmed and voucher sent in.

Other duties:

Speak to manager of 7-11 about event. Will do in October.

Contact D. Ingwersen about bike raffle.

Ask Barbara if extra monies to buy two other prizes. (Yes).

Call DPW ask Donna to mark date and make sure that we have risers.

A short discussion was held about the event. The members present didn't think a cotton candy cart was needed this year. They also discussed another town that had Dickens style characters walking around their lighting singing Christmas carols. It was decided this might be a nice idea to use in RP one year. Rodney Craft wondered if the new acting class might be interested in trying this at the tree lighting. An email will be sent to Rachel Maddock, who runs this program to get her thoughts on this.

**Rag-A-Muffin** – Trophies were delivered to Scott Garris, who has already assembled them. A few arrived broken and the company is sending replacement pieces. The cotton candy, popcorn carts and DJ have already been confirmed for Saturday, October 28, 2017, from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Flyers will go out in the schools in October. A memo has been sent to the Police Dept. Rain date will be Sunday, October 29, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. Members will meet at 9:00 a.m. on October 29. The older girl scout troop will be contacted to see if they can help carry the signs.

**Adult Trips/Activities** – No activity at this time.

**Ping Pong** – This program is on hold due to the Civic Center being currently unavailable. Work is underway and the program will start up again once the room is ready.

**Basketball** – Permits are in for all schools. The Board will also request use of the high school so that approval is there in case of any emergencies. Early bird registration ended on August 15, 2017, with 77 registrations. Registration is scheduled for Friday, September 22 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., and Saturday, September 23, 2017, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the DARE Room. Hal Bomzer and Mike Ruiz will do registration on Friday night. Scott Garris will do Saturday morning. An email will be sent out looking for more volunteers. Two people are needed at each registration.

Hal Bomzer will check with the schools to see if they are bringing back 7/8 basketball or if Rec should carry that program again. Evaluations will be held on October 30 and November 1. Hal Bomzer will not be able to attend the November 1 evaluations.

**Tennis** – Barry Ruback (568-3946) runs this program, which is taught by All Pro Tennis Staff. Forms went out for 2017 Fall Tennis, which is scheduled for: Saturdays, September 16, 23, October 7, 14 and 21. Fee is \$75 and participants can email Barry to reserve a spot. Payment is made at the first class.

**T2S Basketball** – Larry Umana sent over the flyer for the latest session. It clearly states it is a Board of Rec sponsored event and checks should be made payable to the Board of Recreation. Boys' session will start October 3 and be held on Tuesdays & Wednesdays at Roosevelt. Girls' session will start on October 2 and be held on Mondays & Tuesdays.

**Summer Fitness Camp** – Rodney Craft ran the program this year. He turned in the roster and fees for the program. He still needs to order shirts and water bottles. He will not be able to run the program next year. He said there is still a hole in the trailer. It is time for a new trailer.

**Competition Cheer Team** – Fausta Vargas and Kellie Nagle are running this program again. There are 39 registrations. Because choreography has to do with safety, the Village will reimburse the Board for the \$4,440.00 cost. There was an extra fee of \$100 for tumbling class that parents paid directly to the Rams.

There was one parent that had to drop out due to finances. Although refunds are normally not given, she will be given a refund of \$80, which is the balance after deducting the choreography class already attended by her daughter and the \$50 early bird basketball fee since she wanted her daughter to participate in basketball instead.

In conjunction with the K of C, the cheerleaders started a collection for the hurricane victims. Fausta also said she is going to attend the Lincoln School PTA meeting next week to distribute information on the cheering program.

**Acting and Improvisation** – Rachel Maddock held a Summer Acting Classes and Mini Theatre Camp – July 10-August 11<sup>th</sup> – All Grades. There will be on-going registration for the fall session. Registration forms are available at the Clerk's Office or on-line.

**Treasurer's Report** - Beginning balance as of May 1, 2017, was \$17,190.25, total deposits were \$16,886.63 total expenses were \$13,004.57 leaving a balance of \$21,072.31 as of August 31, 2017. A detailed report is in the file. A motion was made by Hal Bomzer and seconded by Mike Ruiz to approve the Treasurer's report. All were in favor of this motion.

**Old Business** – None at this time.

**New Business:** A motion was made by Mike Ruiz and seconded by Scott Garris to purchase a new container to replace the old container that has a hole in it. All were in favor of this motion. The DPW will be contacted to see what the process is to replace this container.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 19, 2017.

A motion was made by Hal Bomzer and seconded by Jimmy Coloma to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

cc: Commissioner Adam MacNeill

Barbara DeLuca