

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2015, at 7:00 P.M.

**BOARD OF RECREATION
RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY
JUNE 18, 2015**

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 on the 31stth day of December 2014. Roll call was taken. Commission members present were: Diane Maglione, Tom Essig, Scott Garris, Mercedes Haines and Kaitlyn Maglione. Hal Bomzer, Jimmy Coloma, Lloyd Domke, Mary Koegel, Mike Ruiz, Tom Strowbridge and David Urbay were excused.

The minutes of the May 21, 2015, meeting were approved by a motion made by Tom Essig and seconded by Kaitlyn Maglione. All were in favor of this motion.

Correspondence: mailing from wrestling mat cleaning company

Hearing of Citizens: Arturo Hernandez and Sue Chak, instructor and founder of Kiddie Gym, suggesting a possible new activity for the Board of Recreation. This matter will be discussed under new business.

Activity reports were as follows:

Bowling – Nothing to report.

Wrestling – No activity at this time

Girls' Softball – No activity at this time.

Women's Softball – There is still one check outstanding for one of the teams as well as one check that was sent in unsigned. The Board is working on getting these funds. Peggy Schneider seems to have things under control. The teams have been asked to send their win/loss record to Peggy so she can figure out the standings for playoffs. The regular softball field is still unavailable for use due to the lighting project at the park. Peggy has been working with the men's teams for use of fields.

Fourth of July – Andrew Ranaudo was selected as Grand Marshal.

Easter Egg Hunt – No activity at this time.

Holiday Display Contest – No activity at this time. The Board has checked to see what plate designs are available this year.

Wish Tree – No activity at this time.

Tree Lighting – The dead tree has been removed. Mercedes Haines has spoken to Lincoln School about performing next year. She has the soloist already. She is concerned about offering hot chocolate at the lighting but will look into it. The characters have been ordered for the lighting. There will be a table for the raffle entries. She will make up two prize baskets for toddlers. Slurpees will be available. Sound system has been ordered.

Rag-A-Muffin — The Board spoke with Parties for Peanuts about a DJ and food cart for the event. A DJ and two food carts (cotton candy and popcorn) have been ordered for 2 hours from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. They will also provide the attendant for the food cart. Tom Essig will order small waters for the parade. The Board will also look into possibly giving away glo-lights.

Adult Trips/Activities – Tom Essig is looking into a possible fishing trip in the late summer.

The Board of Recreation will be sponsoring a crocheting class taught by Llama, Llama, Ewe beginning on July 9, 2015. Participants must be at least 10 years old. The class will run for 4 weeks (July 9, 16, 23 & 30) and be held at the Civic Center, (Nutrition Room) at 159 Park Street. The class will be held on Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m. and last approximately 1 1/2 hrs. The cost is \$75.00 per person, which includes all supplies (yarn, hook and stitch marker).

Participants will be taught basic stitches, pattern reading, increases and decreases while working flat and in the round. Participants must make babysitting arrangements for any children under 10 that are not taking the class. Registration for these classes is due by July 6, 2015. Maximum of 10 in a class.

Basketball – Early bird registration forms have been mailed to all players that participated this past season as well as current first grade students. Registration next year is scheduled for September 25 and 26. Early bird registration ends on August 15. Diane Maglione has not heard back from Matt McArrow regarding the background checks.

Tennis – Barry Ruback (568-3946) runs this program, which is taught by All Pro Tennis Staff. He has about 23 registrations.

Summer Fitness Camp – Registration took place. As of now, there are 55 participants. Rodney Craft anticipates probably around 70 kids total. Registrations are still coming in. He turned in fees for 55 registrations. The equipment is in. No one signed up for just one week. Most participants signed up for two or three weeks. He has 12 confirmed coaches and would like to have 15 with the amount of kids signed up. The high school basketball coach, Nicole Pucciarelli, has volunteered to help with the camp. She is Level 1 CrossFit certified as well as Level 1 CrossFit kids certified. She runs a program for kids and teens at CrossFit Passaic Valley in Totowa that incorporates speed and agility drills, strength training, and various workouts that include running, rowing, gymnastics, barbells, medicine balls, kettle bells and much more, and said she'd love to share some ideas. Rodney will take care of ordering the kids shirts and coach's shirts.

Rodney will contact the Ambulance Corps requesting more EMTs be present at the camp since there are a lot of participants. Rodney will contact John Tymon a few days before the camp to remind him about the necessity for EMTs. Diane gave Rodney a key to the storage container. Rodney will let Diane know if the key does not work. Rodney said he also reached out to ETS Fitness. They will do a clinic with the kids.

T2S Basketball - Larry Umana and Nathan Lopez are running a basketball specific performance enhancement training program to students in grades 5-12. T2S Basketball Academy is having ongoing registration throughout the summer. For further information, interested people can email t2sbasketballacademy@gmail.com, or on Facebook: @t2sbasketballacademy.

Treasurer's Report - Beginning balance as of May, 2015 was \$26,669.36, total deposits for month were \$4,395.62, total expenses for month were \$7,497.69, leaving a balance of \$23,567.29. A detailed report is in the file. Funds falsely charged to the debit card have been reimbursed.

A motion was made by Scott Garris and seconded by Mercedes Haines to approve the treasurer's report. All were in favor of this motion.

New Business – Arturo Hernandez and Sue Chak, instructor and founder of Kiddie Gym, were present to suggest the Board sponsor a ping pong program for children ages 5-15. If there was an interest, she would be willing to have a program for adults as well.

Sue Chak provided her background with Table Tennis. She is an international table tennis player and coach with more than 20 years' experience. She has won many national level tournaments and has represented her country in Commonwealth Games 2000. She now tries to promote table tennis involving kids and juniors through fun and innovative Table Tennis lessons.

She explained that ping pong sharpens mental skill, concentration and focus. It improves physical fitness

without stressing a child's body. It also improves concentration and brain development. The program is designed to aid children to develop their mental and physical sharpness, to aid them in staying focused on individual goals and become champions in life. It is considered a world class sport and develops physical and mental agility and provides lifelong fitness. The program begins at 5 years old with progression based on ability and success. It includes all children at all coordination levels.

The only thing the Board of Recreation needs to supply is the location. She would bring table tennis board, rackets, balls and any other accessories. The tables can be kept at the location and secured to a wall if possible. It is a nice alternative for kids not actively involved in other sports. There is little chance of injury in this type of sport. The child does not have to be a great athlete to participate.

The goal is to have 10 kids per table. They need one coach per 10 kids/table. They recruit the coaches and do background checks on all coaches they work with. The program is 10 weeks long and the lesson is approximately 1 to 1 ½ hrs. This includes some physical exercise, ping pong and yoga.

They do not have a set fee for the program. They will work with the Board of Recreation on setting a fee. The Board suggested they talk to Daina Scheideler if they wanted to incorporate this into the summer recreation program. The age range is 3-15 years but she said they would not be opposed to having an adult program if there was an interest. If the program grew, there could possibly be tournaments with surrounding towns.

The Board suggested they send in a written proposal on what they need and specific details and the Board could then work on trying to find a suitable location for the activity. Sue said she would email over some information as well as a blank form that the Board could adapt to this specific program to include language necessary for the Board of Recreation programs. If they sent this information during the summer, the Board could email all members since the next meeting is scheduled for September 17. The website for Kiddie Gym is www.facebook.com/KiddieGymUS.

Old Business – Background checks – Diane Maglione will be meeting with Commissioner MacNeill to discuss background checks and the procedure that Hackensack uses. A procedure will be in place before any fall programs start. Diane has also spoken to someone from another town to see how they handle background checks. She would like to get a program that only has to be done once and then can be used if an incident occurs with the individual so the Board would be notified.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2015. Elections will be held at the September meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mercedes Haines and seconded by Scott Garris to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca

cc: Commissioner Adam MacNeill