

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2004, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**BOARD OF RECREATION  
RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY  
April 15, 2004**

President Diane Maglione called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 sent to The Record on the 29th day of December, 2003, and to the Star-Ledger on the 29th day of December, 2003. Roll call was taken. Commission members present were: Diane Maglione, Rich DePena, Mercedes Haines, Catherine Jacob, Mary Koegel, Leigh Rivera and Frank Zaccherio. Hal Bomzer, Paula DiMeglio and Tom Essig were excused.

A motion was made by Leigh Rivera and seconded by Rich DePena approving the minutes of the March 18, 2004, meeting.

**Correspondence:** A letter was received from Mayor Fosdick thanking the Board for the good work done on the Easter Egg Hunt. A thank you card was also received from Commissioner Storer for the fruit basket.

**Hearing of Citizens:** None present.

Activity reports were as follows:

**Bowling** – No new information at this time.

**Wrestling** – Diane Maglione spoke to Tony Gonzalez of the high school. Mike Raimondi will not be running the program next year. Diane informed Tony that she still has her son's uniform because no one asked for it to be returned. There was a discrepancy in the registration this year because more participants were in the program than the Board of Recreation had registration forms or fees for. Tony Gonzalez assured Diane that this would be straightened out next year. Tony Gonzalez will use the registration fees to pay for any equipment that needs to be replenished for next year.

In the past since this activity does not require much funding, the Board of Recreation has paid to have the old wrestling mats refurbished so they may be used for the recreation program. The last time this was done was quite a few years ago and the old mat needs to be refurbished because the one that was previously refurbished is damaged and no longer usable. Tony Gonzalez will check into this. Rich DePena said he also knows of a company that refurbishes mats.

**T-Ball** – T-shirts and hats were ordered. The program begins on April 24 and runs through June 12, with the picnic scheduled for June 10. A request was made to Gail Frisz, Guidance Counselor, at the high school for some students seeking community service hours to assist with this program. The Board was also informed that April 24 is Jesus Day so second grade communion candidates cannot attend the first session. No permit has been received for the fields to date. Rich DePena is still looking for coaches to assist him. A letter was sent to all participants informing them of the starting date and asking for assistance.

**Girls' Softball** – No permit has been received for the fields to date. As of now, there are 20 girls in the junior division and 21 girls in the senior division. The Board plans on running two teams in each division and sharing girls when necessary. Most games will end up being played in Hackensack. Jim Maglione will coach a senior team and will get in touch with Bill White to arrange scheduling for his team. Catherine Jacob will handle assigning teams and whatever needs to be done for this program. T-shirt orders need to be turned in. Catherine Jacob said she would contact Bill White to arrange scheduling for the teams. The picnic is tentatively set for June 10.

**Summer Sandlot Baseball Program** – Carlos Carames was present to give a report. The program is running well. Opening day will be April 17. Seven players from Ridgefield Park were selected for the travel teams in Hackensack. Hackensack will be taking some of the players to Cooperstown. All Ridgefield Park players ended up on the same team with some Hackensack players on the team as well. There are three Ridgefield Park coaches. There may be some pictures in the newspapers but Hackensack will obtain releases for these pictures.

It was decided to invite the sandlot baseball players to the end of year softball picnic tentatively scheduled for June 10. Carlos will take care of this invitation once final plans are made.

**Women's Softball** – No permit has been received for the fields to date. Frank Zaccherio plans on running with fewer teams this year. Frank ordered some equipment and opening day will be May 2.

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

**Easter Egg Hunt** – Mary Koegel bought the candy at National Liquidators at a considerable savings from previous years. She plans on doing this again next year. There was a problem with the egg donation from IGA as they inadvertently forgot to order the eggs and Mary had to wait until late on Friday night to get the eggs. IGA said they will donate the eggs again next year and a reminder letter will be sent to them early to order the eggs.

The egg hunt went well. There was a problem with a few parents that took their children into more than one division or went into the hill with their children. Next year it will be clearly stated on the flyers: 1) Only one prize egg per child. 2) You may only compete in one age group. 2) Parents may only accompany their child in the first division. It was also suggested that a letter be sent to the Ambulance Corps. inviting them to a meeting prior to the Easter Egg hunt to coordinate duties.

The Ridgefield Park High School is looking for community service hours for their students and next year, the Board will look into using students to assist in this event.

**Holiday Display Contest** – No activity at this time.

**Wish Tree** – No activity at this time.

**Tree Lighting** – No activity at this time.

**Rag-A-Muffin** – No activity at this time.

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

**Basketball** – The season is over. There were no real problems. Tally sheets for the second half of the season should all have been given to Mary Koegel by now. Rich DePena will handle anything currently up in air (boys travel?). Four checks could not be issued in the March payment because no addresses were provided to the Clerk's Office. Those people are: J. Giglio, G. Acosta, Angel Fernandez and L. Lopez. A note was sent to the division leaders requesting these addresses and the checks can be issued as soon as the addresses are provided. The Clerk's Office also asked the Board to remind refs/scorers/timers that the auditors have stated that a W9 must be on file for all people receiving payment.

Mercedes Haines reported that the clinic went well and she plans on running it again next year. As far as she knows, all coaches will return next year and move up with their children. She turned in her inventory of equipment:

Trophies: 2 girls, 7 boys

Shirts: 3 grey ( 2 medium, 1 large)

Coach's Shirts: 3 XL, 1 LG, 1XXXL

2 whistles

Frank Scerbo had approached the Board about coaching a traveling team for the girls currently on the eighth grade school basketball team. He wanted to take a team consisting of only eighth grade girls that played on the team and have them play in the summer Tenaflly league and use the insurance from the Village. It was explained to him that the Board of Recreation could only sponsor activities that were open to all students of Ridgefield Park and it would only sponsor a

team if open tryouts were held for all eighth grade girls either residing in Ridgefield Park or attending school in Ridgefield Park. All expenses from a traveling team are also absorbed by the participants. Frank Scerbo decided to get his own insurance and set up a private team.

Joe Urbay is planning to run a traveling program for boys in grades 6-8. All expenses will be absorbed by the participants. Once all details are ironed out, Joe Urbay will provide them to Rich DePena so that a notice of open tryouts can be distributed in the schools. He plans on getting coaches to assist with these teams and will decide how many teams after he sees the interest in the program. This year he plans on entering the teams in tournaments and possibly a summer league. A permit was requested for Lincoln School gym for these teams.

All basketball equipment needs to be inventoried and stored at the DPW.

**Tennis** – Barry Rubach (568-3946) is running this program and there is no new information available other than during a scavenger hunt in town the net disappeared at Hunter Park and had to be replaced.

**Treasurer's Report** - The current balance is \$9,378.00. There are some outstanding bills that need to be paid.

**New Business:** The Board will contact Commissioner Storer to see about getting a charge card in the Board's name so that it can take advantage of lower prices found on the internet where payment is expected up front. It is unfair to ask members to use personal funds to pay for these items and then wait for reimbursement from the Village.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 20, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca

cc: Commissioner Storer