

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2003, AT 7:00 P.M.

**BOARD OF RECREATION
RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY
SEPTEMBER 18, 2003**

President Diane Maglione called the meeting to order at 7:10 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 19th day of December, 2002, and to the Star-Ledger on the 19th day of December, 2002. Roll call was taken. Commission members present were: Hal Bomzer, Rich DePena, Tom Essig, Catherine Jacob, Mary Koegel and Diane Maglione. Paula DiMeglio was excused. Mercedes Haines and Leigh Rivera were absent. Commissioner Storer was also present at the meeting.

A motion was made by Catherine Jacob and seconded by Tom Essig approving the minutes of the June 18, 2003, meeting.

Correspondence: None.

Hearing of Citizens: None present.

Activity reports were as follows:

Bowling – No activity at this time.

Wrestling – No activity at this time. Tony Gonzales will run the administrative end of the program and Mike Raimundi will run the actual program.

T-Ball – No activity at this time. Registration fees may be raised to \$25.00 in the future.

Girls' Softball – No activity at this time. Prior to next season, there will be discussion on length of season and any other changes necessary, such as increase in registration fees. Tom Essig advised that both he and his daughter, Allison, were deposed regarding the Cerniglia lawsuit.

Summer Sandlot Baseball Program – Carlos Carames advised that Michele Lynn registered her daughter and then dropped out before the season began and requested that her check not be cashed. Michele then asked Carlos for a refund of her registration fees. A letter was sent to Michele Lynn advising that no refund would be issued because the uncashed check # 509 was returned to Bill Lynn as the check was written on his account, not hers.

Carlos Carames and John Toomey advised that they were very pleased with how the season went. There were a total of 21 players in the program. All

participated with the exception of two players, who had personal conflicts throughout the summer. The program ended up as a basic instructional program and ran from June 19 – August 5. Officially, three games were played. Both Carlos and John were happy with Bill White and how he ran the program. Four players from Ridgefield Park are still playing with the Hackensack program. They were invited on the Hackensack travel team.

Hackensack would like to merge with Ridgefield Park next year for a summer program. They have a 25-team league, which allows the kids to play for 4 ½ - 5 months. The only cost to the Board would be insurance for the regular season. Games would be played in Hackensack so as to avoid any conflicts with other Ridgefield Park organizations. Ridgefield Park players could then be eligible for the traveling team if they merged together.

Carlos and John would like to continue the program next year. They will get more detailed information from Hackensack and bring it before the Board at a later date. They, along with parents and players, were very satisfied with how the season ran this year. Carlos made sure he did not schedule any practices or games that conflicted with the baseball organization. Since this year went so well, they would like to hand out their flyers a little earlier next year so they have more time to organize details for the program. Last year, they used field no. 2 and there were no conflicts. Parents and players were very pleased with the program and the players were happy they had the opportunity to march in the July 4 parade. There were no injuries this season.

Women's Softball – It was suggested that registration fees be raised for next season to help with the increasing costs of this program. The program is still running. The end of season party is scheduled for October 3. Frank Zaccherio was advised that he only has \$600.00 left in his budget to complete the season. If more funds are needed, players will need to pay any outstanding bills.

Fourth of July – No activity at this time.

Easter Egg Hunt – No activity at this time.

Holiday Display Contest – No activity at this time. Frank Zaccherio will run this program again.

Wish Tree – No activity at this time. Kaitlyn Maglione will run this program again with the assistance of Mary Koegel.

Tree Lighting – No activity at this time. Tree lighting is scheduled for December 7, 2003. Mercedes Haines will run this program again.

Rag-A-Muffin – The parade is scheduled for Saturday, October 25 at 11:00 a.m. Flyers will be distributed in the schools in October and the trophies will be

ordered shortly. Judges are already lined up. Letters will be sent to the police department and the DPW requesting assistance. Diane Maglione advised she will be working the day shift for the parade and Hal Bomzer said he would arrive at 11:00 a.m. to help out. All members are needed at 9:00 a.m. to help set up.

Adult Trips/Activities – No activity at this time.

Women's Basketball – Due to lack of interest, the program will not continue.

Basketball – Early registration ended on August 15. Early registrations were as follows: Clinic – 16, Girls 3&4 – 6, 5&6 – 14, 7&8 – 15, 9th – 2; Boys 3&4 – 28, 5&6 – 18, 7&8 – 19 for a total of 118 registrations. Forms will be distributed in the schools next week. Registration is scheduled at Roosevelt School on Friday, October 3 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 4 from 9:00 a.m. – noon. After October 4, a \$5 late fee will be charged making registration fees \$35.00 per registration.

Members available for Friday night are: Mary Koegel, Rich DePena, Catherine Jacob, Leigh Rivera, Mercedes Haines.

Members available for Saturday morning are: Rich DePena, John Toomey, Carlos Carames. Hal Bomzer will be present for recruiting purposes and would like to have at least three members help with registration. T-shirts will be available at registration for sizing purposes.

Once registration is done, Hal will work on the number of teams for each division. Classes will be given again this year for scorers/timers/ referees. Since it worked out so well last year, only students in seventh grade and higher will be used for scorers/timers.

Tennis – Barry Rubach (568-3946) ran this program during the summer, however, no current information is available.

Treasurer's Report - The balance as of the last deposit is \$6,984.92, of which approximately \$1,500 will be used for the women's softball party (funds come from registration fees). Commissioner Joseph Storer and the Clerk's Office gave a form to be filled out monthly with the treasurer's report to comply with the auditor's request. This will start with next month's report.

New Business: A motion was made by Hal Bomzer and seconded by Rich DePena changing the meeting time to 7:00 p.m. All were in favor of this motion.

A discussion was also held on the budget for the Board of Recreation. There are several other programs that receive money that is listed on the Board of Recreation Budget (summer recreation, football, soccer, baseball, senior citizen Christmas party, etc.). The Board of Recreation encumbers all funds for its programs at the beginning of the year as instructed by the Clerk's Office;

however, when funds are needed to pay bills throughout the year, money is taken from the Board's encumbered funds with the hopes that it will be returned if money can be found at a later date. The Board will discuss with Commissioner Storer either increasing the Board's budget for next year to adjust for increases in stipends given to activities that are not sponsored by the Board but charged to the Board's account or separating these disbursements from the Board's actual budget. The Board's activities are growing and new activities are being added; however, the Board has not had its yearly budget increased.

Diane Maglione wants to make sure there are sufficient funds to buy equipment for all programs and will not compromise safety due to budget constraints. A discussion will be had with Commissioner Storer at a later date.

Nominations and Elections for 2003/2004:

President: Diane Maglione was nominated by Catherine Jacob, seconded by Tom Essig
Vice President: Mary Koegel was nominated by Hal Bomzer, seconded by Rich DePena
Treasurer: Frank Zaccherio was nominated by Rich DePena, seconded by Tom Essig

Elections were held and by a unanimous vote, the new officers for 2003/2004 are as follows:

President: Diane Maglione
Vice President: Mary Koegel
Treasurer: Frank Zaccherio

A discussion was held on open positions on the Board. A list of suggested names will be turned into Commissioner Storer.

Gil Bell sent an email to the Board during the summer suggesting a possible summer basketball program for 5/6 and 7/8 grades. He said he would be willing to run and referee the program. Hal Bomzer advised Gil to put his proposal in writing and present it to the Board for consideration. The Board will wait to hear from Gil Bell.

The DPW changed the keys to the storage bin again. Diane has distributed keys and has extras if anyone needs them.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

cc: Commissioner Joseph Storer

Barbara DeLuca