

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2015, at 7:00 P.M.

**BOARD OF RECREATION
RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY
NOVEMBER 20, 2014**

Treasurer Tom Essig called the meeting to order at 7:15 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 on the 15th day of January 2014, and sent to the Star Ledger on the 10th day of January 2014. Roll call was taken. Commission members present were: Diane Maglione (arrived shortly after roll call), Hal Bomzer, Jimmy Coloma, Lloyd Domke, Tom Essig, Mercedes Haines, Mary Koegel and Mike Ruiz. Scott Garris, Kaitlyn Maglione, Tom Strowbridge and David Urbay were excused. Also present was Rodney Craft.

The minutes of the September 11 and October 16, 2014, meetings were approved.

Correspondence: permit for use of Lincoln School library on December 4 for certification class

Hearing of Citizens: None present.

Activity reports were as follows:

Bowling – Nothing to report.

Wrestling – Uly Encarnacion was present to give a report. He had a meeting regarding the season and gave Tom Essig the invoice for fees. The home meets are scheduled for January 24, 2015, and February 7, 2015. John Tymon will be asked to provide the EMTs for the meets.

At the first registration, there were 13 registrations and at the next registration there were 20 registrations. He got another 8 registrations at the first practice. The next practice is November 25 and he will probably get about 5-8 more registrations.

This year he plans to go back to the No. Bergen tournament. There will be a few Sunday tournaments. These are not team tournaments; they are individual tournaments, so parents must pay for that. He has not scheduled the Sunday tournaments yet. It will be mostly novice tournaments.

Uly said he is good with uniforms. Coach Murri would like to get a different uniform that wears better. The cost for a youth uniform is about \$50 and an adult is about \$75. They will discuss this further to see how they want to handle the uniforms. Coach Murri was thinking of a white uniform with red on it but the Board wonders if white is a good idea. The wrestling mats are good. The gym availability will determine the practice schedule.

John Tymon will be sent a letter requesting EMTs on January 24, 2015, and February 7, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. to about noon at the high school. Once Uly gets the school practice schedule, he will send it to the Board.

There was one bounced check from the wrestling program. The Board will send a letter asking for reimbursement.

Girls' Softball – Lloyd Domke had a meeting Monday in Little Ferry. They are offering to have our girls play there and become a part of their program. This is a great opportunity for our girls. Nobody will get cut. They play in the South Bergen league. Numbers have been down in Ridgefield Park because the program is competing with too many other activities. Registration is ongoing in Little Ferry. If a player registers in November the cost is \$55, December \$65 and January \$75. The girls would also have an opportunity to try out and play for an all-star team. It has been an uphill struggle lately. There were 11

girls on one team and 12 on the other. Lloyd asked what would be required of RP to participate in this league. This year Little Ferry is getting ready to do their field. They would like use of the softball fields that are already used by the Board of Recreation for the girls' softball program. Lloyd will speak with Little Ferry and get the information so the Board of Recreation can distribute forms to the girls.

Women's Softball – Trophies came in and Peggy Schneider has them. Bella Wagner will be running the party but the Board has not heard from her yet. Diane Maglione said next year she will not be checking the books and rosters turned in by the teams. Too many teams do not follow the procedures. At the last several meetings, all teams agreed that ringers are no longer a problem and they didn't care about the 7 game requirement so there is no need to check the books anymore.

Fourth of July – Letters will be going out next month to all organizations asking for nominations for grand marshal.

Easter Egg Hunt – No activity at this time.

Holiday Display Contest – The plates are in and will be distributed after the judging ends. The contest will be held on December 19 this year. Registrations are due December 18. Flyers will be distributed in the schools. Mary Koegel said she's ready for the contest.

Wish Tree – Kaitlyn Maglione has spoken to Kathy Tobin of the Welfare Department. There are about 30 kids on the list this year. The tags will be dropped off November 22 and gifts will be due on December 12. The gifts will be sorted on the 18th and distributed on the 19th. Flyers will be distributed in the schools.

Tree Lighting – Mercedes Haines said she was informed last night that Rosa and Rosa Martinez (the soloists) are unable to perform at the tree lighting. The girl scouts have confirmed they will be singing this year. The girl scouts will start assembling at 5:30 p.m. The Board asked the scouts to make sure there was adequate adult supervision because last year the scouts were a bit noisy and it was hard to hear the other performers and speakers. Jeannine Lavalie said there would be 10-12 cub scouts and about 40 girl scouts. She will separate them into two groups of 25 on the risers. The smaller scouts will be on top so they can be seen.

Everyone has been contacted. It is Roosevelt School's turn to participate. They will perform first to introduce Santa. The sound system has been ordered. Mercedes Haines will get in touch with Santa and 7-11. 7-11 should be reminded that it would be a good idea to have some Slurpees ready when the kids come in. Flyers will be distributed in the schools.

All available members should meet at 5:00 p.m. A memo will be sent to the DPW requesting both risers and side rails be used.

Rag-A-Muffin — The parade took place on Saturday, October 25, 2014. Everything went well. The weather was very good and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. There were about 125 participants (about 30 less than usual). Entries were as follows:

Division 1 – 23	Division 5 – 11
Division 2 – 21	Division 6 – 3
Division 3 – 13	Division 7 – 8
Division 4 – 18	

Unfortunately only one of the community service students showed up. There were three students that volunteer to help each year that did assist. The boy scouts said they were unable to assist. There were a few recycled trophies from last year that were used. The judges liked having the option of three extra Honorable Mention trophies so they will be added again for next year. There were a lot of very good costumes this year so the honorable mentions did help to acknowledge that. The out-of-town division has been growing smaller each year so some of the bigger trophies for that division will be eliminated. Some people thought the judges could speed things up but the judges had a difficult job with so many good costumes.

Adult Trips/Activities – The Board is looking into running a program similar to Biggest Loser. The Spa at Glenpointe is looking into how to set up the program and run it for the Board.

Adult Craft Classes – No activities at this time.

Basketball – David Urbay attended a meeting about travel basketball on 10/20 to discuss upcoming season. David was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to basketball practice but sent his report as follows: Steven Savage (Hackensack) sent me the forms to register our three teams. 5/6 boys, 7/8 girls, 7/8 boys. I told him by the end of the next week I can at least give him the names of the kids, but I confirmed that we will have 3 teams.

I've emailed and spoke to Tom (6/7/8 girls) and Jimmy (5/6 boys), (I'm doing the 7/8 boys) about it. I have already emailed the potential girls team based on Tom and Sharon's recommendations. Took the top 5's and left over 4's. Waiting on confirmation from that age group. Jimmy will be giving me his list by this weekend for a top 10 for his age group. I am in the process of reaching out to my age group to confirm with them about it.

I emailed Steve this earlier today, just awaiting a response. I offered him referees as well, if it's possible to generate a list of past referees that we can send over there. That should make it easier to assign refs here in town as well.

Steve hasn't mentioned anything about payment yet, how will that go? He is trying to get the scheduling set and done. I requested the teams to play at these times:

5/6 boys- late Saturday afternoons, after 6:30, or Tuesday and Thursday

girls- after 12 noon Saturdays

boys- after 12 noon Saturdays.

As far as coaches, I have that covered. All will, if not all already certified to coach. One coach is being certified this year and will be an assistant.

Unless something comes up, the coaches will be-

5/6 boys- I will be coaching

6/7/8 girls- I heard Pat Tellian wanted to coach, haven't reached out to her yet. If not, I have Julio Cardenas available.

7/8 boys- Laz Menendez and Nico Velez (will be certified).

Hal Bomzer said he had sent an email to Steve Savage. His program is in a transitional year. The Board may have to pay for some of the referees. Hal Bomzer said he would run a meeting similar to the pre-season meeting he holds for the Rec program. Hal told him he could get a list of refs from his assignor. Uniforms will need to be ordered for the traveling program. They will be red/white reversible pinneys and shorts.

Hal ordered a new controller for Roosevelt School to replace the broken one. The clinic needs all new equipment. If any of the maintenance equipment needs replacement, it should be replaced.

Frank Gonzalez has volunteered to run the boys 3&4 division. He stepped up when there was no one to run this division. The experienced division leaders are helping him out and he's doing a good job.

Teams have been selected, shirts ordered and practice schedules distributed. Hal is working on the game schedule now. It will be posted on the internet when it is completed.

There have been several bounced checks that the Board is trying to get reimbursed for.

Diane Maglione has not heard back from Matt McArrow regarding the background checks.

Captain Hippe has previously informed the Board that a Village ordinance was needed in order to do background checks but Commissioner MacNeill said the Board could run them on their own but he did not provide the Board with a system to do so. The Board would need some type of administrator who would

be the secured keeper of the info.

Diane will not allow the Board members to be held liable for something they do not have control over. The Board will await information from Matt McArow of GJEM regarding background checks.

Diane Maglione still has not heard back from Commissioner MacNeill on background checks. The Board will soon need to contact the Mayor and Board of Commissioners regarding the lack of background checks on volunteer coaches working with Village youth. The safety of the Village youth needs to be made a priority by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners. Diane was able to chat very briefly with the Mayor when he passed by during the meeting. The Mayor was unaware about the request for background checks. He said he hadn't heard anything about background checks at any of the caucus meetings. Minutes will be forwarded to the Mayor to bring him up-to-date on the request for background checks.

Tennis – Barry Ruback (568-3946) runs this program, which is taught by All Pro Tennis Staff. No activity at this time.

Treasurer's Report - Beginning balance as of October 2014 was \$32,652.63, total deposits for month were \$7,008.45, total expenses for month were \$1,730.66 leaving a balance of \$37,930.42. A detailed report is attached. There have been a few bounced checks. The Board is trying to get reimbursed for the checks. A motion was made by Hal Bomzer and seconded by Mercedes Haines to approve the treasurer's report. All were in favor of this motion.

New Business – Rodney Craft was present for two reasons. He would like to become an associate member until there is an opening on the Board of Recreation. He is also interested in running a fitness camp during the summer for the youth of Ridgefield Park. He is not looking for any type of payment for himself or the volunteers.

Last year he ran a similar program for three weeks in July. Volunteers donated their time and even purchased some of the necessary equipment. No fee was charged to the participants. Shirts were even provided to the children. He would like to do it again in July. August gets to be too busy with football, soccer, etc., all starting up. If he had more volunteers, he could probably expand the program.

The Board said it could probably help with some equipment. The Board explained to Rodney that it charges affordable fees for recreational activities for Village youth. The fee includes t-shirt and insurance.

Rodney will draft up something for the Board to include his necessary equipment, his "wish list", and details of how he runs the program. He usually runs the program from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. when it is cooler out. By around 7:00 p.m., it usually starts to cool down. They supply the water to make sure everyone stays hydrated. Rodney said he will draft up a proposal listing more specific details such as an overview of the program and the target age group they are looking to attract. He said all his volunteers have been certified through the Rutgers's Safety Clinic.

Old Business – The Board has sent Commissioner MacNeill information on doing background checks.

Mike Ruiz asked if anything was happening with the volleyball program that was discussed a while ago. Lloyd Domke said he will speak to the high school coach to see if anything can be done this year but right now there is nothing planned. Normally the high school has run summer volleyball camp.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 15, 2015.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Hal Bomzer and seconded by Jimmy Coloma to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca

cc: Commissioner Adam MacNeill