

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2007, at 7:00 P.M.

**BOARD OF RECREATION
RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY
MARCH 15, 2007**

Vice President Mary Koegel called the meeting to order at 7:07p.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 27th day of December, 2006, and to the Star-Ledger on the 27th day of December, 2006. Roll call was taken. Commission members present were: Hal Bomzer, Carlos Carames, Lloyd Domke, Tom Essig, Mercedes Haines, Mary Koegel, Leigh Rivera and Frank Zaccherio. Diane Maglione, Rich DePena and Gil Bell were excused. Commissioner Poli was also present at the meeting.

A motion was made by Frank Zaccherio and seconded by Tom Essig approving the minutes of the February 15, 2007, meeting.

Correspondence: Letter from Time Warner regarding cable program; letter from Susan Cerniglia dated February 20, 2007, to Dr. Richardson regarding her son's missing property. Diane Maglione sent a reply that was approved by the Board and Commissioner Poli.

Hearing of Citizens: None present.

Activity reports were as follows:

Bowling – The winter league is in session.

Wrestling - The end of season party should be scheduled.

T-Ball – Lloyd Domke said that registration was held and he currently has ten registrations. The program will start on April 21. He is still accepting registrations for this program.

Girls' Softball - Registration was held. The 9/10 division has 21 girls. Lloyd would like to have 24 girls so the registration is still open. The 11/12 division is closed at 17. Lloyd is trying to stress to the players that they must take softball seriously and pay attention so that no one gets hurt. The 13/14 division is closed at 16. Preliminary schedules are set and will be distributed when finalized.

Lloyd said he will need some equipment this year. The helmets are old and dry-rotted. He will need 12 more helmets; he already has the face guards. He has plenty of softballs in stock for the older girls. He will need 12 softballs for the younger girls. He also needs scorebooks and chin straps and might need some

larger facemasks. The total cost for the equipment is probably \$468.00. Lloyd also needs to order some bats. He is checking into aluminum vs. wooden bats, as one town will not play any team that does not use wooden bats.

Last year the older team used the umpire service. He would like to use it again this year. There are two younger teams with 8 home games. He estimates the umpire fees for the older girls will be \$850, with \$100 in registration fees. Once Lloyd has a final amount he will inform the Board so Diane Maglione can encumber the necessary funds. Lloyd plans to umpire the younger teams along with Brian Haines and one other parent. Last year the fee for umpiring was \$35.00.

A letter will be sent to Matt McArow of GJEM Insurance inquiring if paid officials are covered for events they work at.

The season starts around April 15. Lloyd informed the coaches to work with the baseball organization. If the Board has the lighted field on a game night, it will use that field. If the Board is using the lighted field for practice and baseball has a game, the Board will switch fields with baseball for that night. Lloyd said he will also go through the old equipment and get rid of what is not usable.

Summer Sandlot Baseball Program – No activity at this time.

Women's Softball – Frank Zaccherio said that this year he currently has only 8 teams. Packets were to have been turned in by March 1. Packets have not been returned by all the teams and several of the packets turned in are not complete. Some registration forms were not signed by the players so they will be returned to those players for signature. Some teams did not turn in the correct registrations fees and must do so. Shirts have not been ordered yet. The umpiring association sent in some paperwork that Frank has to return. They are requiring advance payment this year.

As far as the decision for playoffs, that will be made only after all teams have turned in completed packets.

Tom Essig advised that last in reviewing last year's records, women's softball registration brought in \$7,050.00. Registration fees were \$50.00 so $150 \times \$50.00$ should have been \$7,500.00. That means that right off the bat, the Board was down \$450.00 for this program. He used 150 players as an estimate for participants as the only information he had was an invoice for 150 so he is assuming there were 150 players.

Fourth of July – Nominations are being accepted for grand marshal.

Easter Egg Hunt – The Easter Egg hunt will be held on April 7 this year. Mary Koegel got the candy from CVS. The Ambulance Corps. will host breakfast after

the hunt. Members should meet at 8:00 a.m. at Veteran's Park. Eggs will be dyed at the Ambulance Corps. on Friday, April 6. The poster contest was held tonight and Mary Koegel will handle prize distribution.

Holiday Display Contest – There were some prizes that were not picked up by winners at the Commissioner's meeting and left in the Clerk's Office for pick-up. They were never picked up. These prizes were delivered to: 44 Seventh Street, 24 Hudson Avenue, 101 Christie Street, 68 College Place and 47 Edison Street. There were two extra prizes that can be used next year, as they had no date on them.

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 – Frank Zaccherio just finished circus tickets. There are 120-130 tickets sold. The next activity will be tickets to Champions on Ice at the Continental Arena on April 28. Lower level tickets will be \$25.00.

Basketball – The season is now over and was one of the best seasons in many ways. There were no issues other than minor issues that were dealt with or will be dealt with. There were no real conduct problems in any division. For the most part, the conduct of the players and coaches was exceptional this year. This year was the best-behaved group of 7/8 boys (players and coaches) in the past ten years.

Many people have commented with the rotation system and level of organization that this is one of the best recreation basketball programs in the area. This is all accomplished with the help commitment of everyone involved.

The past weekend was championship weekend and all divisions had their finals. Hal officiated all finals and they were spectacular this year. All gyms were packed beyond capacity (with players, coaches, and parents from other teams coming to watch and cheer on the participants). All finals games were nail biters decided in the last few minutes, highlighted by the 7/8 boys 78-76 final. At least two divisions (3/4 boys and 6/7/8 girls) that the playoff winner had actually lost twice during the regular season to the team they beat in the finals.

Hal Bomzer said there was a problem this year in the 3/4 division with excessive fouling and players not being able to foul out. Next year a limit will be set for fouls at this age and after 9 fouls, the player will be taken out of the game and have to sit out the remainder of the game. Referees do have the authority to sit out a player that does not have the control and this will now be in the rules. Next year this will be stressed to the referees.

There are no problems submitted in writing this year. There were a few problems with some "gentlemen's agreements" made to accommodate players. Next year it will be clearly written on the form that no player requests will be honored that will upset the balance of the team. The rotation system was clearly posted this year and it worked out well. There were some small problems throughout the season that are expected and cleared up.

Mercedes Haines said that clinic ended on March 10. She said the kids had a great time. The high school boys' coaches assisted when possible. There are good coaches that will be moving up. There weren't that many girls in the program this year. Mercedes said that Lloyd Domke helped her a lot with this program.

A new scoreboard was ordered for Grant School. Hal is looking into the cost of replacing the backboards at Grant School as they are in terrible shape.

There will be a 7/8 boys traveling team at Hoop Zone coached by Guido Acosta and Julio Cardenas. The total cost is \$1,540.00. Hoop Zone Fee \$950.00; Shorts & Shirts \$330, Clinic \$220, Pizza Party \$40.00. Individual player fee is \$140.00. The second tryout was held this week and 11 members were picked for the team. It will start the end of the month and they will play 10 games. Next year tryout forms will be mailed to all players.

There was one injury to Tim Lingle, who required stitches in his lip. Leigh Rivera checked on him and his father said he was doing well and thanked her for the call. Final payments will be turned into the clerk's office for payment.

Tennis – Barry Rubach (568-3946) runs this program. The Board has not received any copies of any flyers.

Treasurer's Report - Beginning balance as of February 2007, was \$15,219.82, total deposits for month was \$4,292.50 total expenses for month were \$4,404.85, leaving a balance of \$15,107.47. A detailed report is attached.

New Business – None at this time.

Old Business – None at this time.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2007.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca

cc: Commissioner Hugo Poli