

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2013, at 7:00 P.M.**

**BOARD OF RECREATION  
RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY  
JANUARY 17, 2013**

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 on the 28th day of December, 2012, and sent to the Star-Ledger on the 28th day of December, 2012. Roll call was taken. Commission members present were: Diane Maglione, Lloyd Domke, Tom Essig, Scott Garris, Mary Koegel and Leigh Rivera. Gil Bell, Hal Bomzer, Mercedes Haines, Mike Ruiz and Tom Strowbridge were excused. Frank Zaccherio was absent.

The minutes of the November 15, 2012, meeting were approved.

**Correspondence:** Mayor Fosdick thanked the Board for running the tree lighting and holiday display contest; letter from July 4<sup>th</sup> Citizens Committee regarding nomination of grand marshal, permit for use of gym by softball throwing program, insurance certificate for wrestling program.

**Hearing of Citizens:** None Present.

Activity reports were as follows:

**Bowling –** Nothing to report.

**Wrestling –** Mary Koegel said there have been no problems with the wrestling program. The EMTs were present at the first meet. Mary said the only complaint she has heard was that parents did not know they were supposed to bring food for the concession stand.

**Girls' Softball -** No activity at this time.

**Women's Softball –** Frank Zaccherio was not present to give a final report. The Board does not have any information on the past season from Frank. Diane Maglione has been receiving complaints because the end-of-season party was never held. Diane told a representative of the league that she could run the party but that did not work out. Diane suggests that the teams have a pre-season party with the funds and that no funds will be taken out for any future party. No funds will be collected for any future parties. Changes will need to be made in leadership of the program for next year. Diane will see if someone from the league wants to step up and be the liaison or there will be no program.

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

**Easter Egg Hunt –** No activity at this time. The hunt will be held on Saturday, March 30. Mary Koegel will look into getting some lawn signs made for the hunt.

**Holiday Display Contest –** There were 29 entries in the contest. There were many decorated houses that did not participate in the contest. The judge really enjoyed viewing the houses. Prizes were awarded for Grand Prize and First through Fourth Place. Winners received a platter. Mary will deliver the prizes. Winners were as follows:

Grand Prize:	Bob & Joann Theuret, 120 Hazelton Street
First:	Fox Family, 23 Austin Street
Second:	Belkis Quinones, 80 Arthur Street
Third:	Dayle's Village Flower Shoppe, 286 Teaneck Road
Fourth:	Mr. & Mrs. Kelly, 81 Main Street

Next year's form will include a reminder that decorations must be significantly changed each year and pictures are kept of the winning entries. Participants will also be able to enter by emailing their information next year.

**Wish Tree** – Kaitlyn Maglione chaired this activity. All tags except for one were returned. The Toys for Tots leader graciously donated toys for the unclaimed tag.

**Tree Lighting** – Mercedes Haines could not attend the meeting and sent in her report. The tree lighting was held on December 2 starting at 5:30 p.m. Tree stood tall and bright. Program was short and to the point. It ran about 40-45 minutes. Lincoln School chorus performed. All the children sang and were heard. The scouts will make their return debut next December. Mrs. Claus was happy and mingled with the crowd. Santa also mingled with the crowd after the lighting. Crowd seemed pleased. The only speakers that were found difficult to hear were Rose Shulein and the Marines. The crowd does not know why they are there. Mercedes will keep program basically the same for next tree lighting -- short and simple. 7-11's new owner advised that he was unaware that the store had donated Slurpees in the past. They would like to continue that tradition next year. Boulevard Sound system was great.

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

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

**Adult Craft Classes** – No activities at this time.

**Basketball** – (The Board went into a short closed session to discuss an incident that took place on January 5. Complete details regarding the incident are listed in the closed minutes.)

The Board of Recreation has been made aware of an incident that occurred at a basketball game held at Lincoln School on Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013, which involved inappropriate behavior by adults attending the game. The initial offensive behavior by a parent, which was directed toward a player on the light grey team, resulted in a warning being issued to the coaches of the black team; if the parent continued heckling the player, he would be asked to leave the gym, and if he did not comply, the black team would forfeit the game. The parent continued with the offensive behavior and the game was stopped. The parent was requested to leave the gym in order to assure that the targeted player would no longer be subjected to the heckling and other players would not witness any further inappropriate behavior.

While exiting the gym, the parent directed a verbal threat to a Division Head for the Board of Recreation and an assistant coach for the light grey team. After the game's conclusion, the parent reentered the gym and the Ridgefield Park Police were called to the scene. The wife incited the matter by attempting to provoke the Division Head by making a very inappropriate ethnic comment. The sister-in-law tried to further rile the Division Head by using vulgar language. These incidents of inappropriate behavior were witnessed by the referees, including Mr. Scott Garris, who is a member of the Ridgefield Park Board of Recreation, and those in attendance, including children.

Disciplinary measures taken as follows:

The parent is suspended from attending, or being on school property, during the black team's next three games in which his son is playing and all the remaining games between the black and light grey teams and between the orange and light grey teams.

The wife is suspended from attending, or being on school property, during the black team's next game in which her son is playing and all the remaining games between the black and light grey teams and between the orange and light grey teams.

The sister-in-law is suspended from attending, or being on school property, during the orange team's next game in which her son is playing and all the remaining games between the black and light grey teams and between the orange and light grey teams.

It was made clear to all involved parties that the Board has zero tolerance for parents who heckle children in our basketball program, threaten others, make disparaging remarks or use vulgarities especially in front of children. Should this type of situation occur again, the Board will have the offending party(s) permanently expelled from the program. If any of the involved parties choose to violate these listed disciplinary measures, the RPPD will be contacted to escort them from the property.

A letter was sent to the parties involved advising them of these disciplinary measures and if they had any questions, they were welcome to attend the January 17 meeting. No one appeared at the meeting.

Tom Essig had a question concerning a bill for the shirts. The question will be directed to Hal Bomzer.

Hal Bomzer was unable to attend the meeting but sent in his reports as follows:

There have been reports of players entering Grant before their coaches and also coaches leaving before all players clear out. All coaches have been warned that this cannot continue and they are responsible for school and players if they leave before all players are gone. Hal has not heard of any other issues at Grant or any of the other schools.

As far as games, most games in all divisions have been very competitive. The players and coaches have been well behaved. He has received numerous comments that the officiating is better this year (more consistent, better quality). Almost all of this year's refs worked games last year and that has helped with the quality and consistency. He is still having problems filling all ref slots but on the whole it has been ok.

7/8 boys teams are playing two games against Hackensack (in Hackensack) each week and it is going well again this year.

First half payment is due to be turned in this weekend to Diane. Division heads are to email info to Diane and drop off scorebooks for double checking.

Not all divisions have turned in concussion certificates but have been reminded to do so.

Scott Garris said it is very hard to get everyone out of the gym at Lincoln because cheering is still present when basketball is finished. It is hard to distinguish who is from the basketball program and who is from cheering. The Board will try to find out who is in charge of cheering at Lincoln School.

**Tennis** – Barry Ruback (568-3946) runs this program, which is taught by All Pro Tennis Staff.

**Treasurer's Report** - Beginning balance as of November 2012 was \$37,557.47 total deposits for month were \$2,670.00, total expenses for month were \$107.00, leaving a balance of \$40,063.47. A detailed report is attached. There is \$1,300.00 available for the pre-season party for the women's softball program. There are still returned checks from the basketball program. A letter will be sent requesting a new check from the parties. Beginning balance as of December 2012 was \$40,063.47, total deposits for month were \$1,092.00, total expenses for month were \$7,512.75, leaving a balance of \$33,642.72.

A motion was made by Lloyd Domke and seconded by Leigh Rivera approving the Treasurer's Report. All were in favor of this motion.

**New Business** – The webmaster assigned a new email address to the Board of Recreation. It is: [BoardOfRec@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:BoardOfRec@ridgefieldpark.org). Members can give this address out to anyone needs to contact the Board of Recreation. All email will be forwarded to the Secretary.

**Old Business** – **Note for Commissioner MacNeill:** Commissioner MacNeill advised that he needs to talk to the Board about background checks. This issue needs to be addressed ASAP.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 21, 2013.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Leigh Rivera and seconded by Scott Garris to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca

cc: Commissioner Adam MacNeill