

MOUNTAIN LAKES RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes for June 2016
7:30 PM Borough Hall

Present: Chairperson: Deb Shertzer, Commissioners: Brian Higgins, Kelly Thompson, Jim Petersen, Ina Rose, Lydia Spoto, Nicole Wright, Board of Ed Liaison: John Kaplan, Recreation Director: Audrey Lane, Borough Liaison Dan Happer

Absent: Commissioners: Mark Caputo

- I. Directors report:
 - a. 3 summer events at beach
 - i. Rock concert
 - ii. Denville string band
 - iii. Movie night
 - b. Check writing is working better now that there are 2 borough employees available
 - c. Swim test
 - i. The test is the same as last year but there is less stress on the rotary breathing perfection. Face must be in the water throughout, as in past years.
 - ii. Waiting time was too great during period when many 5th grade kids were taking the test for year-end party; there were 100 kids in the 3-5 pm timeframe. very difficult for kids who failed
 - d. Lifeguards
 - i. Start at \$9/hour, which is in line with other hub lakes.
 - ii. Complaints have come in because salaries did not go up this year based solely on years in service – director decided that increments should be merit based, which will be assessed with a mid-year review for all guards.
 - iii. Issues reported last year – inattentiveness, not picking up trash, using phones, improper language.
 - iv. This year they are required to log laps each shift. This is meant to keep them active, alert to the state of the lake and beaches, set a good example for the kids.
 - e. Non-resident beach access, Audrey's #1 complaint, is no longer a topic for rec commission; it will be handled by police and public safety commission
 - f. 4th of July events forthcoming
 - g. Camps are underway
 - i. Teen camp sold out 2 of the weeks, third week is moderately full
 - ii. Sailing registration is steady
 - iii. Rec (day) camp is moderate, it usually fills later
 - iv. All rec camps are open to residents of neighboring towns after all ML kids are serviced
 - h. Lost youth field hockey coach, Ms. Kelly will take over
 - i. Rack and ring procedure should be on the website
 - j. Ina suggested Audrey hire a summer intern (either a stipend, free or wage)
 - k. Beach renovation financing was approved by borough council last night for Birchwood. Island renovations will be phased in later. We must determine who will oversee the

beach project from the boroughs. Likely it will be Mark Prussina, but this must be defined.

- I. Wilson Court fence problem still not resolved.

- II. Big ideas
 - a. Turf field or bubble over turf, at RVA Fields or in ML
 - b. Develop a "Youth Sports Club" along lines of Laker sports club to raise money for recreation facilities
 - c. Briarcliff sports club - add more sports like soccer - can Briarcliff add a team for 7th and 8th graders, where MLBTB sees big losses (RVS has a team, and players often leave MLBTB for it)
 - d. Sled run sign at Birchwood lake - why is it there?
 - e. Sign at Birchwood behind hoop should be replaced
 - f. how do we get more kids to the beaches
 - g. Drainage at Halsey field must be addressed – consider long term improvements to Halsey fields – turf or turf and bubble (note – it is not easily accessed when snow has fallen.)
 - h. Two dump areas behind Romaine Road/Wilson Court – DPW should address, especially since they presently have additional seasonal workers

Meeting adjourned at 8:50