

MOUNTAIN LAKES RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes for September 26, 2017
7:30 PM Borough Hall

Present: Recreation Director Audrey Lane, , Vice Chair Ina Rose, Commissioners Lydia Cipriani-Spoto, Mike Esposito, Heather Prince-Hornby, David Keyt, Jim Petersen, Ina Rose, Deb Shertzer, Borough Liaison Lauren Barnett, Board of Ed Liaison John Kaplan

Absent: Chair Kelly Thompson, Commissioners Beth Gellert

- I. Board business
 - a. Minutes for May passed
 - b. Borough manager Rich Sheola leaving at the end of the year. Search for his replacement is underway.

- II. Director's report
 - a. Beach renovation project was funded at \$1.5 million but all bids came in significantly higher. Architects accept the responsibility for this gap. Discrepancy is in the groundwork portion of the project. Project now delayed one year.
 - b. Briarcliff will start a school soccer team in 2018. Will be based on the model of the Briarcliff Sports Club which runs baseball and softball. That club is self-funded and will be a quasi-entity of ML Rec. Audrey overseeing relevant insurance issues.
 - c. Field Hockey Board has requested an opinion on whether or not to include non-residents. Group agrees that it should be left to the board but decision should be driven by program's best interest, i.e. if they are low in numbers, then start to admit non-residents. Audrey notes that few towns have youth field hockey programs.
 - d. Hub Lakes baseball and softball teams have requested reimbursement of umpire fees.
 - i. The amount is \$50/game for 8 games for each team. Audrey will budget \$500 for both teams, to defray the cost to the participants.
 - ii. Group agrees Audrey should promote these and all Hub Lakes sports at appropriate times of year in the town email.
 - e. Concussion testing vendor we have used has gone out of business. First year we had a lot of people participating, but participation has dropped off each subsequent year. Group agrees this is important to offer to rec sports athletes. Audrey will look for a new vendor.
 - f. Summer recap: very good attendance at rec programs
 - i. Paddle board yoga was successful
 - ii. Rec Camp, at its lowest week, had 30 kids, 95 at its best week (beach week) , employed 25 counselors and 20 CITs
 - iii. Surf camp, teen adventure camp, field hockey camp, tennis camp, swim lessons, sailing, and golf camp all were successful
 - iv. YMCA Yoga and Boot Camp at Island Beach also successful. Audrey will request 2x/week rather than 1x for next year, as suggested by the commission.

- g. Fourth of July went well, Brendan Smith and Peter Holmberg enjoyed their swan song in 2016. New MCs came on board this year.
 - h. Movie at the beach was not well attended. Same timing as usual but movie (Sing) may have been a little young.
 - i. New safety pads installed by DPW on Wilson Courts. DPW very helpful this summer.
- III. New Business
- a. Deb and Audrey attended Board of Ed Policy meeting regarding lights and turf use. Rec is granted limited use.
 - i. The list of available slots often comes too late to be useful. Youth track has grown to 174 kids and we will need track time for them in the spring. Have requested more access.
 - ii. When rec is using the lights, they must go out at 8:30.
 - iii. The BOE facilities committee will send a proposal to the group
 - b. Boat Rack application process has to be addressed. Need more personnel to handle this better, and need to get more complete information to residents seeking racks. Typically, rack registration is on 4/1, but in 2018, 4/1 falls during spring break. Will have to be moved to be fair to residents. Group to discuss further.
 - c. In survey, residents have requested the ability to buy beach passes for grandkids, rather than guest passes. Note that senior citizens and get their own badges free of charge. Suggestions to discuss in future, after we have seen relevant comments from the town survey run by Borough Council:
 - i. Offer a discounted pack of guest passes
 - ii. Offer individual badge at \$25
 - d. Residents have inquired about memorial benches. We has some presently, but there is no central management for placement or uniformity of look. This is a revenue creator but a policy should be defined. Unclear whether this responsibility lies with the recreation commission.

Meeting adjourned 9:15

Next meeting October 17, 2017