

**BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes – Quick Notes**  
Minutes for July 16, 2024 at 7:30 PM - Zoom

**1. Call to Order**

A monthly meeting of Borough of Mountain Lakes Recreation Commission was held on July 16, 2024 on Zoom teleconference. It began at 7:30 PM and was presided over by chairperson David Keyt, with Derek Jackson as secretary.

**2. Attendees**

Voting Members in attendance: Phyllis Deering, Derek Jackson, David Keyt, Rob Wianecki

Non-voting Members in attendance: Laurie Stepper (Recreation Director), Melissa Muilenburg (Council Liaison)

Guests in attendance: None

Members not in attendance: James Aitken, Sara Forman (Board of Education Liaison), Heather Hornyak, Shaun Lehrer, Mark Odenwelder, Tish Scarola

**3. Approval of Minutes**

The discussion of the previous meeting's minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

**4. Report of the Recreation Director**

Report was prepared and presented by Laurie Stepper.

- Summer employment offers and hiring paperwork have been sent to lifeguards, swim/dive, and sailing candidates. Following up often to get staff to complete onboarding.
- Continue planning for Summer Camp and Teen Adventure.
  - Booking presenters
  - Ordering supplies
  - Creating staff manual and emergency procedures
- First weeks of Sailing, Recreation Program, and Teen Adventure have gone or are going well.
- Enrollment push for Summer Sailing program, as registration remains low.
  - Over the next few weeks, some sessions have no enrolled participants.
  - Published eblast and social media, as well as hung a banner at Island Beach.
- The volume of facility reservation requests has been significant, with 2-5 reservations per week through July.
- As of July 9, the following "rented" Racks remain empty (I did not evaluate rings)
  - Midvale Boat Dock - 41 of 103 racks
  - Midvale Boat Dock – 23 of 62 SUPs
  - Big Dam – 16 of 36 racks
  - Big Dam – 12 of 32 SUPs
  - Island Beach – 14 of 48 racks

- Island Beach – 5 of 32 SUPs
- Summer Wrestling event July 10-11 for high school aged kids opened for registration. This event supports Jr Laker Wrestling.
  - 27 boys participated on both days
  - 6 additional participants on Saturday only and 7 on Sunday only (or maybe vice versa)
  - There was only one female registrant, so there were not a girls only competition
- Planning logistics of summer boat and swim races at Island Beach – July 13
- Discussed offering a youth volleyball program for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders. Pending facility approval, the program will be offered in February through the beginning of March.

### Past Events

- Thurs, June 20 – Community Concerts and Ice Cream Social – Jam Cats performed for young children and families from 5:30-6:30pm. Ninety-five free ice creams were enjoyed by the community and about 45 kids hopped, danced and bounced around with Jam Cats. About 25 people listened to the Denville String Band perform at 7pm.

### Upcoming Events

- Thursday, August 1st at 7pm - The Tourne Boys - Rock, Pop, Blues and Folk
- Thursday, August 15th at 7pm - Brother Wisdom - Rockin' the Ages
- Mon, August 19 @ 730 – Movie Night at Island Beach (Disney Encanto)
- Cornhole tournament – details TBD

### Monthly Meetings

- Recreation Commission
- HUB Lakes
- DPW Subcommittee
- Quarterly Safety Committee Meeting

### Ongoing tasks

- Manage facility requests from residents and organizations.
- Oversee and support sports programs with school facility requests and supply purchases, if needed.
- Weekly eblast.
- Social Media posts.
- Update the Borough website.
- Borough Hall electronic sign.
- Manage Borough Hall room reservation calendar for conference rooms and Chambers.

- Submit payroll 2x per month.
- Bi-weekly facility report
- Manage Rack and Ring requests

## 5. Old Business

- Boat and Swim Races
  - They were on Saturday, July 13.
  - The weather did not cooperate and the rain lasted longer than expected. There was almost nobody on the beach other than the participants.
  - Many of the kids that may have otherwise come, were at baseball and rugby.
  - Next year there was a discussion of a Tuesday night with a Wednesday rain date to avoid swim and diving team conflicts.
  - Further discussion of ideas to improve the event in future years
- Racks and Rings
  - There will be future discussion on how to better utilize the facilities given the poor utilization relative to the high rental volume
  - Full year storage on the beach for full year users

## 6. New Business

- Corn Hole Tournament – There is no alcohol allowed on the beaches and beach parks. If there was an event, it would need to be dry.
  - Recreation supplies 3 boards and participants can BYOB (bring your own board)
  - Will follow official corn hole rules
  - No pre-registration; just show up and play
  - Sunday morning league for multiple weeks in Aug
- Future Fireworks Schedule and Date
  - Fireworks used to be on July 4 but changed to July 2 for cost reasons. There were requests to move them back to July 4.
  - For 2025, there will be cost evaluation of date options and the potential influence the barge may or may not have on the cost.
- Lifeguard Appreciation Day is July 31
  - Please be kind and thank the lifeguards
  - Sadly, every year we have residents who disrespect the guards and do not listen to them

## 7. Announcements

Next meeting August 20, 2024

## 8. Adjournment

David Keyt moved that the meeting be adjourned. Derek Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed at 8:33 PM.