

Recreation and Parks Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 11th, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Borough Hall

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll was taken.

Roll Call

Present: Christine Christopoul, Lisa Valvano, Kathy Stack, Brian Winters, Bob Thoma, John Ciurciu, EdLaScala, Frank Catania, and Peter Sacco

Approval of Minutes

Meeting Minutes are being resent for approval.

Recreation & Parks Director's Report

Baseball/Softball (Girls and Boys):

The Recreation season for baseball is officially over. 3rd and 4th grade are finishing up this week. Franklin Lakes won the overall championship against Wyckoff. Next year Franklin Lakes and Wyckoff are looking to pool all the children together. The idea is to increase the amount of kids per team and this will cover all age groups except 1st and 2nd grade. It was suggested that Franklin Lakes and Wyckoff also look at teaming up with Oakland. Both towns will still oversee the program. Softball is looking to accomplish the same goal since the sport is very low in participation. Recreation Softball is also finishing up this week. Travel Softball will officially start the upcoming weekend of June 16th.

Lacrosse:

Boys lacrosse with finishing up tonight. They are having their All-Star game and BBQ tonight as well. Girls lacrosse is also having their final game tonight. Overall, there were no issues this season for Lacrosse. The coaches did a wonderful job. There were no problems with any fields. The lacrosse tournament held at the Pulis field was a success. The entire space was used and it is planned to use again for next year. There were a few complaints regarding parking access. It was requested that the girl's lacrosse team receive more training next year.

Fall Sports Registration

Fall registration has already been completed and moving onto waiting lists.

Football:

Football officially begins on August 13th. People will be coming by appointment for equipment hand-outs. The Peewee team will be receiving new uniforms this year. Overall, there are a

decent amount of registered players - 7th and 8th grade 35 kids, 5th and 6th 41 kids, 3rd and 4th 36 kids, and 2nd grade has 16 kids. It is anticipated there will be a few more stragglers. The list for coach approval will be distributed in July.

Soccer:

The start date for soccer is still to be determined. There are about 50-60 less kids than last year. The 7th-8th grade boys have the least amount of participants. The soccer program is continually facing the same issue of not enough coaches. The return rate for coaches' is only about 1/3 from year to year. A letter will need to be sent out to parents requesting volunteers.

Overall numbers: Boys: 3/4 (52) 5/6 (34) 7/8 (21) HS (33)

Girls: 3/4 (38) 5/6 (48) 7/8 (27) HS (11)

A field coordinator is needed for soccer. There is a great lack of interest and shows with the decreasing numbers. It was suggested to bring in trainers and provide (2) 45 minute sessions for the younger kids to train with the coaches and parents. Hopefully, this will carry through to the older teams. It was stated that the kid's skills are not being developed and they are only showing up for games and not any practices. It was decided to try and get some help from some high school kids to encourage the younger grades.

Cheerleading:

A letter was recently sent to parents requesting volunteers. The same letter was sent out to Ramapo High School, Ramapo College, and Bergen Catholic. Ramapo College offered to send volunteers after their own tryouts in July. There will also be a cheerleading camp same as last year. Cheerleading seems to start off real strong but, then when bad weather comes participation dwindles.

New Business

Community Center:

The community center is taking a look at their current schedule and amount of people attending. Some classes that are not being attended might be cut or changes to the time slots. Some classes might be shut down during the summer. The community center is also evaluating their staff. Susan Sheehan (Franklin Lakes resident) was recently hired to replace Alyssa. Hopefully, she will be able to bring in new participants. There will be an incentive to pay for membership for a few months in advance after the upcoming holiday. Franklin Lakes will be moving toward working with using the New Jersey Concussion Center via Lori Catania to head up testing. Overall, this is going to be more cost effective. Any new kids that need testing will be brought in and any post testing will be administered. There are about 300 kids that will need to be tested for 4th grade through high school soccer.

Next Meeting will be July 16th @ 7:30pm
Meeting adjourned.