

**WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
January 11, 2021**

Doug Arone opened the Zoom conference call Recreation Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. with the reading of the Open Public Meetings Act. “This Regular meeting of the Wyckoff Department of Parks and Recreation Board is now in session. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting has been posted on the bulletin board in the Memorial Town Hall and the Recreation Office; a copy has been filed with the Township Clerk, *The Ridgewood News*, *The Record*, and *The North Jersey Herald and News*, all papers with general circulation throughout the Township of Wyckoff.” At least 48 hours prior to this meeting the agenda was similarly posted, filed and mailed to said newspapers.

Members Present: Doug Arone, Chris Beane, John Giovacco, Moe Ismael, Rich Sica, Tom Valente, Mike Ferrara, Sue Buchanan, Chris Perneti

Members Absent: Jeff Eischen, Jen Saxton

Staff Present: Andy Wingfield, Recreation Director

Tim Shanley, Township Committee Liaison to Recreation Board

Guests Present: None

The minutes of the December 14, 2020 meeting were discussed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Sue Buchanan and seconded by Mike Ferrara. The motion was carried.

Recreation Director’s Report:

Welcome Back Recreation Board Liaison:

The Director welcomed Township Committeeman, Tim Shanley, back to the Recreation Board in his role as Township Committee Liaison. The Board and Director thanked Tim for his service as Mayor in 2020 and look forward to working with him in 2021.

Volunteer and Parent Code of Conduct Review:

The Director shared the current Code of Conduct that is signed off on by all parents and volunteer coaches. The 10 page document contains the Anti-Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying Policy, the Coaches and Parents Code of Conduct, and the Electronic Device Use Policy, all of which were discussed and explained by the Director.

Re-Establishment of & Election to Code of Conduct Sub-Committee:

The Director reviewed the need for a Code of Conduct Sub-Committee with the Board and explained its purpose. He advised that the Sub-Committee has been in place for seven years so that Board members could review and decide on any situations involving coaches or parents who are alleged to have violated the Department’s Code of Conduct. Doug Arone made a motion to re-establish the Sub-Committee and Rich Sica seconded the motion. The vote to carry the motion was unanimous. After re-establishing the sub-committee, the Board appointed Chris Beane, Mike Ferrara, Sue Buchanan, and Rich Sica as Code of Conduct Sub-Committee members.

Re-Establishment of Reciprocal Facility Use & Facility Rental Policies:

The Board unanimously approved the re-establishment of the Reciprocal Facility Use & Rental Policies for 2020. The reciprocal use policy establishes that there are relationships in place between the Township and other organizations such as Ramapo High School, Eastern Christian Middle School, Hawthorne Christian, the Torpedoes Soccer Club, the Wyckoff YMCA, and

more wherein the facilities of each are used by the other in exchange for similar uses of the other's facilities during the year for the benefit of our residents. No fees are collected for such use. The Facility Rental Policy dictates the cost for the rental of the Township's facilities and the procedures by which the Recreation Department may rent our fields and facilities and the need for the Recreation Board to approve all such rentals.

Recommitment to Passive Recreation Programming in 2020:

The Board reviewed the many passive programs established by the Department in 2015 and committed to continuing this type of programming going forward. The Board was advised by the Director that their assistance is required for some of the programs such as Movie Nights where setup and teardown help is needed during these events. The Director advised that advertising and programming has already begun for 2021 for our Arts and Crafts and Chess programs and we are looking to set the dates and movies for Movie Nights this year which have been very popular over our first five years.

2021 Recreation Lacrosse Program Director Recommendations :

The Director recommended two additional volunteers to head the Boys and Girls Lacrosse Programs in 2020. Sal Sassano was recommended as the Boys Lacrosse Program Director and Mark Bachardy as the Girls Lacrosse Program Director. Doug Arone motioned to approve these two volunteers and Sue Buchanan seconded the motion. These gentlemen were unanimously approved by the Board.

Recreation Baseball & Softball and 1st & 2nd Grade Lacrosse Registrations Ongoing:

The Director announced that the Department is currently accepting online registrations for Spring Baseball and Softball, as well as our 1st & 2nd Grade Lacrosse Clinic and that registration will end on January 31st. This is the 5th year that our 1st & 2nd Grade Lacrosse Clinic will be outdoors (previously during the winter indoors) which is a tremendous benefit to the children who participate. The Recreation Department will schedule 1st and 2nd grade lacrosse so that it does not conflict in any way with baseball and softball so that parents can have their children participate in both if they so choose. The Director expects a huge turnout of participants since last spring was canceled entirely due to the pandemic and residents should be excited about their children getting back outside to play again.

Status of Winter (Indoor) Sports:

After the Governor lifted the indoor sports "pause" at the end of December, the Recreation Department started up its recreation basketball program again with teams beginning practice again. There was a slight delay as the schools had gone "virtual" until January 9th and reopened again today, January 11th. Teams will start practicing this evening with the intention of starting our game schedule on Saturday, January 16th. The hope is that we can get through the entire season but we will be guided by the Board of Education's reactions to positive tests at the schools.

Football Update:

The Director reported that the football helmets used this year have been sent out for reconditioning. This process is completed every year to ensure that the helmets are within their recommended life span and have not been damaged. Each helmet is cleaned and repainted and any necessary parts such as ear pads, inside liners, etc. are replaced. The Director also advised the Board that all of the helmets that were purchased in 2010 will be "retired" as 10 years is the maximum use on most helmets. The Department has slowly purchased helmets throughout the

last 10 years so that the Township would not incur a large expense in excess of \$35000 this year to replace the 200+ helmets purchased in 2010.

Open Comment Period:

No comment.

Report from Board Members:

None

New or Old Business:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Wingfield

Director, Wyckoff Recreation & Parks