

WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
July 17, 2023

Andy Wingfield opened the Recreation Board Regular Meeting at 7:30pm 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:, Moe Ismael, Jen Saxton, Mike Ferrara, Chris Perneti, Chris Beane, Jeff Eischen, John Giovacco

Members Absent: Tom Valente, Doug Arone, Rich Sica, Patti DePhillips

Staff Present: Andy Wingfield, Recreation Director
Tim Shanley, Township Committee Liaison to Recreation Board,

The minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting were discussed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Moe Ismael and seconded by Jen Saxton. The motion was carried.

Recreation Director Report:

Memorial Turf Field – Update on Construction

The Director updated the Board on the construction progress at Memorial Field and the questions that the Board had at the last meeting. Regarding the bathrooms not being constructed for this season, the Director explained this was simply a matter of our DPW crew, who is doing the bulk of the work at the facility, doesn’t have the time to complete the concession stand, press box, and the bathrooms by the start of the season. In order to save significant money on these buildings, the Township is utilizing our extremely talented DPW crew rather than contractors. The bathrooms will be ready for the 2024 football season.

Girls Volleyball Update:

The Director advised the Board that our long time volleyball program director has identified four girls varsity volleyball players who would like to run the program this coming fall. The Director has met with them and their maturity and knowledge of the game will make them more than qualified to lead the program this fall. We will continue to have parent volunteers for each team and these four players will run the practices, set up the teams, and manage each game night. The program is in good hands for the 2023 season.

Travel Baseball and Softball Season:

The Director reported that the travel baseball season will be coming to a close within the next week as the teams head toward the playoffs this week. Travel softball will run through at least the end of July and some teams will compete in the playoffs until the first week of August. The

two 12u Baseball teams are heading to Cooperstown Dreamspark on July 21st to compete against teams across the country as our teams do every year.

Summer Volleyball & Cheerleading Clinics Complete Successful Weeks

The Director reported that over 25 girls participated in the girls Volleyball clinic this month and another 30 girls joined in the fun at the Cheerleading clinic last week. Our Summer Tennis Camp takes place next week and Teels Baseball Camp started its week long sessions this week as well and we are looking forward to Bergen's Best Soccer Camp running in early August.

Summer Camp Running Smoothly

The Director advised that the first two weeks of our Summer Day Camp, run by the Wyckoff YMCA, ran last week and early reports are that it is another fun year for the children participating in the camp and several residents are calling each day to try to get into the camp.

Football Head Coach Recommendations:

The Director recommended that we discuss and approve the Football Head Coaches and Program Director at this meeting since football officially starts prior to our next meeting. The Director made the following recommendations:

1. Eric Knight – Program Director and PeeWee Head Coach
2. Tim Murtha – Junior Head Coach
3. Marty Magerko – Senior Head Coach

Cheerleading Head Coach Recommendations:

The Director presented a list of the Cheerleading program head coach volunteers. Chris Beane made a motion to approve all of the coaches and Chris Perneti seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Soccer Head Coach Recommendations:

The Director presented a list of the Recreation Soccer program head coach volunteers. Jen Saxton made a motion to approve all of the coaches and Jeff Eischen seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Football Coach Training Improvement:

The Director reported to the Board that he has arranged for CPR and AED training for all of our tackle football coaches and any other coaches that wish to attend. Several of our volunteers have already taken the training with cooperation from the Wyckoff Ambulance Corps who will also be giving the training on August 21st to the remaining football coaches that need it. Given the uptick in frequency of heart issues among children and adults in sports, the Director felt it necessary to give our coaches the necessary tools to deal with this issue should it arise.

Additionally, the Director has set up a Concussion Presentation for our football coaches on August 30th in which all of our football coaches will also be updated on concussion identification and the steps to take when a child suffers from a concussion.

Both of the above training additions have been very well received by the coaches as they appreciate being better prepared in the case of emergency. The Board expressed their support for this improvement and are pleased that our coaches are receiving this training.

The Board adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Wingfield
Director, Wyckoff Parks & Recreation