

WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
September 11, 2023

Doug Arone opened the 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: Tom Valente, Moe Ismael, Doug Arone, Chris Perneti, John Giovacco, Patti DePhillips

Members Absent: Chris Beane, Rich Sica, Mike Ferrara, Jen Saxton, Jeff Eischen

Staff Present: Andy Wingfield, Recreation Director

Public Present: No

The minutes of the July Recreation Board meeting were discussed (there was no meeting in August). A motion to approve the minutes was made by Chris Perneti and seconded by Moe Ismael. The motion was carried.

Recreation Director’s Report:

Ongoing Registrations:

The Director reported that registrations for travel baseball, softball and basketball were ongoing and would continue until September 24th. Tryouts for travel baseball and softball will take place in October and November while those for travel basketball will take place in November.

Upcoming Registrations:

The Director reported that winter sports registration for Recreation Basketball, Roller Hockey, and Wrestling would run from the end of this month until October 22nd.

Girls Volleyball Program Set to Start:

The Director informed the Board that our Girls Volleyball program would be starting up on September 19th and that all of the participants have been communicated with regarding program details and scheduling. The Director also informed the Board that the program would be branching out this year and playing some games against the Mahwah recreation teams in addition to the games amongst our own teams. Mahwah has 4 teams and had reached out asking if we could join them so the Director proposed sending one team a night on Tuesdays and Thursdays and they accepted. Those games will take place during the month of October and they should be a positive addition to our already thriving program. The Director mentioned that the wait list for this program is very long but that we can only accommodate 72 girls, and even 72 is too many considering the limited time, space, and staff that we have. Next year, the thought will be to start registration with only 8th graders being allowed to register for a time, then 7th, then 6th. This will give the older girls a better opportunity to get in since we had reached our max of 72 on day 1 of registration this year.

Football Update

The Director reported that he held the annual football parent meeting on September 5th. This is a very productive meeting in which the Director spells out the overall philosophy and rules of the program while emphasizing that all of our head coaches and the majority of our assistant coaches are non-parent coaches. Football games started up this past weekend against Ridgewood.

Additionally, the Director advised that the Memorial facility, outside of the bathroom building that is scheduled to be built next spring, is 99% complete. The concession stand received its operating license from the Bergen County Board of Health and the press box is complete. Additional park benches and picnic tables have been added to the seating area and the feedback from residents and out of towners alike has been incredible. There isn't a better facility around and our Boosters, Township Committee, Recreation Department, and DPW have a lot to be proud of.

Roller Hockey Rink Improvement:

The Director advised the Board that our DPW has installed a protective material at the bottom edge of the boards around the entire rink. This material is high strength and will not break and will serve the purpose of covering the lower edges of the boards which have developed some breaks and cracks that players' sticks can get caught in and cause injury. This was a major undertaking for our recreation DPW crew and the final product looks great and will serve its purpose well.

Playground Repairs Needed:

The Director explained that our Playground at Memorial was recently inspected by staff from the Joint Insurance Fund in which we participate. There were a few minor issues that were brought to our attention, all of which have been taken care of except the bridge planks which have very small pieces breaking off causing a slight chance of kids getting cut on the bridge. The bridge has been shut down until the planks can be obtained.

Security Cameras:

The Director informed the Board that he is going to be requesting permission to continue the installation of security cameras at both Pulis Field and Community Park. He has spoken with the Police Chief and both agree that these are vital to the security of the fields and the surrounding area. The Director hopes to have an update in the coming weeks.

Open Comment Period:

No comments

Report from Board Members:

None

New or Old Business:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Wingfield
Director, Wyckoff Recreation & Parks