

**WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**June 15, 2015**

Tom Valente opened the Recreation Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of Wyckoff Town Hall 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, Heather Alnor, Rob Lahue, Moe Ismael, Rich Sica, Ed Pettit, Doug Arone, Sue Buchanan

Members Absent: Chris Beane, Jeff Eischen

Staff Present: Township Committee Liaison Brian Scanlan

Staff Absent: Recreation Director Andy Wingfield

Guests Present: None

The minutes of the May 18, 2015 meeting were discussed. A motion to approve the minutes of that meeting was made by Heather Alnor and seconded by Rich Sica. The motion was carried.

In the absence of the Director, Chairperson Valente provided the "Report from Director."

**Recreation Director's Report:**

**Lacrosse Incident:**

Mr. Valente provided an update on the status of the follow-up investigation regarding the incident that occurred at a boys' lacrosse game the week of May 10<sup>th</sup> as was reported and discussed in the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Following the meeting, The Director and Mr. Valente agreed that the Director would speak with one of the referees who officiated the game at which the incident was reported to have occurred, two of the coaches who were present at the game, as well as the individual who was accused of creating the incident. Based on the feedback from the referee and the coaches in attendance, along with the fact that the individual involved volunteered not to attend the final few games for the remainder of the season, Mr. Wingfield and Mr. Valente determined that no further action was warranted at this time. The Recreation Board agreed that this course of action was appropriate.

**Pullis Turf Facility Update:**

Mr. Valente turned the meeting to Ms. Buchanan who was in attendance at the June 13<sup>th</sup> Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Pulis Field. Ms. Buchanan noted that the ceremony was well attended and that the fields are now open for use. In addition, she mentioned that bricks and pavers would be sold to help raise money for the completion of the field lighting and that a \$35,000 donation was pledged by Bryan Hekemian to be used toward the construction of the snackstand and restrooms.

**Travel Sports Policy Update:**

Mr. Valente informed the Board that the Director submitted a policy change based on the discussion and approval by the Recreation Advisory Board from the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting for Travel Sports to the Township Committee for their review and approval at the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. A copy of the recommended change was included for review by the board. No additional changes were discussed or suggested at this time.

**Access for All Committee Developed**

Mr. Valente informed the Board that the Director was appointed to this recently formed municipal committee as representation from the Recreation and Parks Department. Mr. Valente also mentioned that if any other Board members were interested in participating on this committee that they should complete the volunteer form on the Township's website and contact the Director for more information. Mr. Sica noted that he would be interested in volunteering for this committee.

**Resolution #15-111 / Facility Rental Review**

Mr. Valente requested, based on the Township's procedure of involving the Recreation Board in the approval process for field rental after a review of the paperwork by the Recreation Director and Township Administrator; 2 applications were discussed by the Board and approved for use/rental. The applications at this meeting included the following:

1. Parisi Speed School – this is a local organization requesting the use of Wyckoff Community Park, 475 Wyckoff Avenue for the purpose of conducting speed and agility training sessions for a local high school soccer team. The estimated revenue from this facility rental would be \$500.
2. Ramapo Rangers Baseball – a local Club Baseball Program is requesting the use of Wyckoff Memorial Field Baseball Facility, 340 Franklin Avenue for the purpose of holding practices and games. The estimated revenue from this facility rental would be \$500.

Mr. Valente advised the Board that that the Director noted that his review with the Township Administrator of the application, Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement, and Certificate of Insurance for all of the requests determined the applications to be in order.

The Recreation Board unanimously approved both of the applications after a motion to approve them was made by Bobby Lahue and seconded by Heather Alnor.

**Donation Review and Discussion:**

Mr. Valente advised the Board that the Director received a check in the amount of \$25,000 from the Football Boosters to be used in the future for the football program. A robust discussion was held regarding the acceptance or denial of the donation as the Football Boosters Board was about to change hands. Due to the timing of the donation in relation to the change in the Football Boosters Board, a motion was made to defer accepting the donation until the new Football

Boosters Board was elected and could review financial status of the Football Boosters to determine if the donation should be upheld or withdrawn. The motion was made by Mr. Sica and seconded by Mr. Valente. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Potential for Open Space Grant Project for 2016**

Mr. Valente informed the Board that the Director suggested that we consider submitting for a 2016 Open Space Grant to resurface the basketball courts at the outdoor courts at the Wyckoff Memorial Town Hall Complex and replace the current equipment at this location. It was suggested by Mr. Scanlan that we consider other uses for the grant as he did not feel that the courts were in need of replacement. Several members of the Board who utilize the courts did feel that the court was in need of a refurbishment due to the several large cracks in the surface. No formal decision was made on this subject at this meeting and it was suggested that the Board consider the needs of the Township, come up with other ideas and email them to the Director within the next several days.

### **Wyckoff Recreation Alum Drafted by MLB**

Mr. Valente informed the Board that Matt Dacey, a Wyckoff resident and Junior at the University of Richmond, was recently selected by the professional baseball team, Tampa Bay Rays, in the 2015 Major League Draft. Congratulations Matt!

### **Football Update**

Mr. Valente informed the Board that the Director will be scheduling an open meeting of the Wyckoff Football Boosters on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> to elect new board members and to communicate the many positive changes and need for parent volunteers to operate the concession stand at both "A" and "B" games, among other fundraising activities, coming in 2015. After receiving the prior Football Booster President's and Vice President's resignations this month, the Director invited all Football and Cheerleading participant parents to attend this meeting and is hoping for a 100% turnout so that the changes can be communicated and a new President and Vice President can be nominated and elected. All Board members were invited to attend the meeting.

### **Open Comment Period:**

None - no public present

### **Report from Board Members:**

No report.

### **New or Old Business:**

Mr. Lahue reminded the Board that our new "Movies in the Park" night would kick off on June 20<sup>th</sup> at Community Park.

Mr. Valente informed the Board that Madeline “Sumi” Heffernan, a Wyckoff Resident, after winning her age group at our local Pitch, Hit, & Run competition in April and then won again in the Regional competition in Allendale, NJ, participated in the 8 and under Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit and Run Competition at Citi Field in New York and won her age group there as well. Ms. Heffernan has the chance to potentially represent her age group at the National Pitch, Hit and Run competition at the 2015 All Star Game in July. The Board expressed their Congratulations to Madeline and wished her good luck in advancing to the next and final round. Mr. Sica informed the Board that Kyra Manfredi, another Wyckoff Resident, also won our local competition in Wyckoff at her age level and the Regional competition in Allendale and advanced to MLB Pitch, Hit and Run Competition at Citi Field as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Valente

Chairperson, Parks & Recreation Board