

WYCKOFF DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
October 17, 2016

Doug Arone opened the Recreation Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Courtroom of Town Hall at 340 Franklin Avenue 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, Heather Alnor, Tom Valente, Sue Buchanan, Chris Beane, Moe Ismael, Rich Sica, Hayley Rooney, Ed Pettit

Members Absent: Jeff Eischen

Staff Present: Andy Wingfield, Recreation Director

The minutes of the September 19, 2016 meeting were discussed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rich Sica and seconded by Hayley Rooney. The motion was carried.

Recreation Director’s Report:

Travel Baseball/Softball Tryouts Update:

The Director advised the Board that the travel baseball tryouts were completed over the past two weeks and that the teams have been selected. Once again in 2017, Wyckoff Recreation will carry two teams at the 9u-12u level. As many as 26 boys were selected at each level giving each team either 12 or 13 players. Also in 2017, we will have one team at the 13u level and one team at the 14u level. The Director reported that the independent evaluations were a success once again this year and that he met with most of the parents prior to the tryouts to explain the impartial process that the Township has adopted over the past two years. Finally, the Director advised that 8u tryouts will take place in early 2017 so that the youngest children in the travel baseball program could hone their skills over the winter prior to tryouts. Travel Softball tryouts are being run the remainder of this week and it appears we will have enough girls for two u10 teams, a u12 team, and a u14 team for the first time in several years.

Travel Basketball Tryouts:

The Director reported that travel basketball tryouts are set to begin next week. The same independent company that conducted tryouts last year have agreed to run them again this year. The Board will be updated next month with the results of the tryouts.

Boys & Girls Lacrosse Registration:

The Director reported that online registration for our boys and girls lacrosse program is ongoing and will end on October 23rd. This year, the lacrosse program has decided to have the parents purchase the game jerseys for their children. The Director explained that this will alleviate a lot of effort at the end of the season by volunteers and the Recreation Department in following up with parents who fail to return the game jerseys. This will ensure that each returning player has a jersey the following year so retrieving them at the end of the season, keeping an inventory and following up with those that haven’t returned them, and redistributing them at the beginning of the next season will no longer be necessary.

Recommendation to Change Criminal Background Check Vendor:

The Director requested the Board discuss and approve the changing of our criminal background check vendor. For the past 3 years, we have used the same company and they have been very cooperative and accommodating with our constant flow of transactions. However, there are inefficiencies with this company in that the Recreation Office staff does much of the work for them in terms of receiving and communicating information to them including release forms and photos. The Director investigated the operations of a new company and found their online platform to be much more efficient and more cost effective. The Board discussed the benefits of changing vendors and after Tom Valente motioned to change the vendor and Heather Alnor seconded the motion, the Board voted unanimously to start the process of changing vendors.

Facility Maintenance Quotes Sent:

The Director, after explaining that every year the Department sends out quotes for facility maintenance such as field irrigation, bathroom cleaning, portable toilet rental, and office cleaning, advised that those quotes had been sent out this month and once quotes are received, contracts would be awarded to the various vendors for their services. An update as to which vendors bid the lowest price on each item will be provided at next month's meeting.

Football Update:

The Director reported that the football season is roughly 50% complete and the energy and positive feedback from the program has been outstanding this fall. It is important to note that our football program has more children playing than any other team in the league we participate in and that the league does not provide games for every team we have, only the A teams and one B team. The Director explained that he was able to give each team a full schedule of games by reaching out to programs outside of our league and taking the B schedules from two programs in our league that could not provide B teams. By doing so, each of our 10 teams has a game scheduled every weekend of the season and all of our B teams and A teams have roughly the same exact amount of games for the season. All of our teams are doing very well in terms of wins and losses and our coaches have received positive feedback in the first few weeks of the season.

Open Comment Period:

No comment.

Report from Board Members:

None

New or Old Business:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Wingfield
Director, Wyckoff Recreation & Parks