

PRINCETON RECREATION BOARD

April 24, 2014

A meeting of the Recreation Board of Princeton was held on April 24, 2014 in the Princeton Recreation Department (PRD) lower level Conference Room, 380 Witherspoon Street.

Present: Dr. Nosker, Dr. Frawley, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Koontz, Ms. Olivares-Weber and Ms. Germaine

Also present: Mr. Stentz, Mr. Marroli & Mr. Moorhead

Absent: Dr. Cahill, Mr. Zucosky, Ms. Butler, Ms. Asagra-Stanley, Ms. Reid and Mr. DiGregorio

Activities

Mr. Marroli reported on the following activities:

- Special Needs dance was held on 4/11/14 at Community Park School. 51 participants & 30 student-volunteers attended the event. The Special Needs Prom will be held on 5/2/14.
- PAWS Awards banquet was held on 4/17/14 at Mercer Oaks.
- Men's 40 & over Softball starts on Wednesday, May 7. There will be six (6) teams in the league in 2014.
- Registration is ongoing for all summer programs/memberships.

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following activities:

- The public CPR/AED/First Aid Training Course will take place on 4/22 and 4/29. Four people are registered for the course. PRD Aquatics Director, Mike Uchrin, is teaching the course.
- Town Council approved the mowing and turf management contracts at the Council Meeting on 4/7/14. The contracts include several additional parks/areas that were not included in last year's bid package due to additional responsibilities of PRD in the parks.
- The Princeton Little League board voted to approve the partnership with PRD and the Princeton Parks & Recreation Fund (PPRF) to share the cost of installing a scoreboard at Farmview 2 this spring. PLL will also pay up front all the costs for this project and be reimbursed by PRD and PPRF.
- Most municipal athletic playing fields were opened for use the week of April 7. Hilltop Soccer Field is not yet open due to wet conditions. Smoyer Soccer Field is still closed due to the damage it sustained earlier in the month when a car drove on it.
- Dr. Frawley met with John Pecora of Princeton Special Sports to discuss the possibility of PSS moving from Farmview to Smoyer in the fall for their Sunday activities. Dr. Frawley attempted to find a solution to the ongoing parking/safety problems that exists at FV in the fall when both PSS and PFC request field space at the same time on Sundays. Mr. Pecora indicated that PSS was not interested in relocating. PRD will look to schedule a meeting with PSS and PFC in the coming months to further discuss the ongoing dilemma. *Discussion was held.*

Corner House Student Board Report

-No representatives present

Directors Report

Mr. Stentz reported on the following:

- Katie Herlihy retired, effective 4/11/14. The job posting for the Program Supervisor position has been made available through internal channels, via the NJ Recreation & Parks Association, via PRD website and via municipal website. The deadline to apply is 4/24/14.
- Mary Moss Grant Application has been re-submitted to Mercer County. Once the county reviews and hopefully, approves the application, Mr. Stentz anticipates being able to move forward with the process.
- There is a water drainage issue at CP South near Field 3. This causes the path and parts of the grass in that location to flood on a regular basis. Mr. Moorhead met with Deanna Stockton and a representative from Top Line Construction to discuss possible solutions to this issue. The quote for repair is \$7500. Mr. Stentz stated the funding should come from the municipality and not the Recreation Trust.
- The staff is ahead of schedule in regards to preparing the pool complex to open on May 24th. Representatives from Nemato (filter manufacturer) were on site today providing training for our maintenance staff.
- Pool registration is at 2,634 as of today. This number is within 16 participants of the figure from the same date in 2013.
- Two new shade structures will be installed at the pool complex within the next 6 weeks. More shade is the number

- one request heard by staff regarding the pool complex. However, finding suitable locations within the complex for additional shade has proved to be a challenge due to the amount of grass in the complex.
- Financial Aid Update: To date there are 42 requests financial aid and upwards of \$16,000 has been provided to those families. Active partnerships are in place with the Joe Fund, Koko Fund, Princeton Community Village, Corner House and Princeton Housing Authority to assist with providing aid for summer programs.
 - Upcoming Events: Marquand Park Celebration on April 27 from 12-3pm; Corner House Skate-a-thon on April 27 at PDS; Teen Open Mic Night at Hinds Plaza on May 2 at 7pm; PTP 60th Anniversary Dinner & Gala from 6-9pm on June 4; PTP Classic at CP Courts on June 5.
 - Park Maintenance Update: Mr. Moorhead has hired eight seasonal maintenance employees to supplement PRD full-time staff. Mr. Stentz reports that the maintenance staff is extremely busy with new park responsibilities that PRD has undertaken as a result of consolidation. Based solely on the increased workload, Mr. Stentz is not convinced that staff is able to attend to routine maintenance issues in the parks as efficiently or in as timely a manner as he would like. *Discussion was held.*

Communications

- The folder of communications was distributed.
- A letter was received from Pam Machold thanking PRD maintenance for the clean-up work they have done in Marquand Park over the last six weeks.
- A resident on Birch Avenue sent an email thanking PRD for the role it played in getting a dead tree removed from the John St Garden Plot that was overhanging his property and creating a potentially dangerous situation.
- Tom Hagedorn, Princeton resident, emailed to express his concern that non-residents receive a greater percentage discount on the early-bird pool membership than do Princeton residents. *Discussion was held.*
- A question was forwarded to Staff by Mayor Lempert regarding the PRD definition of “Family” as it relates to pool memberships being as inclusive as it should be given the changing family structures in today’s society. In addition, another question was raised as to why grandparents, child-care providers and other family members, (other than parents & children) if living at the same address, cannot be added as part of the family pool membership. The Board feels that the current definition of “family” is all-inclusive and gender neutral and does not need to be changed. The Board also feels that the current menu of membership options/policies is adequate and does not need to be adjusted or altered. *Discussion was held.*

Public Comment

Roxanna Choe, Princeton resident, attended the meeting to inquire about the status of previous requests to consider a dog park in Princeton. *Discussion was held.* The Board asked Ms. Choe to provide evidence of more widespread support among Princeton residents for a dog park in Princeton, since up to this point, public support has been limited to a few people.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Germaine made a motion to approve the March 2014 Board meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Olivares-Weber and approved. (Abstain: Mr. Koontz & Ms. Rogers)

Old Business

NO OLD BUSINESS

New Business

- A. Request for special weekend pool passes for PHS Class of 1989 Reunion (June 27-29)
 - a. Staff recommends allowing members of the PHS Class of 1989 and their families to pay the resident daily admission rate to use the pool during their reunion weekend. The honor system will be accepted in recognizing members of the class. Discussion was held.
 - b. Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the PHS Class of '89 receiving the daily admission pool rate for their reunion weekend, seconded by Dr. Frawley and unanimously approved.
- B. Funding for accounting software conversion & computer upgrade
 - a. The latest versions of Quicken, the accounting software used by PRD, are not supported by Mac. All of the Recreation Department computers are currently Mac. As current computers stop working and are replaced, the department has fewer and fewer computers that can access our accounting software.

- b. Staff recommends switching to Municipal Software Inc at a one-time cost of \$8500 and an ongoing cost of \$1800 annually. This is the same software used by Princeton's Finance Department for all of its accounting.
- c. None of the accounting software that has been priced is compatible with Mac, so the department would need to purchase new PC's that are compatible with the accounting software. The cost for nine computers through the state contract price is approximately \$10,000.
- d. Princeton Administration recommends that the total cost of project (approx. \$20,000) be split between the Recreation Trust and the town. *Discussion was held.*
- e. *Item was tabled until the May meeting.*

Approval of Bills

Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Ms. Rogers and unanimously approved.

Next Meeting Date

May 22, 2014

Adjournment