

PRINCETON RECREATION BOARD

September 25, 2014

A meeting of the Recreation Board of Princeton was held on September 25, 2014 in the Princeton Recreation Department (PRD) lower level Conference Room, 380 Witherspoon Street.

Present: Dr. Nosker, Mr. Koontz, Mr. Young, Ms. Asagra Stanley, Ms. Germaine, Ms. Rogers, Ms. Butler, Dr. Cahill, Mr. Groeger, Mr. Marroli, Mr. Moorhead & Mr. Stentz

Absent: Ms. Olivares-Weber & Dr. Frawley

Activities

Mr. Groeger reported on the following activities:

- Mr. Marroli and Mr. Groeger are working on both Dillon Youth Basketball & PAWS & Tiger Cubs Wrestling items for this upcoming Fall/Winter. Mr. Marroli is transitioning all three programs to Mr. Groeger this year with the idea Mr. Groeger will run the programs on his own next year.

Mr. Marroli reported on the following activities:

- The first Special Needs Dance of the season happened on 9/11/14. 53 participants attended the dance. The next dance will be 10/10/14.
- The Men's 40 & Over Softball playoffs will wrap up on 10/1/14.

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following activities

- Princeton University Staff & Community Day is this Saturday, 9/27/14 and will take place prior to the Football game. PRD will have a table at the event to pass out t-shirts & literature.
- Over the past few weeks, Mr. Moorhead has met with the municipal engineering department at Smoyer Park Dam, Marquand Park and Mountain Lakes Dam to discuss mowing in those areas, which PRD now oversees. A few residents here also voiced some concerns about the height of the mowing in these areas. The information Mr. Moorhead received from the engineers was passed on to the mowing contractor. *Discussion was held.*
- Dr. Frawley & Mr. Moorhead visited Farmview Field on 9/21/14 to ensure the scheduling agreement between PSS & PFC was being adhered to. Their analysis is that the current schedule seems to be working well. Dr. Frawley & Mr. Moorhead will continue to monitor the situation as needed.

Directors Report

Mr. Stentz reported on the following:

- PRD Division of Labor has changed slightly for the staff for this upcoming Fall & Winter. Several programs have been transitioned from one staff member to another to create new challenges for all staff and keep things fresh.
- Pool Update: The baby pool has been drained, the main pool is halfway drained and the rest of the facility is being winterized. CP Pool had another very good year in terms of generating revenue. End-of-year pool financial reports will be generated and brought to the Board later in 2014 for review. *Discussion was held.*
- Parks & Recreation Ordinance Update: An older version of the ordinance document was transmitted to the Council and the public prior to the 9/22/14 Council meeting. Because of this, the item was tabled and will be reviewed at the next Council meeting. The proposed ordinance details the Recreation Board's classification as a "Commission", and not an "Advisory Board". This will enable the Board to continue to operate as it always has, with oversight of Trust Acct. spending, authority to set user fees, authority to set recreation policy and other functions outlined in the proposed ordinance. *Discussion was held.*
- Mercer County Grant Update for Mary Moss Project: The services agreement was sent to the Mercer County Planning Director on 9/2/14 and should appear on the agenda of a future Freeholder's meeting. The Mercer County Freeholders are planning to host an upcoming meeting in Princeton.
- Tax Supported Budgets Update: PRD has submitted its operating budget and 6-year capital budget requests to the Finance Department.
- The 3-year contract between PRD and The Princeton Tennis Program (PTP) will conclude at the end of this year. Mr. Stentz suggested that one or two Board members volunteer to work with him on negotiations for a new contract with PTP, assuming that the Board wants to continue in this direction.
- Registration for all Fall/Winter programs start on 10/1/14. Mr. Marroli & Mr. Groeger have spent a lot of time creating the new brochure and updating both the website and the registration site.

- Financial Aid Update: Mr. Stentz, Ms. Caines & Ms. Ryan have been busy following up with FA clients and reminding families that it's time to close out their accounts. Invoices have been sent out to the Joe Fund, Koko Fund, PCV, Corner House, and Griggs Farm Association in regards to subsidizing families for use of PRD programs. The goal is to have all FA fees reconciled by 12/31/14.
- Events Update: PRD hosted Mayor & Council's Volunteer Event at CP Pool on 9/3/14 and also hosted a Princeton staff cookout at CP Pool on 9/4/14. NJRPA hosted a Playground Safety Course on 9/17/14 in Marlboro and PRD sent four staff members to attend. *Discussion was held.*
- Mr. Stentz and Ms. Caines met with Ross Pomeroy, former instructor for PRD Platform Tennis clinics. The goal of the meeting was to let Mr. Pomeroy know that if he would like to provide private lessons on the municipal courts, he should submit a proposal detailing his desires to the Recreation Board.
- Mr. Stentz met with resident Howard Chang, who is interested in forming a youth volleyball program. Mr. Chang's desire is for PRD to run this program. Mr. Stentz informed him that PRD does not have the manpower to run additional programs at this time but suggested that he consider the volunteer-run model that is in place with such groups as Princeton Little League, Princeton Soccer, etc.
- Mr. Stentz will be meeting with the town IT Director and a representative from MSI (Municipal Software Inc.), who will be performing the financial conversion for PRD. The meeting is slated for 9/30/14 and Mr. Stentz will be inquiring about the timeline of the entire process.
- Mr. Stentz will have his annual performance evaluation on 9/30/14 with Township Administrator Bob Bruschi. Ms. Rogers raised the question as to whether the new Commission will conduct the Rec Director's annual performance evaluation moving forward. *Discussion was held.*
- Mr. Stentz met with Princeton Public Schools Superintendent Steve Cochrane on 9/25/14 to discuss the upcoming "think-tank" that will take place on 10/6/14 regarding the development of more consistent coaching philosophies and trainings from the Rec level though High School level.
- Mayor Lempert has invited Dr. Nosker to present a five-minute summary to the Mayor & Council about Recreation achievements for 2014 and future initiatives. The invitation is for 12/1/14. *Discussion was held.*
- Park Maintenance Update:
 - Playground mulch has been replenished at all playgrounds (nine sites)
 - Mr. Moorhead reports Farmview Fields are not utilized as best as they can be due to parking and safety restrictions. The requests to use fields in Princeton are extremely high at this time. Dr. Nosker commented that in regards to field space as compared to other towns, Princeton has a serious issue. Mr. Koontz inquired as to any potential Open Space areas that may be able to be utilized by Recreation. *Discussion was held.*
 - Capital Project Update: Grover Park Basketball court is currently being re-surfaced and should be completed in next 2-3 days. There will also be some court repair at Harrison Park as some tree roots have come up through the ground affecting the court surface. *Discussion was held.*

Communications

- No formal communications

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the August 2014 meeting minutes; seconded by Ms. Germaine and unanimously approved.

Old Business

- Mr. Koontz asked Mr. Moorhead for a progress report on the state of concussion policies. Mr. Moorhead reports he has done some research as to current trends on concussions, which include online training courses. There are several websites available that provide free online concussion training. Mr. Moorhead is in the process of analyzing what other NJ towns and other states require in terms of concussion training for volunteer coaches. PRD hosts the Rutgers Safety Course each year and requires all volunteer coaches to take the course. This course does address concussion education. Mr. Moorhead has not completed all possible research yet, but will have a full report soon for the board to review. Ms. Rogers brought up the point that parents need to be more educated about concussions and also find out more info in parents meetings from PRD. *Discussion was held.*

New Business

- a. Fall/Winter User Fees: Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the fees, seconded by Dr. Cahill and unanimously approved.
- b. Annual payment to municipality to offset CP Pool construction costs: Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the annual payment, seconded by Dr. Cahill and unanimously approved.
- c. Landscaping proposal for CP Pool: Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the landscaping proposal, seconded by Ms. Rogers and unanimously approved.
- d. Tree Maintenance proposal for CP Pool: Item Tabled

Approval of Bills

- A. Ms. Germaine made a motion to approve the Bills; seconded by Mr. Koontz and unanimously approved, with the exception of PO/Check #1690. Check #1690 only has "Vikki Caines" on it and not "Princeton Recreation Department". The check will be re-done and "Princeton Recreation Department" added to the check.

Next Meeting Date

October 23, 2014

Adjournment