

PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

February 26, 2015

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on February 26, 2015 in the Princeton Recreation Department (PRD) lower level Conference Room, 380 Witherspoon Street.

Present: Dr. Nosker, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Koontz, Ms. Germaine, Mr. Young, Ms. Olivares-Weber, Dr. Cahill & Ms. Butler

Also Present: Mr. Stentz, Mr. Marrolli, Mr. Moorhead & Mr. Groeger

Absent: Ms. Horan & Dr. Frawley

Activities

Mr. Groeger reported on the following activities:

- Dillon Basketball playoffs begin 2/28/15. Program ends on 3/14/15.
- Dillon skill clinics held on 1/28/15 & 2/18/15. There will be one more clinic on 3/4/15.
- 'Dillon League Night' was held at Jadwin Gym on 2/14/15 in partnership with Princeton University. 75 children attended.
- PAWS Wrestling will end on 3/12/15. Tiger Cubs Wrestling will end on 3/14/15. PAWS Banquet will be held on 4/16/15 at Mercer Oaks Golf Course.

Mr. Marrolli reported on the following activities:

- Special Needs dance was held on 2/6/15. 61 people attended the event. The next dance will be held on 3/13/15.
- Mr. Marrolli attended the IT Steering Committee meeting on 2/9/15.
- Youth Squash Clinic began 2/1/15 at Jadwin Gym.
- PRD Water Polo Instructor Andy Sichet will not be returning for 2015. Mr. Marrolli has been in touch with the Princeton University Water Polo Coaching Staff and they will be helping us identify a new instructor for 2015.

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following activities:

- Platform Tennis leagues are ongoing. Playoffs begin in mid-March. Mr. Moorhead thanked the PRD Maintenance Staff for keeping the two front courts clear of snow & ice.
 - Mr. Stentz commented that while the PRD Maintenance crew continues to get high marks for their work, there are recreation areas that are not getting snow/ice removal attention in a timely fashion because PRD continues to do Buildings/Grounds work that is the responsibility of DPW. Mr. Stentz commented that PRD has taken on more DPW work over the last couple of years and that the time may come soon that PRD needs to stop doing Building/Grounds work and return that workload to the DPW Division of Building/Grounds. Specifically, PRD is handling snow/ice removal at Witherspoon Complex (ALL parking lots, sidewalks, entryways), Monument Hall complex (ALL parking lots, sidewalks, entryways), Witherspoon St. firehouse (apron areas), and PFARS Station (apron & entry areas). Snow/ice removal at some park walkway sites is being delayed or ignored completely.
- Ice skating: 10 days of skating were available in February at CP North, Smoyer & Carnegie.
 - Dr. Nosker and Ms. Olivares-Weber commented that they were disappointed that the Princeton U. parking lot on Washington Road has not been made available to ice skaters. Mr. Moorhead & Mr. Stentz alerted the Commission that they have both been in communication with P.U. and that they have been firm about keeping that lot closed so it can be used for emergency access to the lake, if necessary. P.U. is also concerned about the mix of cars and pedestrians in the lot during ice skating sessions.
- Mr. Moorhead participated in interviews for DPW Foreman promotions.
- Request for Proposals has been issued for chlorine supply for CP Pool for summer 2015. Due

date is 3/5/15.

- Bid documents are now available for town-wide mowing services. Bids to be opened on 3/6/15.
- Spring field scheduling is underway.
- CP Pool Managers are being hired and CP Aquatics Director is putting together the lifeguard staff. Applications are being accepted for lifeguard positions.
- CP Pool diving boards will be evaluated by an outside contractor this spring as part of routine maintenance.
- Mr. Moorhead commented that staffing the pool on weekdays before school ends has become more difficult in recent years. PRD Staff will closely monitor attendance patterns on these dates in 2015 to see if there are adjustments to the CP Pool schedule that can be made to better fit the needs of patrons as well as address staffing challenges. Mr. Stentz mentioned that staffing shortages on these dates may lead to certain pools in the complex being closed on any given day.

Subcommittee Reports

- **Mary Moss Park**
 - Mr. Stentz reported that the subcommittee met on 2/18/15 and invited Ben Hanbicki from Integrated Aquatics Engineering, Inc. to attend. Mr. Hanbicki shared design and operation expertise from sprayground projects that his firm has been involved with around the tristate region. The format of the meeting was 'Q & A' so that subcommittee members could begin to develop an understanding about best practices for designing and building spraygrounds.
 - Ms. Butler explained that the Princeton Historical Preservation Commission has recently inquired about the Lytle St. property and the possibility of saving the existing home on that property. Ms. Butler explained that there is some historical designation in parts of the Mary Moss Park neighborhood, and that if the municipality purchased the lot with the house intact, it may trigger additional review by the Historical Preservation Committee.
 - Mr. Stentz reported that Municipal Engineer Bob Kiser and Asst. Engineer Deanna Stockton will be attending the 3/9/15 Historical Preservation Committee meeting.
 - Next subcommittee meeting scheduled for 3/19/15.

Directors Report

Mr. Stentz reported on the following:

- Mr. Stentz thanked the Commission members that were able to attend the Sustainable Princeton awards ceremony to see Vikki Caines receive her Sustainable Leadership Award.
- Mr. Stentz commented that the department has received some resident complaints regarding snow/ice removal in some park locations. The areas in question are pedestrian and/or bike connections. Mr. Stentz explained that as Recreation continues to take on Building/Grounds work from the dept. of Public Works, the ability to pay attention to park pathways has become a secondary priority. Mr. Stentz explained that unless Recreation Maintenance Staffing levels are adjusted, he will strongly consider proposing that all buildings/grounds work be given back to DPW year-round.

Communications

- Resolution regarding creation of Open Space Advisory Committee: Commission Chair and Recreation Director (or designee) have been appointed to Committee. Ms. Butler will serve on the Committee as a Council Liaison. **Discussion was held.**
- Ken Verbyest: Regarding sibling discount for PAWS/Tiger Cubs Wrestling programs and reduced fee option for middle-school wrestlers that want a 'match-only' option. Mr. Stentz

will bring this fee option back to Commission in Fall 2015 when Fall/Winter fees will be discussed.

- Deborah Norcross from Princeton Special Sports: Regarding possible connection with Baseball Challenge program for adults with Special Needs. PRD Staff will follow-up to see if we can provide help in advertising the existing regional program.
- Wendy Mager from Friends of Princeton Open Space: Offering to provide expertise and resources for landscaping work to be done as part of Mary Moss Park improvements.

Public Comment

NO COMMENT

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the January 2015 Commission meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Rogers, and unanimously approved.

Old Business

NO OLD BUSINESS

New Business

A. Spring/Summer 2015 Program & Membership Fees

- Mr. Stentz commented on recent increases to operating expenses that have cut into annual profit margins, including two consecutive years of minimum wage increases, the loss of merchant fee reimbursement from PNC Bank, and the loss of some community subsidy partners. Mr. Stentz presented a proposal that showed a potential 3% increase to program/membership fees with some specific exceptions. *Discussion was held.*
- Mr. Koontz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Young and unanimously approved to increase program/membership fees by 3%, with the following programs/fees being exempt from the increase:
 - a. CP Pool daily admission for Princeton residents
 - b. Day Camp and Teen Travel Camp
 - c. Swim and Dive Lessons
 - d. Early-Bird rates for CP Pool membership adjusted to show equal % discount for resident families and NR families
 - e. Lifeguard Training program fee increased from \$225 to \$275 to better align PRD fee with pricing offered elsewhere

B. Shade Improvements at CP Pool

- Mr. Moorhead presented options for purchase/installation of additional shade structures for CP Pool. Options discussed included shade types, shade sizes, surface options, location of new structures and pricing. *Discussion was held.*
- Mr. Koontz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Olivares-Weber and approved unanimously to fund shade improvements (5 units at 10x10 each + installation) at CP Pool.

C. Princeton Tennis Program (PTP) Agreement

- Mr. Stentz reported that the draft version of the PRD/PTP agreement has been reviewed by the subcommittee and the municipal legal team. The current draft has not been delivered to PTP as of 2/26/15, but will be sent ASAP as long as the Commission approves of the current draft. Mr. Stentz requests that Commission consider approving the agreement, pending consent from PTP. If PTP has areas that they want to discuss further, Mr. Stentz will report back to the Commission.
- Mr. Koontz made a motion, seconded by Dr. Cahill and approved unanimously to approve the contract with the Princeton Tennis Program (PTP).

Approval of Bills

- Mr. Koontz made the motion to approve the bills, seconded by Mr. Young and unanimously approved.

Next Meeting Date

March 26, 2015

Adjournment