

PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

October 1, 2015

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on October 1, 2015 in the Princeton Recreation Department (PRD) lower level Conference Room, 380 Witherspoon Street.

Present: Dr. Nosker, Dr. Cahill, Ms. Germaine, Ms. Butler and Mr. Young
Also Present: Mr. Stentz, Mr. Moorhead, Mr. Groeger and Mr. Marroli
Absent: Mr. Koontz, Ms. Rogers, Ms. Olivares-Weber, Dr. Frawley

Activities Report

Mr. Marroli reported on the following:

- Mr. Marroli is in the process of obtaining quotes for a safety and maintenance inspection for Hilltop Skate Park. *Discussion was held.* Dr. Nosker asked how often the skate park gets used and if the presence of the skate park has led to a reduction of skating in other parts of town. *Discussion was held.*

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following:

- 25 people attended the Rutgers SAFETY Clinic for youth sports coaches on 9/30/15 at 7 pm in the main court room in Witherspoon Hall.
- Princeton Junior Football has requested to use gas-powered portable lights at Hilltop Field, which are similar to the lights that the local soccer groups use at CP South. Mr. Moorhead is working through the logistics of that request along with any potential impact the placement of those lights may have for the soccer groups. The lights would be used one night per week thru the end of the fall season. *Discussion was held.*
- Field Rental Fee & Policy Update for User Groups: Mr. Moorhead has gathered information from approximately eight towns on their fee structure and rental policies. There are many layers to this discussion and Mr. Moorhead is currently sifting thru all of the information that he has gathered. Mr. Moorhead hopes to have a recommendation to deliver to the Commission later this fall. *Discussion was held.*

Director's Report

Mr. Stentz reported on the following:

- Platform Tennis Update: PRD will be hosting Platform Tennis refresher clinics on October 13th, 17th & 20th. The clinics are an ideal way for former players to get back into mid-season form, in addition to helping new players become acclimated to the sport. Ms. Caines will run the Women's league, while Mr. Marroli will run the Men's league. One of the net posts was damaged in the off-season and will need to be repaired prior to the start of the season. Riley Platform Tennis Company will be performing the inspection and repair. *Discussion was held.*
- One (1) full-time maintenance vacancy was filled within the past week, while two (2) new maintenance positions were hired, as well. All three (3) hires were current part-time maintenance employees over the past two or three summers. Mr. Stentz is excited about the new hires and feels they are all a great fit for our maintenance team. Mr. Stentz thanked both Mr. Moorhead and Mr. Scullion for their time interviewing internal and external applicants.
- Municipal Budget Update: PRD has submitted our Capital Budget Request, 2016 Departmental Operating request and 2016 Parks Operating Request. Mr. Stentz thanked both Mr. Moorhead and Ms. Caines for their input on getting the requests together. *Discussion was held.*

- Emergency Operations Team Update: The municipality is considering opening the “Emergency Operations Center” in advance of the pending storm (Hurricane Joaquin). There will be a meeting on 10/2/15 of a sub-committee of the Emergency Operations Team and a final decision on whether or not to open the center will be made at the meeting. Mr. Stentz and Mr. Moorhead serve on the Emergency Operations Team and met with PRD maintenance staff today to discuss the storm’s current forecast and the potential impact for PRD maintenance staff.
- On 9/21/15, PRD staff met with Myrtha and Mainline Commercial Pools to discuss the floor liner “flap” that came loose in the main pool this summer. Myrtha rep, John Ireland, indicated that has seen that type of damage before, although this tear was longer than any he has previously seen. He feels that it’s a result of a bad weld that has given way. Myrtha is going to fix the liner at no cost to PRD. The repair is scheduled for 10/2/15, but may not happen until the weather improves as they cannot complete the repair when the liner is wet. Mr. Ireland has guaranteed that Myrtha stands by their product and will do what it necessary to repair it.
- As we approach the end of the Tennis season, Mr. Stentz will be sending a reimbursement invoice to PTP as per the PRD-PTP agreement. PTP will be reimbursing PRD for electric costs at the tennis complex, wind screens and close to \$20,000 for water improvements. *Discussion was held.*
- Larry Ivan Tribute Fund Update: Ms. Butler requested an update on the status of the Larry Ivan Tribute Fund. The Fund is currently at \$12,500 without the \$1,000 that the Commission has donated. Mr. Stentz has met with the plaque designer, Stephanie, at the pool to finalize the location for its placement. *Discussion was held.*
- Maintenance Update: The CP pool complex is now about 75 percent “winterized”, with the baby pool and diving well completely covered up. The main pool is empty and awaiting a repair. Winterizing the pool complex consists of lowering the water level, blowing out all of the water lines with a compressor, plugging up all ports inside the pool wall, ensuring all chemicals are properly handled and stored, and pulling the covers over all pools. The complex grounds have been completely cleaned up and landscaped, while the showers, toilets and sinks also need to be winterized. The maintenance crew is very busy and winter preparations are under way.

Communications

- A. Jim Manganaro, a Princeton resident, has requested to have a tennis practice wall built at Smoyer Park. *Discussion was held.*
- B. Ella Rohkinson sent a letter to PRD requesting that CP pool open earlier during the week. This is the second such letter that Ms. Rohkinson has sent to Mr. Stentz. Mr. Stentz has previously replied to Ms. Rohkinson’s first letter, explaining that an earlier opening of the pool complex to the general public is not logistically possible due to the pool’s daily schedule of activities. *Discussion was held.*
- C. Rebecca (no last name given) emailed Mr. Stentz in regards to a sign that is located at the front entrance to CP Pool. The sign in question is written in Spanish and Rebecca feels that it contains incorrect grammar. *Discussion was held.*

Public Comment

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Approval of Minutes

- Ms. Butler made a motion to approve the August 2015 Commission meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Young, and approved. Dr. Cahill Abstained.

Old Business

NO OLD BUSINESS

New Business

A. **2015/2016 Fall/Winter Fees:** Mr. Stentz commented that this past Spring, most PRD spring/summer program fees were raised 3% to cover the loss of the merchant fee reimbursement from PNC Bank. PRD is recommending a similar 3% increase for all fall/winter program fees for the upcoming season to offset this loss. *Discussion was held.* Ms. Butler made the motion to approve the 2015/2016 Fall/Winter fees, seconded by Ms. Germaine, and approved.

- a. **PAWS Match-Only Fee:** A request was made to look into a match-only fee for PAWS Youth Wrestling. Mr. Groeger spoke with several current coaches on the matter and they are not in favor of having such an option for the program.
- b. **"Sibling" Discount:** PRD staff researched the idea of implementing a "sibling" discount for certain programs. However, PRD does not recommend instituting a sibling discount across programs as it contains too many administrative challenges. PRD will continue to make its Financial Aid Program available to anyone that demonstrates a need. Mr. Stentz thanked Mr. Marroli and PRD staff for collecting data and organizing the fall/winter consent agenda.

Design Services for Mary Moss Park (update): Mr. Stentz feels that specific names of contractors who have submitted proposals should not be mentioned during this meeting. The Commission agreed with Mr. Stentz that those proposals are not yet public knowledge and should not be mentioned by name. Sixteen proposals for the new park were originally submitted, and the Mary Moss subcommittee chose four of those designers to invite in for interviews. All of the interviews were conducted during the week of September 21st, by a combination of Mr. Stentz, Mr. Moorhead, Ms. Caines, Ms. Germaine, Ms. Butler, Ms. Rogers and Deanna Stockton, Assistant Municipal Engineer. The group met again on 9/28 to compare notes from all of the interviews. A consensus has not yet been reached as to a top candidate. A few outstanding items, such as the Tash house and the HABOP property, still require more clarification from Engineering and Administration for the subcommittee to be able to make a final recommendation. *Discussion was held.* Mr. Stentz reports that all four (4) designers who were interviewed seem to understand how important it is to involve the community in the design process of the park. Mr. Stentz also mentioned that all four of the interviewed designers feel the original timeline to complete the park prior to the start of the 2016 season is becoming very condensed. As it stands now, it is early October and all four firms advised against attempting to schedule public input meetings during the holiday season. *Discussion was held.*

Approval of Bills

- o Dr. Cahill made the motion to approve the bills, seconded by Ms. Butler, and approved.

Next Meeting Date

October 22, 2015

Adjournment