

## PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

January 28, 2016

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on January 28, 2016 in the Princeton Recreation Department (PRD) lower level Conference Room, 380 Witherspoon Street.

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

**Also Present:** Mr. Stentz, Mr. Moorhead, Mr. Groeger and Mr. Marrolli

**Absent:** Dr. Cahill, Ms. Mills (CH Student Board) and Mr. Riley (CH Student Board)

### Activities Report

In addition to activities detailed in the agenda packet, Mr. Marrolli reported on the following:

- **Princeton Special Sports** and PRD are partnering for a Special Needs Talent Show (Café' Improv), which will be held on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Arts Council of Princeton from 4 – 6 pm.

In addition to activities detailed in the agenda packet, Mr. Stentz reported on the following:

- **CP Pool hosting the PASDA Swim Championships:** The first planning meeting was held on 1/14/16. The event will take place from roughly 7:30 am – 1 pm on 7/25 & 7/26. Parking will be a challenge for this event and staff is working on solutions. All regularly scheduled morning pool programs will be canceled for these two dates.
- **The Larry Ivan plaque** unveiling ceremony will take place on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at CP Pool, with the time being TBD at this point. Mr. Marrolli, Mr. Stentz and Ms. Caines met with Laine Santoro (Mr. Ivan's daughter) & Cindy Baker to discuss the details of the ceremony. Mr. Ivan expressed some desire to keep the ceremony small. Mr. Stentz will ask Princeton Mayor & Council to present Mr. Ivan with a proclamation during the unveiling ceremony. *Discussion was held.*
- **CP Pool 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** Staff is discussing an event for 2016 to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CP Pool.

### Corner House Student Report

No Report

### Director's Report

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following:

- **Potts Park gate request:** Mr. Moorhead has asked municipal counsel to research any possible requirements regarding gates in parks. Mr. Moorhead is awaiting a response.
- **Field use/Rental subcommittee:** The subcommittee met for the second time on 1/13/16. Mr. Moorhead, Dr. Frawley and Mr. Young discussed a tiered hierarchy for determining field priority. Mr. Moorhead is hoping to schedule a third meeting in February to discuss specific rental and usage fees.
- **Dept. of Labor requirements:** PRD has been selected by the U.S. Department of Labor and the New Jersey Department of Labor for mandatory data reporting studies. Mr. Moorhead has been calling into the U.S. Department of Labor each month for the past six months to report the total number of employees, total supervisory employees versus non-supervisory employees, total number of female employees, total hours worked, and total payroll amounts for each payroll cycle. The New Jersey Department of Labor is requesting all work-related injuries, illnesses and missed work time for all seasonal employees for the entire year. Ms. Butler asked how long ago

PRD mandated that seasonal employees register for payroll through direct deposit. *Discussion was held.*

Mr. Stentz reported on the following:

- **The 'Mercer (County) At Play' grant** will be offered again in 2016. Mr. Stentz suggested that the Commission review past 'wish list' projects in anticipation of the chance to apply for grant funding. Ms. Butler asked if the battle for or against turf has resurfaced and if a turf field could be a possible request again through the new grant. *Discussion was held.*
- **Earned Sick Leave (ESL):** Recreation Commission memo regarding ESL was delivered to Mayor and Council, requesting consideration to adjust, from 90 to 120, the number of days worked before an employee is eligible to use accrued earned sick time. The memo from the Commission was sent due to the fact that most lifeguards would reach the 90 day threshold well before the pool season ended, which could have negative implications for staffing the pool at a critical time in the season. *Discussion was held.*
- **Mary Moss Playground Park:** The kick-off meeting with the design firm, The RBA Group, was held on 1/21/16. The first community meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the Community Room at 400 Witherspoon. *Discussion was held.*
- **Maintenance: Snow Removal:** Maintenance staff was on-site for 36 consecutive hours for snow removal from 1/22 – 1/24. Mr. Stentz praised the staff for their effort.
- **Merchant Fees:** Following up on a suggestion from Dr. Cahill, Mr. Stentz has shopped for more competitive merchant service rates. Through this process, our current provider of these services, PNC Bank offered to reduce their rates, saving PRD approx. \$4,000 annually.
- **Long-term Capital Account:** Mr. Stentz has moved approx. \$475,000 from PNC Bank to The Bank of Princeton to take advantage of new CD rates offering 1.24% annual return. The PNC money market was only returning .015% annually. The CD is a 12-month CD.
- **Mayor Lempert Dog Park Meeting:** Mr. Stentz and Mr. Moorhead were invited to a meeting hosted by Mayor Lempert regarding resident Wendy Mager's desire to build a dog park on property along Route 206 near Washington Oaks. Mr. Stentz commented that the idea of building a dog park seems to come up about once a year. Mr. Koontz raised the question if there is a possibility of building a scaled-down dog park that includes zero amenities besides being a fenced-in area. *Discussion was held.* Mr. Stentz stated that location and land are major factors in determining where to place a dog park.

Communications (included in agenda packet)

- **Dog Park:** Princeton resident Patty Koch emailed Mr. Stentz in regards to building a dog park in Princeton. Mr. Stentz communicated to Ms. Koch that all suggestions/ideas are discussed by the Commission, and that there are always competing interests for the available funding.
- **Mr. Darius Young** has been reappointed to the Commission for a five-year term, expiring 12/31/20.

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Approval of Minutes

- *Mr. Nosker made a motion to approve the 12/18/15 Commission meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Butler, and approved. Mr. Koontz and Mr. Young abstained.*

Old Business

- **Corner House program on Heroin:** Mr. Koontz announced that Corner House is hosting a community meeting about the heroin epidemic on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Princeton HS. Mr. Koontz reports the state needs about 88,000 treatment beds available for recovering addicts, and the state currently has only approximately 22,000 treatment beds. Princeton House is the only current treatment center in Mercer County that provides treatment beds. *Discussion was held.* Mr. Stentz has offered to reach out to Gary DeBlasio in an effort to assist in promoting this event.

### **New Business**

- **2016 Spring/Summer Fees:** PRD staff recommends to increase the fee for both the Aqua Aerobics and Deep Water Exercise programs in order to become consistent with the rest of CP Pool programs. *Discussion was held.*
- **Pool Membership Options:** Mr. Stentz reports over the past few summers, PRD has received various requests for additional pool membership options and discounts. After researching various public and private pool membership rates, its apparent CP pool prices are comparably much lower and PRD is still able to offer a large amount of financial aid. Based on existing pricing being relatively affordable and the ability to offer financial assistance, Mr. Stentz does not recommend offering any additional discounts or new layers to the existing fee structure. *Discussion was held.*
- **Day Camp Schedule:** PRD staff researched the idea of dividing up PRD Day Camp from two, 4-week sessions to four, 2-week sessions. Mr. Stentz does not recommend changing the current Day Camp structure due to financial concerns, as well as concerns over being able to staff each session appropriately and effectively.  
*Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the 2016 Spring/Summer Fees, seconded by Mr. Young and approved.*

Mr. Stentz reports that PRD 2016 Spring/Summer program registration will begin on 2/22/16, which is one week earlier than PRD registration has started in the past. The 2016 Spring/Summer Activities Brochure will also be released on 2/22/16. The hiring process has also begun as seasonal position applications have been posted. *Discussion was held.*

### **Approval of Bills**

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

### **Next Meeting Date**

February 25, 2016

### **Adjournment**