

## PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on April 28, 2022 remotely via Zoom.

- Present: Ms. Germaine, Mr. Young, Ms. Pirone Lambros, Ms. Rogers & Mr. Burt
- Also Present: Mr. Moorhead, Mr. Marroli, Ms. Paulucci, Mr. Petrucelli & Mr. Marshall
- Absent: Dr. Nosker, Mr. Koontz, Dr. Frawley, Dr. Cahill & Ms. Liu

### Public Comment

Junglien Chen asked Mr. Moorhead if emails that are sent directly to him (but addressed to the Recreation Commission) are changed or altered first before being shared with the Recreation Commission. Mr. Moorhead answered that any email he receives addressed to the Commission are neither edited nor changed in any way before being shared with the Commission. Procedure would be to include them in the agenda packet that is shared with the Commission prior to the next meeting. Mr. Moorhead also informed Mr. Chen that there are no public email address associated with the Commission; there are only public email addresses for PRD staff members.

### Corner House Student Board

Mr. Marshall commented the next Corner House Open Mic Night will be held on 4/29/22 at Small World Coffee. Corner House Student Board members also recently met in person for the first time in several weeks. Board Members are currently planning an Acapella Night, as well as another Dodgeball or Spikeball/3-on-3 Basketball event.

### Activities Report

In addition to the activities in the agenda packet, Ms. Paulucci reported on the following:

- **Summer Programming Update:** Spring programs are winding down, while summer program planning is in full swing. The 2022 Adaptive Spring Formal will be held on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, at CP Pool and hasn't been held in-person in two years due to COVID. The event averages 100-150 total participants. This summer includes a total of 28 PRD programs, and staff are also working on adding a few additional programs to round out the program menu. All upcoming summer programs have been shared with PRD's financial aid partners.

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

- **Teen Travel Camp/Basketball Camp Updates:** Staff are bringing back two programs for the summer of 2022 that have not been run since 2019, Teen Travel Camp and Boys' & Girls' Basketball Camps. Registration is now open for both programs.

### Director's Report

Mr. Moorhead commented the 2022 Summer Flyer that Ms. Paulucci just shared has also been advertised in the Town Topics to help generate interest. With so many new programs, staff feel it would be helpful to market and promote the full menu in various places. Mr. Moorhead commended Mr. Petrucelli for

creating the most recent edition of the PRD Newsletter, which turned out great. Prior to COVID, PRD offered 13 to 14 different programs during the summer, and over the past 2 years, staff have essentially doubled the number of programs offered. Ms. Paulucci and Mr. Petrucelli create and oversee most of the programs PRD offers, and deserve credit for putting together such a diverse menu of programs for the summer. Ms. Germaine commented that she is excited to see so many new programs being offered and asked if any of these programs can be run on-site at any of the local Princeton schools. *Discussion was held.*

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following:

- **Staffing Update:** Two openings for PRD Maintenance Staff were recently filled. The interviews consisted of two rounds, run by various members of PRD staff. PRD was able to offer and hire their top two candidates. One of the new staff members has experience working in the NJ State Park System, while the other worked for PRD previously as a seasonal maintenance staffer and has been working on the Princeton Public Schools Grounds Crew the last several years. The Maintenance Crew will be back up to full strength on 5/2/22 for the first time since December of 2021, which is great timing with the summer fast approaching. The CP Pool Lifeguard staff has a large number of 2021 employees returning for 2022. PRD has some part-time positions available for CP Pool Customer Service and Seasonal Maintenance. The part-time applicant pool for these positions has been slow to form, and as such, Mr. Moorhead invited the Commission to send any interested individuals our way.
- **CP Pool Update:** The Kiddie Pool has been demoed and completely re-plastered. The job went well and PRD Maintenance Staff had to monitor the pool chemistry daily so the plaster cured correctly. The Main Pool has been completely drained and re-filled, and the repaired filter system has fired up without any issues. The Dive Well has been drained and cleaned, and is currently being re-filled by PRD Maintenance Staff. Mr. Moorhead noted the “New” CP Pool Complex is now just about 10 years old. Lifeguard Orientation will take place the week of 5/23/22 and will include multiple training sessions and drills. In-service LG training will then continue in an ongoing fashion throughout the summer to ensure staff skills stay up to date. Mr. Moorhead stated that pre-season school swims at CP Pool will return in 2022 for the first time since 2019.
- **Park Maintenance Update:** Maintenance Staff is currently heavily involved in the spring youth sports season with the lining of our athletic fields. Mr. Moorhead acknowledged Mr. Marroli has done a great job coordinating use of athletic fields for the spring sports season. Mr. Marroli has also been communicating with the mowing contractor to ensure all fields and parks are mowed according to contract specifications. One request our staff typically receives from local sports groups is to have their fields cut twice during the week, due to how quickly the grass grows in the spring/summer. Mr. Moorhead reported staff are often able to meet this request, but can’t guarantee it will happen each and every week of the summer due to their overall work load. All park restrooms, aside from Hilltop Park, are currently open and operational. As the weather warms up, all park water fountains will also be turned back on.
- **CP Tennis Courts Update:** All of the CP South Tennis Courts have been prepped and readied for the 2022 Spring/Summer season. This includes the installation of wind screens, placement of trash receptacles, as well as the activation of the lights.
- **Current Park Projects Update:** An irrigation system was recently installed at Marchand Meadows, affectionately known as “Vicki’s Garden Area”, which will help reduce the man hours required to water all plants in this garden. Crack repairs were recently completed at several CP South tennis

courts, as well as the CP School basketball court. A piece of broken playground equipment at Harrison St. Park was also repaired recently.

- **Future Projects Update:** This summer, a round-a-bout will be installed by the county at the entrance of Johnson Park School (General Johnson Dr) on Rosedale Road. Mr. Moorhead has been told this project will begin as soon as school ends in June, and this will certainly have an impact on park users of Greenway Meadows as portions of Rosedale will be closed to thru traffic for the duration of the project. Staff anticipates additional details from the Engineering Department in the near future and will pass those on to user groups as necessary. Mr. Moorhead has also been in contact with the Engineering Department regarding and RFP for a CP South Master Plan/Study. The current timeline is to send out the RFP in mid-summer and to receive proposals by the end of this summer or start of the fall. From there, municipal staff and the Commission can review proposals and move forward with selecting a firm. Mr. Moorhead is pleased to be able to begin moving this process forward for CP South.
- **Registration Update:** Registration is currently ongoing for all programs. CP Pool Membership for 2022 has eclipsed the 2800 mark. Mr. Moorhead explained membership has slowed, but he expects it to pick back up as the weather warms. Bluefish Swim & Dive Team, Swim Lessons, and Basketball Camp registration numbers are all increasing as folks start thinking about their summer plans.
- **PLL Opening Day & Wheels Rodeo:** Mr. Moorhead and Mr. Marroli attended PLL Opening Day on 4/23/22 at Grover Park, the first Opening Day Ceremony held since 2019. PLL recognized PRD and the maintenance staff during the event, and Mayor Mark Freda threw out the opening pitch. On that same day, the Wheels Rodeo, an event run by the Princeton Police Department, was held in the Municipal Complex parking lot. PRD donated a 2022 CP Pool Membership to the event and Mr. Moorhead commented the event ran well.
- **Battery-Operated Equipment:** PRD recently purchased and received several battery-operated pieces of equipment, including leaf blowers, trimmers and a push mower. The equipment was purchased so that staff can comply with the new municipal ordinance banning gas powered leaf blowers during certain times of year. It also helps towards making Princeton more sustainable.

Ms. Germaine commented it is unfortunate that the articles shared in the agenda packet, that are over 30 years old, highlight that the Township didn't have enough athletic fields at that time and the Township is still currently facing the same predicament. *Discussion was held.*

### Old Business

- **Mercer at Play:** The Subcommittee has met twice in the past month to review adaptive playground design proposals. Feedback from the subcommittee and staff was passed to the playground vendors and incorporated into the proposal. The process continues to move along. Mr. Moorhead and Mr. Marroli also recently met with a representative from Musco Lighting to review proposed LED lighting upgrades to the existing ballfield lighting at Hilltop Park. The potential lighting upgrade from the current metal halide units to LED would reduce glare for neighbors, and improve lighting on the field for users. Ms. Rogers asked what the deadline is for utilizing the Mercer at Play Grand funding. Mr. Moorhead commented that the municipality has asked for and been granted an extension by the county but that it did not come with a specific deadline. *Discussion was held.*

Ms. Rogers asked if there had been any further discussion regarding the possibility of adding pickleball courts in Princeton. Mr. Moorhead commented he has been brainstorming on

potential solutions and suggested forming a Subcommittee of the Commission in the near future to help steer this idea in the right direction. *Discussion was held.*

### New Business

- **PASDA Mini Meet:** Ms. Rogers made a motion to approve the 7/9/22 PASDA Mini Meet to be hosted by CP Pool, seconded by Ms. Germaine and approved.
- **RT Reserve Purchase:** Ms. Germaine made a motion to approve the RT Reserve Purchase of 2 Resurfaced Diving Boards (\$7,150), seconded by Ms. Rodgers and approved.

### Communications

*Communications shared in agenda packet.*

### Approval of Minutes

- **February 2022:** Ms. Pirone Lambros made a motion to approve the February 2022 minutes, seconded by Ms. Rogers and approved.

### Approval of Bills

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

### Next Meeting Date

*May 26, 2022*