

APRIL 21, 2015

The Regular meeting of the Board of Recreation Commissioners was held on Tuesday, April 21st, 2015 at the Community Center.

Everyone who attended said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Coiley called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Present were Comms. G. Salese, P. Monteverdi, P. Berkenkamp, M. Giorgio, Chairman J. Coiley, Program Coordinator T. Quirk, and Supt. D. Brennan. Comm. Sages said he would be late and R. Brueno was delayed.

Chairman Coiley read the following statement: Adequate notice of the meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act by posting written notice of the meeting at the Municipal Building, 1000 Route 10, Whippany and posting such notice to the following newspaper: Morris County Daily Record and filing same with the Township Clerk.

CORRESPONDENCE CIRCULATED

The April Senior Scoop.

Purchase orders that were approved at the April 9th Township Committee meeting

(Comm. Sages entered at 7:35PM.)

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Chairman Coiley welcomed all the wrestlers and their parents. He stated that they would like to recognize the wrestling program for their winning season.

Chairman Coiley stated that with a lot of warmth and pride, he congratulated them for an outstanding season.

Comm. Monteverdi congratulated Coach Burt and the entire team. He indicated that if it wasn't for Supt. Brennan, they would not have gotten practice at the Whippany Park High School wrestling room or the Community Center.

Comm. Monteverdi stated that they did a tremendous job and to keep up the good work.

(Comm. Brueno entered the meeting at 7:40pm.)

Comm. Brueno stated that he never had the opportunity to wrestle, but he wanted to commend the team for their self-discipline concerning watching their weight. He indicated that it is an individual sport but is also a team sport including hard work and dedication and wished them the best of luck in the future.

Comm. Brueno also commended the coaches for their dedication and love of the sport.

They all went into the Arts and Crafts room for cake.

Burt Deehan also wanted to thank Supt. Brennan, Tom Quirk and Mary for their assistance.

Basketball Program—Dianne Jones introduced and stated that she resided at 66 Kearney Avenue in Whippany. She indicated that she was there to represent the Hanover Basketball program and to present the Recreation Commission with the annual year-end report concerning how the season went.

Dianne wanted to thank all of the Recreation Commission for their support and wanted to thank Supt. Brennan for her help.

Dianne stated that registrations were down slightly this year from last year. She indicated that they had 325 participants this year versus 350 in 2014. She went on to say that the decline was mostly with the fourth grade boys.

Dianne stated that they lost a lot of girls at all age groups. She indicated that they have additional competition with CYO. She went on to say that girls will only participate on one team a season.

Dianne stated that they are also lacking in volunteers. She indicated that some teams only had one coach and some had as many as 10 participants on a team.

Dianne stated that volunteers are down in every sport. She indicated that a lot of families are dual-income families and have no time to volunteer. She went on to say that it may be a different generation or mind set.

Supt. Brennan stated that this year they were able to have kindergarten and first grade clinics. She indicated that hopefully the volunteers they had for this program will continue to volunteer through the years their children are participating.

Dianne stated that they had 33 teams this year and out of that, 20 of the 33 teams had two coaches.

Dianne stated that they continue to partner with both Florham Park and Morris Plains with their recreation basketball leagues.

Dianne stated that gym time has not increased at all this year so it helps when they are able to play other towns and use their facilities.

Comm. Berkenkamp suggested that they should offer clinics for the coaches to attend and learn the game of basketball which will aid them on instructing a team.

Supt. Brennan stated that she will take care of getting someone for coaching instruction.

Dianne stated that they also had some challenges this year with Supt. Brennan not being available. She indicated that Tom Quirk and Dinah Schill stepped up and were very helpful and did a great job.

Dianne stated that on a positive note, the 5th grade boys made it to the finals.

Dianne stated that one of the 7th/8th grade girls team earned the number one seed and then went on to win the championship.

Dianne stated that 2016 will be her last year with the basketball program.

Supt. Brennan stated that Dianne does a wonderful job and that she will be missed. She indicated that it is a thankless job.

All thanked Dianne for attending.

Chris stated that previously was president of Hanover Township Little League and was also involved with Hanover basketball.

Chris Connolly introduced himself and stated that he resided at 24 Ertman Drive in Whippany. He indicated that previously he was president of Hanover Township Little League and was also involved with Hanover Basketball.

Chris stated that he was there to make a presentation about Positive Coaching Alliance which is a nationally recognized non-profit organization. He went on to say that its soul goal is to better the youth sports and teach positive character building traits.

Chris stated that he tried to get something going a few years ago, but it never came about. He indicated that he wanted to give it one last try.

Chris stated that a representative from positive coaching alliance came in and spoke with Vinnie Laracca from football, Dianne Jones from basketball and Ryan Sheridan from little league and that all think it is a good idea. He indicated that from them, he collected \$1,500.00 towards one year of workshops and that they still need a balance of \$1,325.00 to hold the 1-2 hour workshops for one year.

Chris stated that the workshop includes giving the coaches a different way of how to teach the kids. He indicated that it reinforces that it is okay to make mistakes. He went on to say that sometimes children are afraid to make mistakes so they don't work hard at the sport.

Chris stated that this workshop encompasses how to deal with the participants and keeping them in your program. He indicated that it also redefines what a winner is.

Chairman Coiley stated that they have a problem getting volunteer coaches let alone make this workshop mandatory. He, however, is in favor of the program.

Chris stated that if you don't mandate it, workshops will be offered and no one will show up.

Supt. Brennan stated that if it is mandatory, how will it be monitored and who will handle that.

Chris stated that it will be the person that heads up the sport in the various organizations.

Chris stated that he will try to get in touch with soccer to see if they are on board with the workshop.

All thanked Chris for attending the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Interfaith Food Pantry—Supt. Brennan stated that they received a letter from Interfaith Food Pantry thanking them for the donation of food they collected during the “Hoppin Down the Bunny Trail” event in March. She indicated that they collected 74 pounds of food.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Comm. Brueno stated that there is a request by their insurance company, J.I.F., concerning making it mandatory for all coaches to take concussion training. He indicated that Mr. Giorgio sent Supt. Brennan a sample resolution about what the requirements are.

Comm. Brueno stated that they are now looking to take credit cards for their Recreation Programs and they will include an additional fee to cover the cost of using the card.

Bee Meadow Pool Recreation Area—Comm. Brueno asked the Recreation Commission to talk up the pool and encourage people to join. He reminded them that the pool is self-sustaining and that they need the revenue.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Supt. Brennan stated that all the tree trimming and removals have been completed at Bee Meadow Pool.

Supt. Brennan stated that concerning the Bee Meadow Pool multi-court play area, construction started on April 13th and all of the work should be completed by tomorrow with the exception of the color coating and line striping of the courts. She indicated that the courts asphalt has to cure for a minimum of 30 days prior to coating.

Supt. Brennan stated that concerning the Community Center audio system upgrade, they are waiting for a contractor to schedule a meeting to evaluate.

Supt. Brennan stated that concerning the Bee Meadow Park restrooms and concession stand, they need to come up with a design schedule this year.

Supt. Brennan stated that Dave Leo included the Veteran’s Field restroom and concession stand. She does not think that they discussed this for 2015.

Comm. Brueno agreed.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Girls Lacrosse—Tom stated that concerning Girls' Lacrosse, they had a rough start this year with the practices and the coaches but now everything has worked out.

Public Safety Program—Tom stated that the flyers for the Public Safety Program have gone out to the schools via email by the P.T.A. president for seventh and eighth graders. He indicated that so far, they have one person.

First Aid Training—Tom stated they will offer the First Aid/CPR and AED Class at the Whippany Fire House on four Wednesdays that last three hours beginning March 20th. Chief Cortright stated and he wants full classes.

Senior Golf Outing—Tom stated that the Senior Golf Outing will be held on Monday, June 1st, 2015 at Rolling Green Golf Course.

Yankee Game—Tom stated that they are running a trip to a Yankees game on Saturday, June 20th, 2015. She indicated that it is Old Timers day and there are still tickets available.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Camp Registration—Supt. Brennan stated that Summer Camp registration will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2015 from 9am to 12noon, Wednesday, April 29th, 2015 from 6 to 8pm, and Thursday, April 30th, 2015 from 6 to 8pm.

Traveling Teens—Supt. Brennan stated regarding the Traveling Teens program, they will offer the program for three or four weeks. She indicated that a deposit of \$400.00 must be given at the time of registration and the balance due the last week in June. If they sign up for the additional week, the charge will be an extra \$50.00. She went on to say that they have some fabulous trips.

Bee Meadow Pool Requests—Supt. Brennan stated that they received a request from a non-resident senior couple asking if the pool could offer a non-resident senior couple with grandchildren membership.

All said no.

Supt. Brennan stated that she spoke with a resident fireman who is requesting a reduced pool fee for fireman.

Tom said that the fire commissioners can afford to pay for their membership. He indicated that they have an incentive program.

Event Recap—Touch a Truck—Supt. Brennan stated that they had their first annual Touch-Truck-Event on Sunday, April 19th, 2015 from 1 to 3pm. She indicated that it was a very successful program and wanted to thank everyone for their participation.

Fishing Derby—Supt. Brennan stated that the Bee Meadow fishing derby will be held on Saturday, May 2nd from 8am to 12noon. She indicated that for the first time, they have to get a permit which is issued by the state, for \$2.00.

Sub-Committee Report—Shared Services—Board of Education—Chairman Coiley stated that they had a lengthy conversation at their meeting on Saturday, April 18th, 2015 concerning what the Board of Education does for the Recreation Department and that it is a one-way street. He indicated that Supt. Brennan gave them a list of what the Recreation Department does for the Board of Education.

Chairman Coiley requested that a letter be sent to the Township Committee, the Superintendent of Schools, and the Board of Education concerning their requests for field and building usage.

Chairman Coiley stated that the shared services agreement expires in 2016 and the Board of Education needs to change their usage policy and some of the processes.

Supt. Brennan stated that Recreation maintains their fields and still Recreation pay for gym usage at time and a half and school bus usage.

OLD BUSINESS

Fourth of July Fireworks—Supt. Brennan stated that Garden State Fireworks will, once again, be doing their fireworks display on Wednesday July 1st with a rain date of July 2nd at Veteran's Field. She indicated that parking will be available at Halo or the Ukrainian Church.

Supt. Brennan requested \$20,000.00 and was approved by the Township Committee for \$17,500.00. She indicated that the difference will come from the Bayer grant money.

Turf—Supt. Brennan stated that she met with three turf companies about getting prices for turf field at the Brickyard, Allegro, and Stoney Book fields. She will have the estimates available at the May meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Memorial Plaques/Benches/Trees—Supt. Brennan stated that they have received request for benches, plaques, and trees in memory of people who have passed away. She recommended that they set some sort of policy and that whatever is purchased, should be in uniform and what the charge would be.

All agreed for Supt. Brennan to call other towns and see how they are handling it.

Girl Scout Silver Award Project—Supt. Brennan stated that Kaitlyn Murray, a Whippany Park High School student, is trying to get her Girls Scout Silver award and is requesting space at the Community Center for her to collect school supplies, clothing and shoes from May to August.

After a brief discussion, all the Commissioners said yes to the school supplies but no to the used clothing and shoes.

Youth Soccer Festival—Red Bulls—Supt. Brennan stated that, once again, the Red Bulls are hosting a township youth soccer festival on Wednesday, July 15th, 2015 from 2 to 5pm for boys and girls ages 7 through 14. She indicated that they will provide a soccer you clinic for all skill levels.

Supt. Brennan stated that 100 spots were set aside for Hanover Township Children and if East Hanover does not use all of their, make their spots available to Hanover Township.

Closed

Com. Berkenkamp made motion to close the meeting at 9:40pm. Comm. Sages seconded it. All approved.

Chairman Coiley read the following statement:

Whereas the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231 of the Law of 1975, which provides that a public body may exclude the public from that portion of the meeting at which the public body discusses certain matters from which confidentiality is required as permitted in Section 7b of the Act:

1. The following matter of Personnel is to be discussed by the Recreation Commissioner on a confidential basis as provided for Section 7b of the Act.
2. The matters will be considered at this time and the public shall not be admitted to this discussion.
3. The result of the discussion set forth above, to be conducted in closed session will be disclosed to the public, if possible, when the meeting is reconvened.

OPEN

Comm. Berkenkamp made a motion to re-open the meeting at 10pm. Comm. Brueno seconded it. All approved

Comm. Berkenkamp made a motion to approve a special situation concerning a Bee Meadow Pool membership. Comm. Sages seconded it. All approved.

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MINUTES AND VOUCHERS

Comm. Berkenkamp made a motion to approve the March minutes. Comm. Brueno seconded it. All approved.

Comm. Brueno made a motion to approve the purchase orders. Comm. Berkenkamp seconded it. All approved.

ADJOURN

Comm. Berkenkamp made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:03pm. Comm. Sages seconded it. All approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary O. Colton

Recording Secretary