

Board of Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
February 8, 2022

The Regular meeting of the Board of Recreation Commissioners was held on Tuesday, February 8, 2022.

Commissioner Coiley called the meeting to order 7:30 p.m.

Everyone said the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 and posting such notice to the following newspaper: Morris County Daily Record and filing same with the Township Clerk.

ATTENDANCE: Present were Commissioners: B. Brueno, P. Monteverdi, G. Salese, C.J. Engelberger, M. Giorgio, Chairman Coiley, Committeeman Mihalko, Asst. Superintendent T. Quirk, and Supt. D. Brennan.

Absent: Alt. Commissioner Berkenkamp

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: Committeeman Mihalko reported on the following: There will be an introduction to an ordinance on Thursday for the fields. We are currently ironing out the details.

There will be a Budget Meeting on Saturday. It will be challenging as rateables are down, but expenses are up.

ENGINEERING REPORT: David Leo, Assistant Township Engineer provided the following report:

Bee Meadow Pool Shower Renovation: The award to the second lowest bidder is on the Township Committee meeting agenda of February 10th. Only the Woman's Room shower can be upgraded based on the bid (\$38,015.94). If additional funds are secured for 2022 the Men's Room improvements can be bid for this year. Actual construction would be dependent on availability of funds.

Bee Meadow Nature Trail – Phase II: Final approval received from NJDEP. Plans and Specifications are 99% complete. Anticipate advertising project this month with award in April 2022.

Bee Meadow Nature Trail – Phase III: Wetlands delineation and associated survey work complete. Preparing application to NJDEP. 90% progress set of drawings received from consultant is under Township review.

Bee Meadow Nature Trail – Phase IV: Wetlands delineation and associated survey work complete. Preparing application to NJDEP. 90% progress set of drawings received from consultant is under Township review.

Black Brook Park Multi-Purpose Field: Flood Hazard Area Verification and LOI submitted to the NJDEP on October 12th. Received Flood Hazard Verification dated January 10, 2022. Still waiting on LOI approval.

Malapardis Tennis Court Resurfacing: Bid opening was December 14, 2021. No bids received. Need to reevaluate scope of work for re-bid. Assistant Supt. Quirk mentioned that there is a company that does tennis court resurfacing. Preceding the bid opening the Engineering Department was not interested in resurfacing. However, since no bids are being received, Assistant Supt. Quirk suggested reaching out to the company. Supt. Brennan said she has the name of the company and will follow up.

Bee Meadow Park Turf Field: Project will need NJDEP permit(s). Meeting held with turf vendor. Meeting scheduled with B.A. to discuss project bidding/award options.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Wrestling: Asst. Supt. Quirk reported that the season is winding down. He noted that it was a very tough season between COVID closures, closures at the Community Center due to HVAC issues, and Whippany Park High School not having any heat in their weight room. Even with all the negatives, Art Ehrhardt said they did well during the season and the program is still strong.

Ski Club: Supt. Quirk reported this Friday will be the third of four trips this season. There have been two weather cancellation dates. If the weather continues to hold out the last trip is scheduled for February 18.

Basketball: We are midway through the season. Like other programs, there have been some cancellations due to weather and COVID. Tomorrow we will be mailing out to the coaches the packets for selection of the Leadership Award and Good Sportsmanship Award. Unfortunately, last year the recipients were not recognized because the season ended abruptly. We will bring those winners back this year to be recognized by the Recreation Commissioners along with this year’s winners.

Field ZOOM Meeting: Asst. Supt. Quirk noted there will be a change to the Fields Meeting this year. It will be held tomorrow via ZOOM format and the meeting will be held *before* permits are issued. Typically, the meeting is held after the permits are issued so we can explain what is required. Having that information beforehand might reduce the number of requests. There is a large number of clubs teams on the baseball and softball side. There are not enough fields to cover all the team requests. As of now, we have not yet received anything from soccer.

Supt. Brennan added that the new head of fields at the Board of Education has been invited to attend the meeting as well. It will be helpful for him to know what is planned since our Public Works Department maintains the BOE fields. In addition, historically the field permits begin on March 15th, however, this year the start date is April 1st. If the fields are ready earlier, applications will be notified of the earlier start date.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Supt. Brennan reported on the following:

Easter Egg Hunt: There will be a traditional Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 9th at Malapardis Park. There is no rain date. Should the weather force cancellation of the event, Recreation will find another way to distribute the eggs.

Summer Camps: We are moving forward with Summer Plus and the Travelling Teens camps. Summer Plus will be at Black Brook Park again this year. Travelling Teens will be a full compliment this year with more trips and back to our usual maximum participants.

Chairman Coiley reminded Supt. Brennan to reach out to the Wildcats.

Summer Concerts: This year we will have three Monday night concerts: July 11, July 18 and July 25. There will not be a concert on Monday, July 4th. Commissioner Salese had an idea to do a family talent show and that is planned for the first Monday in August. Finally, we are planning to try and have a concert at the fireworks on June 30th.

There will also be a concert at the Bee Meadow Pool on June 17th to hopefully draw interest. The band is called Parrott Beach and are a Jimmy Buffet style band.

OLD BUSINESS:

HVAC System: Supt. Brennan, as directed by Township Administrator, Joe Giorgio put a master plan together to justify the need for a new HVAC system. As we are the emergency heating and cooling center in the Township, the problems need to be fixed. Mr. Giorgio is planning to meet with Engineering and ask them to have a mechanical engineer take a look at the system so we will know how to move forward. While it will be costly to replace, it is a necessary item, certainly not a luxury.

Park Lacrosse: Supt. Brennan said she was sent correspondence from Park Lacrosse (as was John Timmons from Florham Park) indicating they are a Regional Recreation team. They asked for help marketing their program. She responded to Park Lacrosse and copied her counterparts from East Hanover and Florham Park, noting that she has never heard of a Regional Recreation program. A Recreation program is sponsored by a Municipality. She questioned who they were being sponsored by since it wasn't Hanover Township, Florham Park, or East Hanover. They have now extended their advertising to say they have teams on all levels. Anyone who has inquired has been notified they are a Club team and not sponsored by Recreation.

This year there will be no Hanover Township Girls Recreation program due to the lack of coaches. However, we are hopeful for next year. Clinics will be offered to enhance interest. Our goal is for the girls to learn the game and develop skills through clinics run by USA Sports. Hanover Township Recreation will also offer Coach's Clinics for the parents in the future.

NEW BUSINESS: Eagle Scout Project: Eagle Scout Ian McSorley's project is to put a flag pole over at Stoney Brook. Brian Foran, Dave Leo, and I met with Ian and discussed his plan. He had done a lot of

research and was very well prepared. When he has made more progress, he will give a presentation to the Recreation Commission about his project.

Ice Skating: Commissioner Brueno asked the about ice skating rinks and if they are usable. Supt. Brennan explained the skating rinks are checked every morning including weekends. While on some days, the temperature may seem cold enough to skate, the ice must be frozen to a certain depth for a specific amount of time for safe skating. Chairman Coiley asked how people know if they can skate on the weekends. Supt. Brennan said they can call the Recreation hotline, or there is a flag indicating whether or not skating is permitted.

March Meeting Date Change: Due to the Camp Conference being scheduled during our next scheduled meeting date, March 15, 2022, the next meeting date will be held on Tuesday, March 22nd.

Memorial Day Parade: Committeeman Mihalko advised everyone that the Memorial Day parade is back this year. He asked if anyone is in charge of a team, to please let them know as we are looking for as many kids to march in the parade as possible. Also, if you are willing to help it would be appreciated. Mike said that after a two year hiatus we are trying to do it bigger and better!

CLOSED SESSION:

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 discussed certain matters from which confidentiality is required as permitted by Section 7b of the Act.

1. The following matter of Personnel is to be discussed by the Recreation Commission on a confidential basis as provided in Section 7b of the Act.
2. The matter 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.

RE-OPEN:

The meeting came out of closed session at 8:05 p.m. and reconvened into open session

MINUTES AND VOUCHERS:

Commissioner Monteverdi made a motion to approve the vouchers from the December 9, 2021 meeting. Commissioner Brueno seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Brueno made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2021 meeting. Chairman Coiley seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: Chairman Coiley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committeeman Monteverdi. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Dinah Schill
Board Secretary**