

Board of Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
June 21, 2022

The Regular meeting of the Board of Recreation Commissioners was held on Tuesday, June 21, 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: P. Berkenkamp, B. Brueno, C. Calabro, P. Monteverdi, G. Salese, C. Engelberger, Chairman Coiley, Committeeman Mihalko, Asst. Superintendent T. Quirk, and Superintendent. D. Brennan.

Absent: M. Giorgio

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Ian McSorley, Troop 155, Whippany introduced himself as a member of Troop 155 in Whippany, NJ. He stated that he is a rising senior at Whippany Park High School. He shared that he plays soccer, golf and participates in the Marching Band.

Mr. McSorley is currently working on his Eagle Scout project which is to install a flagpole with solar lighting and landscape around the base of the flagpole.

Mr. McSorley shared a handout regarding his project with the Recreation Commission. He explained that he met with Mrs. Brennan, Mr. Leo and Mr. Foran at Stoney Brook Field in February 2022. During this meeting at the field, he showed them that the flagpole would go around the fifty-yard line.

Mr. McSorley shared his timeline:

- April 21, 2022, his project was approved by the Eagle Scouts.
- Mid-May his fundraising began, and he has currently raised \$2,070.
- June 10, 2022, the technical drawings, and footings were approved from the Township's Engineering department.
- June 21, 2022, requested approval from the Recreation Commission and Township Committee to begin working at the site.

He asked the Recreation Commission for their seal of approval and for Committeeman Mihalko to bring it to the Township Committee for their approval.

Commissioner Brueno shared that Mr. McSorley's project is fantastic. He asked Mr. Mc Sorley to show the exact location.

Mr. McSorley explained that the flagpole will be on the far side by the benches because the near side has pipes and utilities.

Superintendent Brennan asked if the flagpole company does the installation.

Mr. McSorley stated that the flagpole installation will be done by himself and other Scouts fourteen years old and over. The younger Scouts would help with the landscape around the flagpole.

The Commissioners and Superintendent Brennan discussed the process of bringing the project to the Township Committee.

Committeeman Mihalko shared that he will move this along quickly because no formal action needs to be taken.

Commissioner Berkenkamp made a motion to approve this project. Commissioner Brueno seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: **Committeeman Mihalko** explored a couple of options regarding the turf field at Brickyard. He shared that the field was built as a practice field and that it needs to be expanded so it is the correct size. Timeline is to start in the late fall when Football is over.

Commissioner Salese questioned when the Turf would be finished and if it would interfere with the 2023 fall season.

Committeeman Mihalko stated that if they start the work in the late Fall that it would be done by the 2023 fall season.

A discussion followed regarding rising costs and correct size of Brickyard Field.

Committeeman Mihalko followed up that the Township is still pursuing the EPA permits for Black Brook Park. Gerry Maceira from Engineering told him that a permit approval in the future would be more difficult when it comes to wetlands. Once we have the permit it will delineate the wetlands. We need to do work at Black Brook and would be grandfathered with the old rules.

We are still pursuing the Michalski property on Pond Road. He explained that we have the right of first refusal. Currently, we are waiting on an appraisal on the property. We also submitted a grant to the County to purchase this property.

The second round for Bee Meadow Trail will be starting soon. The pathway will go around the backside of the ponds and wrap around the back to the double pipes.

Assistant Superintendent Quirk stated that there have been a few emergency calls regarding injuries at the Bee Meadow Trail. Emergency personnel were not able to access the trail with a vehicle. He met with Superintendent Brennan and Police Chief Look where they discussed purchasing a 4-wheel vehicle that they would leave at the park for Emergency Personnel. It would possibly be stored in a C-container behind the shed near Brickyard Field.

ENGINEERING REPORT: Assistant Township Engineer provided the following report to Supt. Brennan:

Please note this schedule is, as with all construction projects, weather permitting:

- 1) Bee Meadow Pool Shower Renovation – Due to delays from the supplier regarding confirmation of available options for the showers and lead time issues with the materials, the upgrade will not be complete by the full pool opening. Construction to begin after the end of this pool season.
- 2) Bee Meadow Nature Trail – Phase II – Pre-Construction meeting was held April 26th. Contract has been executed. Construction to begin shortly.
- 3) 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.
- 4) 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.
- 5) 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.
- 6) Malapardis Tennis Court Resurfacing – Engineering Department was directed to proceed with full replacement of the tennis courts. Preparing Specifications.
- 7) Bee Meadow Park Turf Field – Ordinance appropriating funding and Resolution authorizing consulting services adopted at the March 10th Township Committee meeting. Consultant preparing NJDEP permit applications.

Superintendent Brennan advised the Recreation Commission that she and Assistant Superintendent Tom Quirk met with Danny Russell from American Athletic Track and Turf regarding the Malapardis Tennis Courts. She explained that the courts are in bad shape and need to be redone. Danny Russell said there is no way the courts can be salvaged. She discussed that the smaller court would be a pickleball court. They discussed redoing the roller hockey court at Malapardis as well.

Danny Russell advised Superintendent Brennan and Assistant Superintendent Quirk that it would be better to rip up the old court and start over because of the condition of the courts.

A conversation followed regarding the parks and infrastructure within the Township.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Assistant Supt. Quirk reported on the following:

Bee Meadow Pool Swim Team: Of those who tried out 102 completed and there were 140 registered for tryouts. A hundred and two participants made the Swim Team. The Swim Team had their first intramural meet on June 20th which went well. The first official meet will be Saturday, June 25th at Bee Meadow Pool.

First Aid Classes: We have scheduled a first aid class for Recreation Staff and Camp Counselors on Monday, June 27th and Wednesday, June 29th at 3pm.

Boat Safety Class: The company is not scheduling at this time because they are all booked. Montville Senior Center is hosting a Boat Safety Class on July 9th.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Superintendent Brennan reported on the following:

Concert at the Pool: The concert at the pool was very successful. Superintendent Brennan brought up that at a previous Recreation Commissioner meeting that we should charge a \$5 registration fee for this event. At this previous meeting the Recreation Commission decided not to charge a fee for the concert at the pool. 650 people registered for the event and only 405 people ended up attending. Superintendent Brennan shared that if we charge a nominal fee, less people will register just to register.

Patriotic Celebration: The fireworks are Thursday, June 30th at the Municipal Complex. There will be food vendors, live music, and games.

Summer Camp: Summer Plus Session 1 will start on Monday, June 27, 2022. Wildcat Soccer Camp will also begin on Monday, June 27 at Stoney Brook Field. The Wildcat Camps are not being held this year at the Whippany Park High School due to work being done at the school.

Superintendent Brennan shared that the Township Committee made a proclamation stating July is National Parks and Recreation month. She announced that Recreation will have a series of events in the month of July.

BEE MEADOW POOL:

Bee Meadow Pool Membership: Superintendent Brennan advised that at this time last year we had 754 pool memberships. As today we have 765 pool memberships.

The revenue last year at this time was \$261,520.00 which included guest fees.

Today the revenue is \$278,565.00 and \$2,500.00 in guest fees. Total \$281,065.00

Other:

Superintendent Brennan shared that Recreation was approached by an Eagle Scout with a proposal. The proposal is for Bat houses. She stated that Superintendent of Public Works, Brian Foran was not on board with the idea as well as the Health Department. She asked the Scout to come back with another proposal for something else.

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 8:50 p.m. and reconvened into open session.

MINUTES AND VOUCHERS:

Commissioner Brueno made a motion to approve the vouchers from the June 9, 2022, meeting. Commissioner Salese seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Engelberger made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2022 meeting. Chairman Coiley seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: Committeeman Monteverdi made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Brueno. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jaime Getsinger

Board Secretary