

**Board of Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
September 17, 2019**

The Regular meeting of the Board of Recreation Commissioners was held on Tuesday, August 17, 2019.

Chairman Coiley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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.

Everyone who attended the meeting said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation of the Youth Public Safety Academy Award for the Best Overall Academy

Participation: Tom Quirk, Program Coordinator/Assistant to the Superintendent (PC/AS) explained to everyone in attendance the purpose of the Youth Public Safety Academy as well as outlined the curriculum for the two week program. At the conclusion he called upon Peter Berkenkamp, Recreation Commissioner, to present the award to winner **Matthew Lasota**. Matthew received an Emergency GO Bag donated by Margery and Peter Berkenkamp.

Hanover Township Recognition of Denville 8U Champions, Recognition of Williamsport Little

League District 1 Champions and Section 1 Champions: From 7:10 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. the Recreation Commissioners recognized the accomplishments of the Hanover Township Girls Little League Champions for a successful season.

At 7:30 p.m. the Recreation Commissioners moved into the meeting room and Chairman Coiley took attendance. Present were Commissioners: G. Salese, R. Brueno, P. Monteverdi, M. Giorgio, P. Berkenkamp, Chairman J. Coiley, Committeeman Mr. Mihalko, Supt. D. Brennan, and Tom Quirk, Program Coordinator/ Assistant to the Superintendent (PC/AS)

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: **Tonya Tasso, 205 Bee Meadow Pkwy., Whippany** introduced herself and stated she was there because of her interest in the open position (Alternate Commissioner) on the Board of Recreation Commission. Ms. Tasso outlined her qualifications and experience to the board. A brief question and answer period followed.

Terri Baird, 180 Parsippany Road, Whippany, voiced her concern about the threat of EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalitis) outbreak in NJ. She stated that in the State of NJ, 10 horses have had to be euthanized due to EEE and that number is unusually high. Her concern is the virus is found in areas prone to water with oak root overgrowth and swampy areas like Bee Meadow Pond.

On another topic, Ms. Baird inquired as to whether work has begun around the third pond for the Bee Meadow Nature Trail. Committeeman Mihalko responded to her that work has not yet begun. Ms. Baird then wanted to know who was clearing trees around the ponds and trespassing on private property on Sunday (September 17th). Mihalko answered that it was not the town but might have been a utility company working on the right of way around the property she was referring to. Ms. Baird insisted they had trespassed beyond the right of way so Committeeman Mihalko said he would investigate the matter.

Committeeman Mihalko updated everyone on the status of the Nature Trail. He reported the cost has more than doubled from the original estimate due primarily to the length of time since the original quote was given, as well as the scope the project increased significantly. 80% of the cost is covered by a County Grant. That amount was based on what the Committee originally thought the project would entail. The Committee then had to go back to the County and explain it is going to be much more than originally anticipated. Mihalko was told by the County that this issue has come up before and they are working on a mechanism to figure out how to plan for these increases. At the Committee level it has been decided to move ahead with phase I. However Phase 2 & 3 are in jeopardy unless the county can find a way to work out the costs. If they cannot the project may have to be put on hold until further notice.

CLOSED: Chairman Coiley made a motion to close the meeting to the public at 8:00 p.m.

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 AND CALLED TO ORDER : Chairman Coiley reopened the meeting to the public at 8:10 a.m. and stated that several candidates have come to graciously volunteer their time to be on the Recreation Commission in an Alternate position. Tyler Passero had previously been approved. Mr. Coiley then called for a vote whether to approve Tonya Tasso. All 6 Commissioners voted to approve. Chairman Coiley called for a vote on whether to approve CJ Engelberger. Four voted in favor, two opposed. As required, the Chair will present a formal letter of approval to the Township Committee with each candidate ranked in order.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: Committeeman Mihalko thanked Recreation on behalf of the Township Committee for the excellent job done at Hanover Township Day.

Engineering: Committeeman Mihalko met with Joe Giorgio, Township Administrator, Brian Foran, DPW, Gerry Maciera and Dave Leo from Engineering regarding Recreation's unfinished projects. Committeeman Mihalko reported that Engineering is backed up with many projects from other departments as well as Recreation's projects, and therefore asked for a list of top priorities. In order, Mihalko told them (a) the pool slide as it is now defunct; (b) resurface the tennis court; and (c) the basketball court. A discussion followed and Chairman Coiley reluctantly suggested returning to the option to turf Brickyard Field as it seems there is no capacity to get the project done. While Commissioner Brueno agreed he suggested first going to a Committee Meeting with their concerns. Committeeman Mihalko said he would put the issue on the agenda at the next Committee Meeting on September 26th.

ENGINEERING REPORT:

Bee Meadow Pool Lifeguard Stand Installation – Phase II: Installation complete.

Bee Meadow Pool Dual Slide: Met with Recreation personnel on September 3rd to discuss project. Called manufacturer and are waiting for slide specifications.

Basketball Court: Completion of plans and specifications anticipated in September with installation this fall.

Malapardis Park Tennis Court Resurfacing: Completion of specifications anticipated in September with installation this fall.

Bee Meadow Pool Deck Repairs: Pool facility was surveyed May 22nd. The cost for trip hazard, crack repair and expansion joint totaled \$35,834. There are insufficient funds to proceed with the work this year. Project will be re-evaluated next year.

Bee Meadow Park Playground Installation: Playground equipment installation and final grading complete.

Veterans Park Sidewalk for Playground and Bleachers: Complete.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Tom Quirk, PC/AS reported on the following:

Fall Sports Registrations: Registrations for wrestling will open October 1st. Registrations for basketball will also open on October 1st. A basketball Coach's meeting has been scheduled on October 8th.

Fall Permits: All fall field permits have been issued. As of Monday all fields are officially opened. We will continue to keep an eye on Veterans Baseball Field as there was extensive

work done by Public Works in spring/summer to keep the field from sinking. We have reached out to all coaches asking them to let us know ASAP of any problems thereby allowing us to keep on top of the field before the start of any future problems. Mike Halibej has assured Quirk they will keep an eye on the field.

Yankee Trip: The trip is being held on September 21st. Recreation is sponsoring the transportation and parking. Little League purchased the tickets. To date, 42 tickets have been sold.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Hanover Township Day Recap: Commissioner Brueno thanked everyone for a fantastic day noting it was a record turnout. This was attributed to the wonderful weather, and the Whippany Park Marching Band and parents not having to leave immediately after playing their set to go back and perform at the school game. As it will be the norm now for the band to have their games on Friday evenings it should be considered for the future to expect them to stay and take part in the event. Commissioner Brueno also inquired about the possibility of having the Birch Beer soda truck make a return next year since it has been several years since they were last at Hanover Township Day. Commissioner Giorgio mentioned the ice cream was gone half way through the event. While there is usually ice cream left over it was assumed the large turnout was the cause and that will be taken into account when ordering in for future events. Supt. Brennan reported that of the \$20K budget for Hanover Township Day only approximately \$14K was spent.

Atlantic City: There will be a trip to Caesar's Casino in Atlantic City on October 20th leaving from the Community Center at 9:00 a.m. Currently 30 tickets have been sold.

Paper Mill Playhouse: On Wednesday, December 11th there will be a trip to the Paper Mill Playhouse to see Rogers and Hammerstein's Cinderella.

Masquerade at Malapardis: Will be held rain or shine on Saturday, October 26th from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Malapardis Park. Rain location is Memorial Junior School.

Bee Meadow Pool Recap: Supt. Brennan distributed a report of memberships (only). It does not count other revenue. Silvio Esposito, CFO will be at the October meeting with the full report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pat Sages Memorial Basketball Tournament: Supt. Brennan was contacted by Pat's cousin in Denver asking to sponsor some part of the tournament. Registration closes October 17th and those who registered will be contacted by Jay Hersh to coordinate teams. Supt. Brennan would like to have a t-shirt made for the event and one would be given to each registrant as well as

available to be purchased on the day of the event. Quirk added that this is a fund raiser for the family who is donating back to the Community and as such some people want to register but not play. He noted that we are accepting those registrations as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Change of November Meeting Date: It was agreed that due to the New Jersey League of Municipalities Annual Conference falling on the same date as the November Recreation Commission meeting that the Recreation Commission meeting will be changed from November 19, 2019 to November 12, 2019.

Brickyard Playground: Commissioner Salese commented on the old playground at Brickyard. Each evening there are many children playing and feels it could be potentially dangerous with the defunct equipment and no lights. Committeeman Mihalko said he would contact Brian Foran.

MINUTES AND VOUCHERS: Commissioner Brueno made a motion to approve the vouchers from the September 12, 2019 meeting. Chairman Coiley seconded the motion. All in favor.

Commissioner Brueno made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 20, 2019 meeting . Commissioner Monteverdi seconded the motion. All in favor.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Salese made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Brueno. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dinah Schill
Board Secretary