

**Board of Recreation Commission
Special Reorganization Meeting
January 18, 2022**

A Special Meeting of the Board of Recreation Commissioners was held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 via ZOOM video conferencing.

Everyone who attended said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Coiley called the meeting to order at 7:10 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 Township Clerk.

Present were Commissioners Gabriella Salese, Robert Brueno, CJ Engleberger, Matthew Giorgio, Alternate Commissioner Pete Berkenkamp, Chairman Jim Coiley, Asst. Supt. Tom Quirk, and Supt. Denise Brennan.

Committeeman Mike Mihalko and Commissioner Pete Monteverdi were absent.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: Chairman Coiley advised that Pete Berkenkamp has stepped down as a Commissioner and CJ Engelberger has filled the position. With the change of positions Commissioner Engelberger is now on the Personnel Committee. Chairman Coiley reviewed current assignments and asked if anyone would like to change or be removed from their current assignments. There was no request for any changes. Chairman Coiley noted that as the fields progress, there will be a need to add a few more commissioners to the Facilities and Equipment assignment. Although a decision does not need to be made now, he urged the Commissioners to consider their future availability.

END OF YEAR REPORT: Supt. Brennan reported on another successful year, although challenging. Recreation had summer concerts, summer camp, and a spectacularly successful pool season. This year because of field conditions, Masquerade at Malapardis was held at the Brickyard and Winter Wonderland at the Municipal Complex. The biggest new program introduced was "Hit the Trails" run in conjunction with Wegmans. Although it was a difficult year, all things considered it was a good year. Supt. Brennan said she would send the report to everyone tomorrow, via email.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ENGINEERING REPORT:

Bee Meadow Pool Shower Renovation: Bee Meadow Pool shower renovation bids have gone out. While there were several bids there was some confusion about how the request for bids was written and now has to go to the lawyer. As of today, Dave Leo said the bid was awarded to the second lowest bidder and will be on the agenda at the Township Committee Meeting on 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 sent out for bid for this year. Actual construction would be dependent on availability of funds.

Supt. Brennan said she spoke with Silvio Esposito, CFO today and currently there is \$51K set aside for the renovation of the restrooms. She asked Silvio to put another \$25K in capital so both restrooms can be done together. She told the Commissioners she will speak to Dave Leo about the funds tomorrow.

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 March 2022.

Bee Meadow Nature Trail – Phase III: Wetland delineation and associated survey work complete. Preparing application to NJDEP. 90% progress set of drawings received from consultant on September 3rd is under Township review.

Bee Meadow Nature Trail – Phase IV: Wetland delineation and associated survey work complete. Preparing application to NJDEP. 90% progress set of drawings received from consultant on September 3rd is under Township review.

Black Brook Park Multi-Purpose Field: Floor Hazard Area Verification and LOI submitted to the NJDEP on October 12th. Waiting on NJDEP.

Malapardis Tennis Court Resurfacing: Bid opening was December 14, 2021. No bids received. Need to reevaluate scope of work for re-bid.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Christopher Calabro, Whippany, introduced himself and said that he was interested in becoming active on the Recreation Commission. He noted that he sent his information for consideration.

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

Wrestling: Wrestling started back last Friday after a COVID break. The HVAC in the Community Center has been problematic and the building has been without heat, so Asst. Supt. Quirk said he was very appreciative that the High School was able to accommodate us on short notice.

Ski Club: The Ski Club had their first trip last Friday and all went well. It's a good size group with 80 registered. There were no major issues on our end, but the mountain had a few registration issues.

Basketball: The season is up and running for both Recreation and Travel Basketball. Unfortunately, there were a couple of COVID issues over the weekend that had to be resolved and included the Department of Health and the schools as well. Everyone has been doing their best to keep the program up and running. Unfortunately, every time there is an exposure there is a lot of work involved making notifications.

Field Requests: Spring & Summer field applications went out last Friday. The deadline to have them returned is February 15th. The start date for field usage begins April 1st. If the fields are playable prior to April 1st practice will be allowed.

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

Girls Lacrosse: Hanover Township Girls Lacrosse was involved in a tri town league including Florham Park and East Hanover. However, about two years ago there was a club team that was run out of Florham Park that started to poach our girls. Last year we had strong grade 3-4 and 5-6 teams, and while we had 8th grade girls there were no 7th grade registrations. This year our problem is that we have no coaches. We sent out a call for coaches and so did East Hanover, but there was no response. We even contacted US Sports, but they are unable to help because they are having staffing issues. Today notification was sent out to parents letting them know we are not able to field any teams because we do not have coaches.

In the spring we plan to set up a series of clinics for those who are not interested in playing clubs sports but are interested in honing their skills. Hopefully next year we can also offer some coaches clinics and then be able to recruit coaches and field our teams.

Summer Concert Series: Supt. Brennan said she sent out a survey about the Summer Concerts. To date 266 responses have already been received. She said she would send everyone a copy of the results once they have been compiled.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ice Rink: Central Park rink is for hockey players. Malapardis rink is used for skaters, but is deep and often doesn't freeze. Brian Foran got a portable rink and set it up over at Veterans to be used for skaters, not hockey. However there have been some issues so signage with the rules

were made and installed. Recreation sent out notification of the rules. When the red ball flag is flying (visible) you can skate. Otherwise, no skating. There is also a message posted daily on the activity line.

MINUTES AND VOUCHERS:

Commissioner Brueno made a motion to approve the vouchers from the January 13, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Engelberger seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Salese made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2021 meeting. Commissioner Brueno seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Giorgio made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Brueno. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dinah Schill
Board Secretary