

Board of Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
February 21, 2023

The Regular meeting of the Board of Recreation Commissioners was held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

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, C. Calabro, C.J. Engelberger, M. Giorgio, Chairman Coiley, Committeeman Mihalko, Asst. Superintendent T. Quirk, and Supt. D. Brennan.

Absent: P. Berkenkamp, G. Salese

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Luke Maginnis, introduced himself to the Recreation Commission as the new Whippany Park High School Football Coach.

Cristian Triggiano, 33 Fairchild Pl., Whippany introduced himself as Hanover Township Little League's field representative. He shared concerns about the township's baseball and softball fields regarding the drainage dips in the fields. Mr. Triggiano shared that the HTTL Board and parents would be willing to assist the public works and Board of Education in preparing the minor and major softball/baseball fields for the 2023 season. He proposed a Township maintenance field day with volunteers.

Chairman James Coiley asked Mr. Triggiano if a date was set for opening day.

Mr. Triggiano responded possibly April 22, 2023.

Brian Foran introduced himself as Superintendent of Public works. He shared that Tom Giavegli from the Board of Education ordered two yards of clay for the fields at the schools. He shared that DPW worked on Memorial Junior school the other day. He said the edges of the field were taken care of in the fall. He said that every two to three years they use a laser leveler to level the baseball and softball fields. They are planning on leveling the fields again this year as well. He explained that it will always be a problem at Veterans field because it is built on top of a landfill which is why there is sinking.

Terri Baird, 180 Parsippany Rd., Whippany asked for clarification about the cost of the turf field at Brickyard. She shared that in March of 2022 the Township Committee passed an ordinance for a million dollars for the Brickyard Turf field. She indicated that the minutes from the last Open Space meeting stated that the Brickyard Field will now cost 2.5 million dollars. Ms. Baird asked why the cost of the field went up 1.5 million dollars.

Committeeman Mihalko said he would respond to Ms. Baird's question and asked the recreation commission to not comment because this issue of cost is part of a negotiation. He stated that the original proposal of \$800,000 went to \$900,000. He explained the difference in price is because the DEP now requires a catch basin under the whole field and the price is about a million dollars.

Ms. Baird questioned if they needed a catch basin before. **Committeeman Mihalko** explained that the DEP requires a cement catch basin to siphon water which then goes into the pond. **Ms. Baird** asked if Suburban Consulting knew anything about this.

Committeeman Mihalko explained that the original consulting work was an estimate and was done by the field turf company prior to Suburban Consulting. The new requirement from the DEP came out within the last 18 months. He said he wasn't sure why it wasn't on the original proposal. He shared that there will be negotiations with the builder. He answered Ms. Baird's question in regard to the funds and explained that the field fund has 1.5 million dollars. The Township earmarked 1 million for the field. **Ms. Baird** asked the cost of Suburban Consulting. **Committeeman Mihalko** was not sure of the exact cost. He explained that all the permits and work done so far can be used in the future depending on what they decide to do regarding the field. **Ms. Baird** said did it cost about \$100,000 and **Committeeman Mihalko** said it might be around that price. She asked if the project is on hold at this time. **Committeeman Mihalko** said the Township will be having a discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: Committeeman Mihalko reported on the following:

He shared that he is the liaison to Substance Awareness and that there is a big push to get people trained on administering Narcan. He said it would be open to anyone and there will be dates and times coming soon.

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

- 1) Bee Meadow Pool Shower Renovation – The showers were installed September 20th with the exception of the grab bar which was installed October 26th. Project complete except for final plumbing inspection.
- 2) Bee Meadow Nature Trail – Phase II – Construction started August 29th. Majority of path is completed. Bridge materials delivered and staged on-site. Meeting schedule for this week to discuss remaining work and project completion date.
- 3) Bee Meadow Nature Trail – Phase III - NJDEP permits issued January 25th.
- 4) Bee Meadow Nature Trail – Phase IV – NJDEP permits issued January 25th. Petition received from residents opposing the construction of this phase. Possible agenda item for the March 9th Township Committee meeting.
- 5) Bee Meadow Pool Grate Replacement - Removals scheduled for the end of the week of the 20th. New grates should be delivered by the end of February.
- 6) Malapardis Tennis Court Resurfacing – Several options are being investigated on how to proceed with the tennis courts and possibly the roller hockey court. Meeting held with vendor on February 17th to discuss Snapsports tile product. Vendor believes this product would be a viable option given the condition of the courts. Vendor will prepare a budget estimate and then decision needs to be made on either the Snapsports product or full replacement.
- 7) Bee Meadow Park Turf Field – Revised plans received January 10th are under review. Construction estimate received February 1st is under review.
- 8) Black Brook Park Tennis Courts and Roller Hockey Lighting – Working with Musco on providing a revised estimate to include items not addressed in their original quote.
- 9) Bee Meadow Life Guard Stands – Phase III – Draft specifications are under review.
- 10) Black Brook Park Basketball Court Surface Installation - Preparing RFQ.

Committeeman Mihalko said that the township has been trying to schedule a meeting with JCPL and PSEG about the major gas line that runs underneath the field at Black Brook. He explained that the township has not heard back from the utility companies to set up a meeting. He said if they do not hear from them within a week that he will make phone calls to the Assemblyman.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Assistant Superintendent Quirk reported on the following:

Wrestling: The Bobcat's had a winning season.

Commissioner Engelberger shared that it has been one of the best seasons in a few years.

Ski Club: The ski club was able to hold all five trips with no major injuries.

Basketball: Travel Basketball is finishing up this week and playoffs are in two weeks.

Field Meeting: There will be a field meeting in March. Deadline for field permits was last week. This year we received many club teams requesting fields. Most of the club teams are run by board members of the Hanover Township Little League.

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

Family Dance Party: Forty families attended the event on February 10th. She thanked Commissioner Calabro for helping at the event.

March 7 and March 16th: First Aid for Pets at the Community Center. Eclipse Specialty and Emergency will be hosting the event.

Easter Egg Hunt: April 1, 2023, from 10am-11:30am at Veterans Field.

Pool Registrations: Pool Packets are being made and registration will open on Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

OLD BUSINESS:

Instructional Pickleball: Registration has opened for Instructional Pickleball. The session will run for 4 weeks beginning Wednesday, March 15, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS:

Superintendent Brennan shared the following:

- NYC Bus Trip to see The Play that Went Wrong on April 22, 2023. Tickets are \$110.
- Healthy Kids for Running will be using the high school track in April.
- Recreation has access to share recreation events, programs and more to TapintoHanover.net.
- The Mayors Wellness Campaign will be hosting events with the seniors and youth sports participants this March.
- Fish and Wildlife has a program "Get hooked on fishing, not drugs" which will be on June 3, 2023. This event is in addition to the Annual Fishing Contest (TBD).
- Superintendent Brennan met with the JGLA and Park Lacrosse last week regarding Park Lacrosse's interest in joining the Jersey Girls Lacrosse Association.

CLOSED SESSION:

Chairman Coiley read the following statement at 9:00pm.

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 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 9:30 p.m. and reconvened into open session.

MINUTES AND VOUCHERS:

Commissioner Brueno made a motion to approve the vouchers from the February 9, 2023, meeting. Commissioner Monteverdi seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Giorgio made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2023, 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 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jaime Getsinger
Board Secretary**