

Franklin Township
Advisory Recreation Council
Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2017
Community / Senior Center
7:00pm
Minutes

In Attendance: Bill Milligan, John Moon, Lewis Hurd, Nancy Sayre and Ty-Wanna Cotten

Excused: Bill Gallagher, Keith Stewart, Carl Wright and Rebekah Solomon

Absent: Susindran Thangarajo, Stanley Croughter, Elois Taylor, Percy Sanders and Darrin Russo

Staff: Alice Osipowitz and Dan Reeve

**Call to order:** Ms. Sayre called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

**Approval of Minutes:** No quorum

**Public Comment:** A motion was made by Mr. Moon and seconded by Mr. Milligan to open the meeting to the public, all others in favor, motion carried.

Seeing no speakers from the public are present, a motion was made by Mr. Moon and seconded by Mr. Milligan to close the meeting to the public, all others in favor, motion carried.

### **Superintendents Report**

Mr. Reeve provided a written program report.

#### **Program Update**

- Secured summer swim lessons pool rental at the Clarion Hotel.
- 70% of 2015 Aquatics staff have committed to returning in 2016.
- Currently working with the Board of Ed to determine the best locations for our indoor summer camp which will need to be relocated due to summer construction at the Franklin Middle School.
- 75% of 2016 Safety Town / Play & Learn and 60% of Playgrounds staff have committed to returning in 2017.
- Independent Contractor programming contracts have been extended from the following contractors. Programs are being scheduled for 2017 spring, summer and fall programs.
  - Bricks 4 Kidz
  - Minds In Motion
  - Mad Science
  - Chess Buy
  - American Tae Kwon Do Academy
  - Kidz Art
  - Soccer Centers
  - US Sports Institute
- 5 large flat screen tv's have been installed in the multipurpose rooms for use during presentations and other programing needs.
- DPW has begun painting the interior of the Community / Senior Center.
- Franklin Township Youth Council ran the following programs in January:

All Around the Board

FTYC Therapeutic Committee

Grades 2-6

This inclusion event open to general and special education students gave youth the opportunity to compete to earn the most points on a giant game while learning about our unique difference. Children learned about dyslexia, diabetes, hearing impairment as they faced game challenges.

· Mad Scientists

FTYC Education Committee

Grades 3-6

Children were able to have fun while learning about science. Participants conducted their own experiments such as milk marbling and chromatography. They got to create slime and discover food webs all in the name of science!

· Operation: Beautiful

FTYC Health & Wellness Committee

Grades 7-12

The Franklin Township Youth Council presented a girls' night of workshops on BEAUTY, MIND, & MOTION. The workshops covered media influence, Zumba, natural beauty, confidence, building healthy bodies, and more. Dinner was provided and the young women received give giveaways from LUSH, Garnier, Kiehl's, Bare Minerals, and more.

• The Great Escape

FTYC Youth & Community Committee

Grades 4-6

Participants were able to embark on the ultimate White House adventure. Children needed to solve three different escape rooms – the Oval Office, the Lincoln Bedroom, and the Presidential Situation Room- and complete a Secret Service Agent training obstacle course in order to rescue the president.

· Charged Up!

FTYC Environmental Committee

Grades 4-6

Participants completed a host of science experiments while learning about different types of energy. Children built wind powered cars, created soap bombs (dissolvable, not explosive), were treated to a rocket launch and more.

· Create Your World

FTYC Diversity Committee

Grades K-4

The FTYC Diversity Committee took children on a journey to explore the world and experience the various, unique, and creative art forms the world had to offer. Participants were able to create origami, pottery, mosaics, learned to play world music, and more.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- FYI Black History Month Celebration Feb. 18 at 7pm
- New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association (NJRPA) Annual Conference in Atlantic City Mar 6 & 7
- Spring & summer program registration opens on Wednesday, March 15
- Spring & summer Township newsletter scheduled to be mailed out on April 1

### **Brainstorming Session**

What do we need to do in order to provide the best quality services possible for the families of Franklin Township?

# **Strengths**

- Youth Sports All Ages
- o Good Feeder Programs
- o Affordability / Fee Waiver
- o Trails
- o Parks
- o Large Senior Clubs / Adult Community
- o Rec Extensive Senior Programs 70+
- Adult Sports
- o Rec Dept / Youth Sports / Admin /
  - Coaches / Volunteers
- o Good Perception
- Open Space

- Summer Camp Program Variety
- Youth Leadership & Mentoring
- o Group Ex / Fitness
- o BOE Relationship
- o Therapeutic Programs
- Golf Courses
- Tennis Courts
- Pickleball
- Improving Park Facilities
- o Community Events
- Villagers Theater

# Weaknesses / Gaps in Service

- Cricket Facilities
- o Geographic Accessibility
- Multipurpose Indoor Facilities
- o Technology / Skill Development
- o Park & Field Maintenance
- Non-Team / Individual Activities
- Self-Directed Opportunities & Facilities
- o Barrier Free Access
- Non-Sport Activities
- Swim Facilities
- o BOE Relationship with Youth Sports
  - Orgs & Rec
- Lack of Specific Facilities
- o Fundraising / Sponsorship
- Non Profit Organizations / Friends
- o Movie Theater / Entertainment
- o More Athletic Fields
- o More for Active Older Adults 50+
- o More Adult Programming 21 − 50

- More Senior Programming
- Lacrosse Youth Sports Programming
- TWP Committee Relationships
- o Improved Marketing / Cross Marketing
- Partnerships
- Adventure Programming
- o Environmental Education
- Geocaching
- Family Events
- Summer Events
- o Sidewalks
- o Therapeutic Rec
- o Enrichment programs
- Cost of Programs
- o Teen Programs
- o North / South Trail Connector
- o Private Competition
- Rutgers University Facilities

# **Challenges**

- Affordability
- Accessibility
- Teen Involvement
- Private & Competitive Programs
- Social Media
- Marketing

- Sponsorship / Fundraising
- o Facilities / Cost / Support
- Cultural Outreach
- o Community Bulletin Board
- o Elite Offerings
- Recruiting Out of District

# <u>Trends</u>

- Health & Fitness
- o Performing & Visual Arts
- o Family
- o Digital World
- o Active Older Adults
- Mentoring

- Wellness
- Health & Wellness Prevention
- Specialization
- Competitive Edge
- Diversity / Cultural Art

# **Directors Report**

## **Budget Update**

- Department budget hearings are scheduled for Feb. 7, 13 and 21.
- Department budget and capital budget items are discussed at the budget hearings.

## **Park Improvements**

- Middlebush Park
  - o Concession Stand
    - Delivery scheduled for Feb. 9
- Inman Park
  - o New playground equipment has been ordered
- Park Permit Fees
  - Revision of current fees is proposed to now include Non-Resident fees. This proposed revision is on the next Township Council Agenda.
- Summer Camp
  - We are currently in discussion with the BOE regarding this years summer camp locations.

## **Old Business**

No old business

### **New Business**

No new business

## Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Hurd and seconded by Mr. Milligan to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm, all others in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Dan Reeve Superintendent of Recreation