



Franklin Township
Advisory Recreation Council
Wednesday, March 14, 2018
Community / Senior Center
7:00pm
Minutes

In Attendance: Bill Milligan, John Moon, Keith Stewart, Venkateshan Pundi, Nancy Sayre, Lewis Hurd. Carl Wright, Varun Venkateshan

Excused: Bill Gallagher, Rebekah Solomon

Absent: Darrin Russo, Elois Taylor, Percy Sanders and Ty-Wanna Cotton

Staff: Alice Osipowicz and Dan Reeve

Call to order: Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Ms. Sayre and seconded by Mr. Milligan to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2018 meetings as presented, Mr. Hurd abstains, all others in favor, motion carried.

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

*Benjamin Guy, 35 Patton Dr., Somerset, NJ 08873

Mr. Guy brought forward the following comments, questions and suggestions;

- How do vendors get the opportunity to work with the Recreation Department?
- What is being done regarding the extended summer break?
- I would be happy to speak with Dr. Ravally and The Township to ask if they would help off-set the cost of an extended summer camp program.
- Recently spoke with Detective Hebbon about the possibility of implementing a PAL (police athletic league) program in Franklin Township. Would the Parks & Recreation Department be interested in working with a PAL program?

Ms. Osipowicz explained that all program vendors must submit a proposal based on the publicized RFP. RFP's are listed on the Township website. Vendors are awarded contracts based on evaluation criteria. The current contract has the option to extend out 5 years. Program vendor RFP's were publicized in Nov. 2017 and Jan. 2018. Recreation is currently working with the Purchasing Department to publicize a supplemental RFP in the next two weeks.

The Recreation Department has met with the Superintendent of Schools and BOE staff to discuss a summer program partnership. The Recreation Department is offering 2 additional weeks of Destination Discovery Camps. Additional conversations with Dr. Ravally and other BOE staff are being scheduled.

Mr. Stewart suggested exploring the idea of extending the Williams Park Summer Camp.

Ms. Osipowicz stated the Recreation Department would be very interested in speaking with all entities that would be interested in partnering.

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

Committee Annual Re-Organization

Mr. Stewart reviewed the Advisory Recreation Council structure and discussion ensued around the officer positions of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.

A motion was made by Mr. Moon and seconded by Mr. Wright to appoint Mr. Stewart as Advisory Recreation Council Chair for 2018, all others in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Wright and seconded by Mr. Hurd to appoint Ms. Sayre as Advisory Recreation Council Vice Chair for 2018, all others in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Wright and seconded by Ms. Sayre to appoint Mr. Milligan as Advisory Recreation Council Secretary for 2018, all others in favor, motion carried.

Superintendents Report

Mr. Reeve provided a written program report.

1. Program Update:

- Summer Swim Lessons will be held at the Clarion Hotel and Williams Pool. Williams Park Camp will still receive swim lessons and open swim time.
- Summer Camp locations have been finalized for 2018; the 2017 camp at CRS will be held at the Pine Grove Manor School this summer. Other camp locations will include Williams Park, Inman Park and Franklin Park School.
- Summer Boys Council will be held at FHS. Transportation logistics will be similar to 2016.
- Due to a significant decrease in enrollment over the past five (5) years, we have eliminated the summer Safety Town / Play & Learn program. However, we will be accepting 5 year olds in the summer camp program at PGM.
- Spring Programs will begin the second week of April. New programs include:
 - Mommy & Me: A Bag of Shapes (Ages 2-3.5)
 - Preschool: Zoo Crew (Ages 3.5-5)
 - Y Sports (Ages 3-9)
 - Beg. Jazz & Hip Hop (Ages 3-5)
 - Hip Hop (Ages 6-12)
 - Babysitter Training (Ages 11+)
 - Flag Ruby (Ages 5-14)
 - STEM Workshop (Ages 5-12)
 - Community First Aid, CPR & AED
 - Basic Life Support for Healthcare Provider with First Aid
 - Pilates (Ages 16+)
 - Indoor Yoga (Ages 16+)
 - Outdoor Yoga (Ages 16+)
 - Outdoor Bootcamp (Ages 16+)
 - Strength Interval Training (Ages 16+)
 - F.A.S.T. (Fitness and Social Time, Ages 26+ Therapeutic Rec)
 - Pickleball League (Ages 50+)

FYI Boy's Mentoring Program (SGS):

- We have 24 students signed up at SGS and 15 at FMS, with great support from the school. The first hour of the program is design with a study hall, followed by group meeting.
- The following topics were covered in February:
 - Progress report review with students
 - Team building exercises in the gym
 - What to do during a school lockdown
 - Behavior modification with Mr. Lue
 - Behavior modification with Dean Mrs. Hurd
 - Cross fit with Paul Day

FYI Black History Celebration:

- The FYI 6th Annual Black Celebration was held on February 24th, at the Senior/Community Center. The celebration had 32 performances and over 200 people in attendance.

Teen Recreation (Franklin Middle School):

- 111 Middle school students registered. The average number of participants per/night in February were 32. The Teen Recreation team had two Basketball games with the Franklin Heat AAU Basketball team.
- Speakers for February were as Follows:
 - Mr. Punta- Jour, Head Administrator from Road to Success School
 - Mr. Mitchell, Administrator from Road to Success School
 - Detective Almora, FTPD

Youth Council:

- What Would You Do? – February 3
Students explored what they would do if they lost one of their senses. They attempted to navigate an obstacle course, put together a puzzle and sort coins blindfolded. They also tried to identify familiar foods by smell and everyday objects by touch.
- Culture Shock – February 16
Participants explored how the culture of the US has been shaped by the customs and cultures of its citizens. They made passports and traveled through Asian, African and Hispanic countries engaging in activities at each country.

Senior Programs:

- Black History Month was celebrated by the Parkside Senior Club. They offered three special event programs on February 5th, 12th and 26th. The public was invited to attend these presentations which were facilitated by community leaders, educators, authors, historians and legends in black history.
- The Recreation Department sponsored a Forever 55 movie on February 22nd featuring a documentary on “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks”.
- Our Senior Coordinator and two Forever 55ers participated in a Black history month intergenerational program at the Franklin Middle School on February 15th.
- The Franklin Park Senior club hosted an African American fashion show on February 28th. Club members and the Senior Coordinator served as models for the garments designed by one club member who is a professional seamstress/fashion designer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Elder law legal presentation at the Franklin Township Senior club meeting - March 27
- Summer Camp registration begins March 15
- Summer programs registration begins April 18
- Parenting a Child with Disabilities: Issues Affecting the Family by Rory Panter, Psy. D. from Behavior Therapy Associates 6:30 PM – April 18
- Care, Share, and Aware Event: Celebrating all abilities for Autism Awareness Month 2:00 -5:00 PM – April 28

Mr. Reeve reviewed the 2018 Spring Programs.

A motion was made by Mr. Wright and seconded by Mr. Hurd to accept the Spring program prices as presented, all others in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Reeve reviewed the 2018 Summer Programs.

A motion was made by Mr. Milligan and seconded by Mr. Hurd to accept the Summer program prices as presented, all others in favor, motion carried.

Directors Report

Franklin Township Youth Center

- Ms. Osipowitz reviewed the Youth Center power point presentation provided by Kimmell Bogrette
- The following comments and concerns were brought forward:
 - Orientation of the building as it will be blocking the natural sunlight to surrounding areas and homes
 - Height and configuration do not go with aesthetics of neighborhood
 - A Hamilton Street location would be more suitable
 - Concerns of interior facility and exterior noise vs property line set backs
 - What will the expense be to staff a facility of this size? Who will be responsible for staffing?
 - Lack of possible parking options
 - Exterior lighting will need to be designed to limit light pollution so it does not affect adjacent houses

Park Improvements

- Ms. Osipowitz reviewed the 2018 Capital Budget requests, discussion ensued.
- Ms. Osipowitz gave a brief update on Summerfields project

Weston Cricket Grounds

- Ms. Osipowitz has received numerous requests for cricket field park permits. Currently, Weston Cricket Fields are scheduled on Saturdays and every other Sunday. Williams Park Cricket Field has similar schedule. Cricket is gaining in popularity and field requests are increasing. Ms. Osipowitz asked if at this time, the additional field request require a review of the current schedule with the possibility of scheduling all Sundays. Discussion ensued.
- Mr. Wright will address this issue at the next Land Use Committee meeting as there is a Cricket Pitch on the newly purchased Consolata property.
- Ms. Osipowitz will speak with Township Engineering Department to request an update and timeline on the completion of the Catalpa Park project.

A motion was made by Mr. Milligan and seconded by Ms. Sayre to keep the current Cricket field scheduling process in place, all others in favor, motion carried.

Old Business

No old business

New Business

No new business

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Milligan and seconded by Mr. Hurd to adjourn the meeting at 8:56pm , all others in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Reeve
Superintendent of Recreation