



Franklin Township
Recreation Advisory Council
Wednesday, June 20, 2020
Minutes

In attendance: Bill Gallagher, Lewis Hurd, Nancy Sayre (Vice-Chair), Venkateshan Pundi, Govind Seshadri (Phone), Peter Melillo, Alice Osipowitz, Beau Byrtus

Call to order: 6:18 by Nancy Sayre

Approval of the minutes January: Motion by Bill Gallagher, 2nd by Nancy Sayre – Unanimous acceptance

Public Comments: No public in attendance

Program Report: Youth Center, Beau announced that we have been engaging our community partners. The building construction continues, Org chart and job descriptions have been completed. Programming is on-going and a naming contest will be online.

Summer virtual camp – we have decided to move summer camp to an online, virtual experience. Program will be free to residents.

Williams Park Pool – Pool will be open Monday through Saturday 12 pm to 8 pm. We are working to get more lifeguards trained.

Athletic Fields – Waiting on guidelines for fields.

Director's Report – Alice presented the meditation trail as an option to honor the residents who have passed away due to COVID-19. Beau and Alice will be participating in a panel for middle and high school students on the subject of developing a culture of non-violence.

Old Business: None

New Business: Question from Percy regarding special events this summer. Beau explained that 4th of July would be virtual. Also, discussed different ways we could work with Week of the People and revise as guidelines change.

Adjournment: 7:20 pm - Motion Lewis Hurd, Second Percy Sanders, all were in favor.

Rec Council Report for February 2020

Boys Council Mentoring Program (Franklin Middle School)

Group started back on January 2th, after holiday break with 12 students on Tuesday, and 14 students on Thursday. The following topics were covered during the month:

- Goals for 2020.
- Scheduled students for after-school homework support with teachers.
- Behavior modification.
- What it takes to be a better student.
- Report Cards were reviewed along with discipline referrals.

Boys Council Mentoring Program (Sampson G. Smith)

Group started back on January 8th, after holiday break with 12 students on Wednesday. The following topics were covered:

- Goals for 2020.
- Scheduled students for after-school homework support with teachers.
- Behavior modification.
- What it takes to be a better student.
- Report Cards were reviewed along with discipline referrals.

FYI Open Basketball (Sampson G. Smith)

Group started on January 3rd, after holiday break with 31 participants on Friday night at Sampson G. Smith. The first hour of the program is designated for skills and drills, and the second hour is for non – competitive play.

Winter Basketball Programs:

Girls Basketball League started on January 4th, with 39 participants (4 teams) for grades 3 – 6 at Sampson G. Smith.

Boys Jr. Basketball League started on January 4th, with 71 participants (6 teams) for grades 3-4 at Franklin Middle School.

Boys Int. Basketball League started on January 4th, with 72 participants (6 teams) for grades 5 – 6 at Franklin Middle School.

Teen Recreation:

Teen Recreation started back from the holiday break on January 2nd, with 109 participants at Franklin Middle School. The following activities were done in January.

- Five on Five Basketball Games.
- Knock out Basketball Games with the winners receiving medals.
- Volleyball Games.
- Franklin High School Student Chernol Bah presented a thank you card to the Franklin Twp. P.B.A Local #154 for supporting the Holiday Party in December.

Speakers:

- Sergeant Ariel Alomra from the Franklin Police Department.
- Retired Correction Officer Mark Young.
- Former NYP Investigator Dennis McNeil.

General Programs –

We just rolled out an “in-house” dance program for 3 year olds to 6 year olds. Most of the classes filled and we had 11 on a wait list. This is extremely promising and we will continue to grow this program in the future.

We will be rolling out several new adult and child programs in March. We have hired 2 new instructors with hopes to get leads on a few more. (Yoga)

Adult and child – Playtime class will run for 6 weeks on Tuesday or Thursdays cost TBD but we anticipate around \$65.

Tiny Trail Blazers – Adult and Child outdoor adventure program \$65

Little Explorers – 5,6,7 y/o outdoor adventure program \$65

Outsiders – 8, 9, 10 y/o outdoor adventure program \$65

Summer Programs –

Going back to an ala carte menu for trips meaning that parents will be able to pick and choose which trips they would like to send their children on based on their respective needs. The hope is to increase participation as it will be more affordable.

We are moving forward with our lifeguard training program whereby we will train personnel to become lifeguards with no cost if they agree to work for the Township swim program for the duration of the summer. (If you know of anyone that could benefit from the program please let us know). I would like to

have between 10 and 15 lifeguards working so that we can keep the pool open Monday through Saturday.

We are moving the “learn to swim” programs over to Williams Pool for a variety of reasons.

Currently we have commitments from about 80% of last year’s.

We are currently in the development stages of a “leadership camp” which we are planning on introducing this year. It will be a small ½ day pilot program at Middlebush Park. The concept is complete with dates and times and we are tackling the curriculum now.

Strategic Marketing and Communication –

We are submitting a proposal for Facebook Marketing to the Township Manager this week. We have polled several agencies throughout the country that have had success with this. Having met with IT, Purchasing, HR and Finance we are hopeful to implement this in the near future.