

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Minutes JANUARY 15, 2014

Next Meeting: March 12, 2014 7pm

Minutes from the November meeting were distributed by email and are posted on the township's website under meetings and agendas.

In Attendance: Jim Farley, Aaron Allen, Harry Bond, Brigitte Geiger, Mary Gallagher, Noelle Keherly, Bill Schwarick, Jill Daggon.

Welcome new and reappointed members! (Bill Swarick, Brigitte Geiger, Dan Weiss)

Review member contact information, *added Bill's email address*

Jim was re-elected Chair and Noelle was selected as Vice Chair.

- **Committee Reports:**

- o MOHS Student Liaison: None
- o Open Space: Jim Farley – first meeting of the year, getting organized.
- o Parks, Buildings & Grounds: None
- o Board of Ed/Mutual Facilities: None
- o Mt. Olive Senior Club: None

Business:

1. Mount Playmore:

- a. Construction is planned to begin in March. The existing structure has been removed. Fundraising is still on-going.
 - i. *Construction officials are reviewing plans. Weekly phone conferences are being held. We still need more help with fundraising. We thought that we would have \$50,000 by now, we only have 2000. We have sold 12 pickets, and anticipate having 400 that could be engraved. Low fundraising will not slow the construction of the playground – we want to have additional amenities such as benches and picnic tables.*

2. Events:

- a. Restaurant Week: 1/27-31 Participating are: Enzo's, Branda's, Applebee's and Corner Pub. Menus and specials are posted on our website. (Click on the logo for Restaurant Week)
 - i. *Our goal was at least 12 restaurants, but even with several calls and personal visits, we were unable to convince 40 area restaurants to participate. Noelle suggested we did not price it according to its actual value, therefore restaurants did not perceive the value/bargain in this promotion. Aaron asked about a "Taste of" type event, perhaps at a school cafeteria. We did Taste of the Highlands for 2 years and did not have many attendees. It takes quite a bit of our time to coordinate and convince restaurants to participate – significantly more than we receive in sponsorship/participation. We had wanted to do an International Restaurant week in the fall, but will table that thought until restaurants recognize the value of this type event.*
- b. Cabin Fever Reliever: 2/22 at the Senior Center – the top levels of sponsorship have been filled. Still have some room for activity providers.
 - i. *We showcase our summer camps and spring programs and will have some new instructors and activities onsite.*
- c. Pi Day: 3/14 Beginning to recruit participating businesses
 - i. *We are expanding the event to include a celebration of all things round – not just pies (pizza or otherwise)*
- d. Do or Dye Color Run: 4/26 Top sponsor levels filled or almost filled. Registration is open now.
- e. Farmer's Markets: vendors are currently being recruited. Volunteers needed to help each Saturday from May 10 – Sept 27 Municipal Building parking lot.
 - i. *We attended a farmer's market workshop and got several good leads. If you know anyone who is interested in participating, please let us know.*

3. Trips:

- a. 2/15 Monster Truck Jam through Jefferson Twp Recreation – *Shawn Oblein from Highview Farms, will have his monster truck "Thrasher" at this event! Shawn has brought his other trucks to the Mt Olive Week Carnival and PowerWheels Grand Prix.*
- b. Yankees games through Mt Olive 4/29, 9/23
- c. Broadway – maybe April through Washington Twp
- d. 5/31 DooWop Reunion at the Izod Center, through Mt Olive

Old Business

- o Recreation's End of the Year Report and Achievements for 2013 and goals/objectives for 2014

- Emmet Brown Award went to Laura Rimmer – *This was an acknowledgment for innovation by an employee that made a significant impact/improvement. Laura received an Einstein Chia Pet for her award and a framed award.*
- 2/11 Council Workshop will include Recreation's Budget Hearing
- Spring brochure – need art work by 1/17. Several new programs being added:
 - Partnering with a new business for swim lessons at the Holiday Inn, Water Skiing lessons at the beach, Paddle board workshops, On-line Adult Ed classes, Edible Art workshops and more.
- Summer staff applications are being accepted now (they are on-line) and interviews are scheduled for 2/18 and 3/19. We are looking for a camp supervisor for Grades 1-3 (preferably a teacher), counselors and CITs.
- Camps are being planned and trips, as well as other summer programming
- Sports Associations: Mutual Facilities & Sports Associations' meeting is being planned for February
 - Sports Ombudsman: Paul Licitra is planning a Sports Association Summit – however the date may need to change.

- **Other:**

Jim mentioned that the NFL has a great concussion training program for the youth sports programs

Jill will keep the committee informed via email of any developments, concerns or issues that need to be addressed prior to our March 12th meeting.

- **Continuing Concerns**

- Suggestions for future programming, facilities, special events,

- Community Service recommendations for Spring
- Recommendations for Agenda – *please e-mail me!*

Enclosures:

RAC Minutes (blue)

Meeting calendar 2014

Member contact info

Recreation End of the Year Report