

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Minutes January 16, 2013

Next Meeting: March 13, 2013 7pm

Minutes from the September meeting were distributed by email and are posted on the township's website under meetings and agendas. December meeting did not have a quorum and dismissed after 20 minutes. Agenda with notes was emailed to the committee.

In attendance: Jim Farley, Harry Bond, Diana Schwarick, Noelle Kehrley, Aaron Allen, Frank Wilpert Jr, Jill Daggon, Monica Berretto, Cathy Berretto, Julianna

- Committee Reports:

- o MOHS Student Liaison: We need a new liaison – suggestions? *Monica is a freshman from MOHS and is interested in volunteering for Recreation, at events and possibly in the office. No report yet, since this is her first meeting.*
- o Open Space: Jim Farley – *First meeting of the year included an overview of the Open Space Committee's 2012 Accomplishments. They are continuing to work on trails with Parks, Buildings & Grounds Dept. Looking at trail head markers, and developing plans to interconnect the existing trails. The main trails will be cleared, starting in Feb. A UTV has been requested in the capital budget, to provide access for staff & clearing equipment on the trails. Harry suggested that a list of projects that volunteers, like scouts, could access from our website. Currently there is a 5 mile trail with loops off of it. Jim suggested walking the trail as a RAC. Noelle & Harry are interested in finding out more about the trails and trail volunteers. Laura Szwak is a good contact for coordinating volunteers. Open Space Committee now has a trail GPS so they can begin to make trail maps to post on the township website. The current map on the website is not up to date.*
- o Parks, Buildings & Grounds: Frank Wilpert Jr. – *Frank is now the Parks, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor. (Jim Lynch is now the Assistant DPW Director.) Field prep will begin in Feb/March. Infield mix price has come down significantly, so he will be arranging for several loads to be brought in as soon as it is feasible to improve the ball fields. They will re-cut the field edges of the baseball fields. TBP Baseball 2 will be changed to have a skin infield, which will help with drainage. Other work will be done at that field to improve drainage as well. No news yet on the sale of the Board of Ed Building, which when sold, will result in the loss of the lighted field. Sandshore School is slated to have a solar panel field installed at baseball 2 field. If that project goes through, the clay will be stripped and moved to the upper field. The lacrosse field work continues. They are working with JCP&L to bring in 3 phase power, so we can light fields. As spring approaches, all the standard field prep will be done.*
- o Board of Ed/Mutual Facilities: Liz Ouimet – No report
- o Mt. Olive Senior Club: *No report*

New Business:

1. Welcome new Committee Member Noelle Kehrley: Congratulations to Jim & Harry's reappointments, *welcome Monica and her family (tonight's entourage).*
2. Election of Chair, Vice Chair: *Jim Farley was elected Chair (4 yea, 1 nay) and Harry Bond was chosen as Vice Chair (4 yea, 1 nay)*
3. 2013 Recreation Committee Meeting Calendar: *The proposed calendar has an added meeting for June 12th, if needed, prior to the start of the summer sports season. Jill will contact the RAC if the meeting is not needed.*
4. Renovation/Expansion of Turkey Brook Playground: *RAC Homework is to research possible playgrounds to renovate & expand the playground area at TBP. The existing structure is almost 10 years old, approaching the end of its intended viability. We are considering having 3 playground areas – with age appropriate equipment for "tots" ages 2-6, school age – ages 5-12 and adults, as well as a central shade area with benches, etc. The project can be built in phases. Once we have an idea of what the committee likes, including more physically active/challenging components, we will look at ADA requirements, etc. A needs survey will also be sent out through our e-newsletter. We will need to notify Green Acres of our intentions, Have at least one public meeting to receive comments/suggestions. Then we can move forward. Jill will reach out to the playground companies that are on state contract. We will get an estimate of costs, including installation, so fundraising, sponsors and grant applications can begin. We would like to see the first phase begin during the winter of 2014, when the ground is hard. There several educational sessions at the NJRPA annual conference on playgrounds, design, safety, etc. It was suggested to look at the playground behind the Ralston Fire Dept on Rt. 24 in Mendham, for age delineated play spaces.*
5. MOPP – 501c3 – needs new board members – Does RAC want to do this – requires filing of some papers, we can modify it's mission to include other fundraising purposes. Non-profit status opens many more avenues for grants and corporate giving. *The committee agreed that a subcommittee from the RAC could become the officers of the MOPP. Jill will obtain the necessary paperwork, and find out what needs to be filed. Jim, Harry & Noelle agreed to become officers and spearhead this entity. The original mission of Mt. Olive Park Partners was to fundraise for park improvements and amenities. There is a way to change/expand the mission to include other fundraising purposes.*
6. New Events: *Jill reviewed the upcoming events. Flyers were put up on the display strip. Jill also talked about some of the planned changes for the Carnival. Noelle mentioned that she has a banner wall that we could use.*

- a. Candy Land Trunk or Treat was Sunday 12/9 at MOPL parking lot. Best Bagel Contest 12/14-16
 - b. SUDS 1/17/13 at the Corner Pub. Comedy provided by Jim Lynch and Jim Daggan. 3 other local businesses are sponsoring the night and will have a table on site. That's Amore! 2/21/13 will be at Enzo's. Prix Fixe meal includes 5 course and showcases their catering menu and the new party room.
 - c. More businesses are interested in partnering with Recreation for these type events, including Branda's, Fresco's, Long Horn and Chili's. Noelle suggested having a Chili Cook-off at a football game. It was suggested we reach out to the Lion's Club for their high school student volunteers. It was suggested that video footage of the events could be put on MOTV
 - d. Mt. Olive Ski Day – 1/12 at Shawnee
 - e. 2/23 – Cabin Fever Reliever, 3/23 Strut Your Mutt, 4/6 Teddy Bear Picnic, 3/13 Grocery Store Bingo, 3/14 Pi Day
 - f. Momentum Challenge Series: Mt. Olive Momentum 5 & 10K 4/20, Master Swim Competition 8/3, Tour de Mt. Olive 9/21
7. Save the date for these additional events:
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| a. TBP Opening Day 4/13 | e. Raiders of the Lost Park 6/22 |
| b. PowerWheels race series & Grand Prix 4/25, 5/2, 9 & 16 | f. Mt Olive Week Carnival 7/10-14 |
| c. Fairy & Pirate Festival 5/18 | g. Fall Festival 9/21 (in conjunction with Tour de Mt Olive) |
| d. Beach Block Party & Luau 6/15 – Opening Day at the Beach | h. MOHS Bon Fire 9/26? |
| | i. October Geo Caching event |
8. Trips:
- a. September Yankees Game trip was rained out and will be rescheduled for April or May
 - b. Suggestions for other trips? – 6/1 DooWop Concert at IZOD center, Bon Jovi 7/24, 8/6 Hershey Park Wicked 8/10, Ringling Bros Circus 3/10, Bronx Zoo 5/5, Chocolate Tour of NYC in October, Radio City/NYC day in November – maybe Teacher's Convention Friday.. Several area recreation depts. are working together to plan and host these trips, with one or two pick up locations across Morris County.
9. Sponsorship Opportunities: We have put together a catalog of sponsorship opportunities and levels for all our events, seasonal brochures, the beach, etc. *Currently this is an internal reference, so we can put together sponsorship bundles that meet the needs, interests, target audience and budget of our local businesses. Then from this, we develop the colorful individual event sponsorship opportunity pages for each event.*
10. Marketing: Marketing plans are being developed, including surveys (with incentives), and we are beginning to gather metrics to base marketing strategies and track tangible sponsor benefits. Surveys were sent out asking for input for the 5 & 10 K Momentum race, and developing awareness for the Beach, and gather new ideas for beach programming

Old Business

- o Spring Brochures – need art work by Jan 15. It goes to the printer 2/9 and is distributed in the schools 3/1. Sponsorships and ads cover the cost of printing 5,000 copies.

All events are still accepting sponsors.

• Other:

- Committee meetings:

- o Mutual Facilities & Sports Associations' Committee – *Next meeting TBA in February.*

- Continuing Concerns

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| o Suggestions for future programming, facilities, special events, Trips – : <i>A PJ party at the library – overnight, with various activities. Jill will mention to Scott Davan</i> | o Community Service recommendations for Winter |
| | o Recommendations for Agenda – <i>please e-mail me!</i> |

Enclosures:

RAC Minutes (blue) RAC 2013 Meeting Calendar Playground Considerations
 Mutual Facilities/Sports Associations minutes from their last meeting.