

## RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Minutes – March 2, 2011

**Next Meeting: May 4, 2011 7pm**

**In Attendance:** Bert Barrier, Jim Farley, Melissa Thomas, Dan Weiss, Diana Schwarick, Alex Roman, Hannah Marshall, Alex Scheeberg, Jim Lynch, Jill Daggon

**Welcome new member:** Diana Schwarick and **Student Liaisons:** Hannah Marshall, Alex Schneeberg, Yungjung Hong (absent)

### - Committee Reports:

- MOHS Student Liaisons: *No report per se. Jill explained that the committee would like input from students regarding programs, events and trips or park amenities that they are interested in. As liaisons, we would like the to communicate to students what is happening in Recreation & Parks that they might be interested in, volunteer opportunities, etc.*
- Open Space: Jim Farley – *The committee sent their recommendation to use Open Space Trust monies develop a lacrosse field at TBP. Council passed the resolution at their meeting this week on 3/1.*
- Park Development: *No report - committee has not met yet in 2011.*
- Parks, Buildings & Grounds: Jim Lynch – *new lacrosse field fencing bid specs are ready to go out, with a 10 day turn around time. When the ground is workable, infrastructure work (running electric & water to the concession stand pad, establishing a parking area, etc.) will begin. April 15 is the target date to open fields. Our weather & conditions is more like Sussex County than Morristown. Restrooms at TBP will be open 4/15. Dan Jordan and school fields can be utilized earlier, depending on conditions. Russ Nagle field at Flanders Park will be getting replacement netting. Parks, Buildings & Grounds budget has been reduced by another 10%. (Budget hearing is 7pm on 3/29) Jim asked the Committee to support a recommendation to amend the current Open Space Trust ordinance (requires a referendum question on the November ballot, deadline for wording submission to Clerk's Office is August 1) to allow maintenance to be funded from the Open Space tax. State statute allows this use, but our ordinance pre-dates the state statute. Currently our ordinance provides for acquisition and development only. Mt. Olive now has quite a bit of open space, but no means to fund the maintenance of it. For 2011, most of the Open Space tax is being used for debt service. But within the next few years, those debts will be paid (Turkey Brook Park, etc.). Jill recommended that the referendum question be kept simple, matching the state statute. Allocation proportions can be adjusted by ordinance or resolution as needed. Jim has asked that the RAC send a letter of recommendation to Administration and Council to consider moving forward for the referendum question. We will need to provide positive press for supporting this change. Jill will send out an email to each RAC member requesting their vote regarding sending the letter of recommendation.*
- Board of Ed/Mutual Facilities: Liz Ouimet – *Absent. At 6pm, prior to the RAC meeting there was a Mutual Facilities/Sports Associations meeting. Neither Tom Scerbo nor Dave Falleni were able to attend. Jim & Jill explained the field sports donations of \$10 per registrant to provide funding for 2 part time, temporary, seasonal employees to do park maintenance since staff was cut in 2010 and fields were not able to be maintained as in previous years. Registrations for Soccer and Baseball seem to down, so they may not be able to donate as much as was proposed in November 2010. Less funding will impact the number of hours of field maintenance that can be done. Not all groups have provided their checks yet. (Deadline was 3/1) Council recommended that the hours, length of employment parameters be set below the thresholds for benefits, pension, unemployment, etc. Notes from this meeting will be emailed as part of the RAC information from the 3/2 meeting.*
- Mt. Olive Senior Club: Ron Perry – *Absent Report called in to Recreation. The Senior Club didn't meet much in January and February due to inclement weather. Check the Senior Newsletter in the Recreation Section of the township's website. Seniors were reminded on winter weather car maintenance tips and good foods for staying warm.*

### New Business:

- CBK Treetop Adventure trip for ages 13-18 Date: TBA to Camelback Mountain. Zip lines, suspended bridges, scramble nets, swing logs, euro bungee, etc. The HS Ski Club requested this trip. We will also offer it to teens in surrounding towns.
- Relay for Life Clothing Drive - is holding a one day Clothing Drive on April 2, from 10am - 2pm, in the Municipal Building parking lot. Cars can pull in & bring their bags of clothes to be put directly into the truck that is handling the drive. They are going to have signs made up with the date & location. Main event is 6/11 at MOHS.
- Viridian Energy Fundraising proposal – *recommended to research if other energy companies have fundraising programs to compare for the best possible offer. Jill did this first thing Thursday morning. There is one other company that is offering a donation to charities program. Jill has requested a proposal by 3/10. Representatives from Viridian are scheduled to attend the council meeting on 3/15. Jill will send out to the committee the alternate proposal and*

*request recommendation regarding moving forward with either entity and what should be brought to the council workshop meeting.*

- New programs for Spring 2011: Scribbles Arts & Crafts programs, Piano lessons (group and Mommy & Me private lessons) Bike Right 5/1 at Mt View, Photography Club: Wild Side - afterschool at Middle School, Cup Cake a-licious at Mt View, Adult Cooking Class – Spring Fling at MOMS 4/15. New club for Russian speaking Seniors. New summer camps for basketball, gymnastics and arts and crafts, PEAK (special needs) to augment the Extended School Year program in July and August. *PEAK allows non-residents to participate. It is one of the few special needs recreation programs available.*
- Summer Green Fest at Vasa Park – *Jill explained briefly about this 2 day event (Aug 13-14). It is an expo to showcase, educate and provide “green” services, initiatives, etc. Booth spaces are available for free to service organizations/clubs that provide an activity or give-aways. Proceeds from the event will be donated to Recreation. First Press release has been sent out.*
- Possible trips: Longwood Gardens and Brandywine River Museum, May 1. We have 20 interested people, we need 30 for the trip to breakeven. Fall Broadway: 11/5 Sister Act, Wonderland. Winter trip: Trans-Siberian orchestra
- Other:

- **Old Business**

- Volunteer Opportunities: applications are on-line for Counselors-in-training (high school students)
- Beach: Beach Tags for 2011. Discount now through May 31. Programming, training, swim lessons, are almost finished being planned. American Red Cross is rolling out significant changes to CPR, First Aid and Lifeguarding certifications. *Starting this year, we will need to charge for beach admission. \$5 per person per day, or seasonal beach tags can be purchased. Pre-season discounts available now through May 31.*
- Resolution memorializing contributions by the groups using fields
- Silent Auction: May 13 at Sandshore School – Mary Gallagher (absent) – *item tabled since Mary wasn't present.*
- Fairy Festival: May 21 at Turkey Brook Park 10am - 2pm – *Jill explained a little about this fun new event. We have several activities lined up and are seeking sponsors. Unicorn & fairy cart rides, face painting, wing decorating, photo ops, fairy tea party, etc. Volunteers need for this event.*
- PowerWheels Race series 4/28-5/19 and new DTA Cup race on 5/21 3:30pm - 6:30pm – four town race. *Jill explained this activity that was new last year and we've added the DTA Cup where 10 teams from 3 other towns will compete with our 10 top teams. Sponsors and Volunteers needed for this event.*
- Other:

- **Committee meetings:**

- Park Development Committee meeting
- Mutual Facilities – May 4
- Sports Associations' Committee - May 4

- **Continuing Concerns**

- Suggestions for future programming, facilities, special events, Trips –
- Community Service recommendations for Spring/Summer
- Recommendations for Agenda – *please e-mail me!*

- **Special Events & Trips –**

- *3/26 Spiderman - 1 ticket left! Jersey Boys SOLD OUT*
- *TBA MOPD Fishing Derby*
- *4/8 Culinary Art Institute \$94 leaves Rockaway Mall at 7:25am returns 5pm*
- *4/10 Kiwanis Egg Hunt: 12pm Turkey Brook Park (rain date 4/17)*
- *4/16 Baseball Opening Day*
- *4/20 Bronx Zoo trip \$40 leaves ITC Walmart parking lot at 9am, returns by 7pm*
- *5/10 and 9/20 Yankees Games! \$42 Leaves ITC Walmart at 4:15pm*
- *Sept TBA San Gennaro Festival in Little Italy*
- *11/5 Fall Broadway trip (Sister Act, Wonderland)*

**Enclosures:**

RAC Minutes (blue)      RAC member contacts and calendar (Lilac)      Viridian Fundraising highlights (yellow)  
Summer Green Fest at Vasa Park (green)      Silent Auction letter (white)      Budd Lake Beach flyer (pink)  
Resolution 3/1/11 Memorializing sports associations' (that use fields) contributions (white)