

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Minutes JANUARY 14, 2015

Next Meeting: March 4, 2015 7pm

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

In Attendance: Amanda Fink, Brigitte Geiger, David Koptyra Jr, Frank DiPrimo, Louis Valdes, Noelle Kehrley, Alex Roman, Jim Lynch, Jill Daggon

Welcome new and reappointed members! Amanda Fink, Louis Valdes, David Koptyra, Frank Diprimo, Aaron Allen

Review member contact information: *members were asked to review the contact information on the green spreadsheet to make sure it is accurate.*

- **Committee Reports:**

- o Open Space: Jim Farley - *no report*
- o Parks, Buildings & Grounds: Jim Lynch:
 - o *Winter is usually the "slow time", prep time, etc. Jim explained the Budget process for operating and Capital. Budget hearings scheduled for Saturday 1/30.*
 - o *Has been speaking with the sports associations about facility capital requests. 2014 Tournaments brought over 350,000 visitors to Turkey Brook and other parks*
 - o *Buildings and Grounds maintains over 2000 acres, 5miles of trails, school sidewalks, library and other properties*
 - o *Renovations on the Old Baptist Church will continue in the spring with re-stucco-ing the exterior. The Seward Mansion at Turkey Brook Park will start when the church work is done. Current planned use includes offices upstairs and meeting rooms on the ground floor. Working with Morris County on funding and grants.*
 - o *The MORAC will be working on ideas for further developing TBP, for the June meeting.*
 - o *Ice Skating – at the irrigation pond, although getting up and down the slope is a challenge. A sign goes out in the parking lot saying "Skating Today" or "No Skating Today". Ice thickness is monitored. Maier's Pond is not available or accessible for skating or ice fishing. Budd Lake Beach no longer allows skating, although people go out from the canal and ice fish. There are ice rescue throw bag stations around these locations.*
 - o *Lou Nelson Park is a small park, in need of redevelopment. It is a high vandalism area – lots of graffiti. Playground and "bang board" removed. Only basketball court is left.*

New Business:

1. How MORAC can help the Recreation Dept – social media, brainstorming, volunteering for events, help with obtaining sponsors, finding ideas/providers for new programs – *Need to add twitter feed and other social media. Should generate a dialog on needs not a complaint forum.*
2. Special Events for 2015:
 - a. We need each committee member to volunteer for 2 events during the year and 1 day at the Mt. Olive Week Carnival.
 - i. For the events selected, MORAC member can help get volunteers and work with them on event day
 - ii. Help us find small businesses that would benefit from having a table/booth presence at our events
 - iii. Help us find other sponsors if you have the contacts
 - iv. Work with Laura leading up to event day with the above items, and planning the volunteer tasks
 - v. Promote the event through social media, friends, putting up posters or flyers, etc
 - b. List of events and volunteer needs (and flash mob events)
We reviewed the events and members are to contact Jill with which events they will help with (and recruit volunteers, work with them at the event)
3. Mayor's Wellness E-Newsletter: We need sponsors, advertisers and news – (blogs, other e-newsletters, website links, etc) for Health, (Nutrition, Preventing Childhood Obesity, Combating/preventing Diabetes, benefits of wellness visits, etc) Fitness, Environmental Wellness, Senior Wellness, Mental Health/Wellness, Financial Wellness, Quality of life. Issues come out 3rd Tuesday of each month.
4. Mount Olive Parks facebook page
5. Plans for 2015
 - a. Splashpad: *reviewed features and plans. Additional security cameras will be put up (MOBSA would like to be able to stream games – not available yet, but duly noted)*
 - b. Fishing pier at Budd Lake Beach
 - c. Show Mobile
 - d. Farmers' Market Committee
 - e. Parks improvements/changes
 - i. *Lighting project*
 - ii. *Perhaps purchase the field behind the Old Budd Lake School (BOE Building)*

- iii. Light TBP baseball field 2, back light fields 1 & 3 (single phase power) Once there is 3 phase power, maybe light the lacrosse field
- iv. Drakes Brook fields will be reseeded in the spring
- v. When fields are lit, the park hours can be extended to 10pm (they are controlled online and the sports groups have the ability to then them off)
- vi. New maintenance building at TBP is on the wish list.
- vii. Some trees have to be removed, but others from the tree bank will be planted, to act as a windbreak by the event area by the barn.
- viii. Dan Jordan fence project (grounding & bonding) will continue after the snow is gone
- ix. The former Marvel land farms area has space allotted for recreation purposes – maybe Rugby (rental fees?) Ashley's Farm was given permission to farm the acres that were going to be sports practice fields.

6. Trips (shared with other towns): Survey to go out early next week with possibilities

Old Business

- o Recreation's Monthly Reports for November & December
- o Emmet Brown Award went to Jim Lynch and John Geiger for Bonfire ring at TBP
- o Spring brochure – need art work by 2/13. .
- o Summer staff applications are being accepted starting next week. (on our website) and interviews will be scheduled. We are looking for a camp supervisor for Grades K-2 (preferably a teacher), 2 counselors and 3 CITs.
- o Camps are being planned and trips, as well as other summer programming – Destination Discovery – ideas for activities!
- o Sports Associations: Mutual Facilities & Sports Associations' meeting is being planned for January 28, 8am
- o Sports Ombudsman: Paul Licitra is planning a Sports Association Summit tentatively 2/23

• Other:

- Continuing Concerns

Suggestions for future programming, facilities, special events – *Dog Events?* (*Strut Your Mutt was canceled in 2014 because the weekend before was a similar event by a local church – we were unable to get sponsors, vendors or participants*)

- o Community Service recommendations for Spring- *Yard work for Seniors*
- o Recommendations for Agenda – *please e-mail me!*

Enclosures:

RAC Minutes (blue)
Special Events List

Meeting calendar 2015
Winter 2015 Brochure

Member contact info

Recreation Monthly Reports