

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
September 11, 2017
MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Morris at 7:32 p.m.

Reading of Adequate Notice by Chairman Morris.

ROLL CALL: Present: C/Morris, C/Simels, C/Adornetti, C/DeFelice
C/Peake, C/Skowronski, C/Russell, C/Aprile, C/Casale

Absent:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 10, 2017

C/Simels made a Motion to approve and C/Peake offered a Second.

Roll Call Vote:

Simels, Peake, Russell and Aprile vote yes to approve the minutes.

C/Skowronski abstained.

Dan Specht, Department of Public Works Coordinator attended the meeting to discuss the draft of the updated park ordinance. He is requesting some changes to the current ordinance with the construction of Millstone Park and recent incidents that have occurred within the township. Dan is looking for any comments or suggestions the Commission would like to express. Chairman Morris asked the members to review the packet and to submit any questions or changes to the secretary. The Commission thanked Dan for his attendance.

Chairman Morris opened the meeting to the public at 7:49 p.m.

Mr. Matthew Pless introduced himself as a representative on the basketball board. He would like to discuss the reason for the blind draft for the 2017 season. Chairman Morris reviewed the history and the reasons why they moved into the blind draft a few years ago. Mr. Leon Matchin also introduced himself as a representative on the basketball board. Last year he stated that the board moved back to the traditional draft for the 2016-17 season. His opinion is that it worked out really well and most coaches were supportive with the decision. His opinion is that it works better than the blind draft and that no system is perfect. Chairman Morris said the intention of the blind draft is to balance the teams. Mr. Pless noted with the regular draft he has the opportunity to choose the kids that he may have worked with in the past. Parents like to request coaches that work well with their kids. C/DeFelice noted that the biggest problem they have with the league is placing the wait-listed players. He also noted that most coaches prefer the regular draft, but policies need to be in place to help the distribution of players. Chairman Morris feels it's the responsibility of the Commission to standardize the process. C/Adornetti questioned how waitlisted players are placed on the teams. The secretary noted that the previous year the basketball board decided the placement of waitlisted players. C/ DeFelice noted that it did not work out last year with the placement of waitlisted players by the basketball board and some changes will need to

be made. C/Adornetti will discuss the process with C/DeFelice and the secretary to figure out a process that works for everyone. The Commission thanked both Mr. Pless and Mr. Matchin for attending.

Township Parks:

The Secretary attended a meeting at Millstone Park a couple weeks ago. The fields are almost prepped for seeding. The fields will need to be well established before permitted use. The secretary also received the quote for resurfacing the tennis court from the vendor and the Township Engineer. The Township Committee will need to decide the next steps. The secretary and DPW are currently getting quotes to have the basketball court power-washed.

Fall Soccer:

C/Simels spoke about the rotation of fields regarding MUTS. DPW met with Melissa regarding a couple fields that should be top-soiled and re-seeded this Fall. MUTS was unable to adhere to the request due to their game schedule. The secretary also noted that the field lining costs are much higher than originally budgeted. C/Simels and C/DeFelice noticed that currently more fields are being lined than needed. C/Peake noted that all programs have to adhere when a decision is made to rest a field.

Field Hockey:

The program has been slowly losing volunteers. The current volunteer discussed that the middle school girls will need more instruction than she could provide. C/Morris contacted a high school coach that provides instruction on the side. She agreed to provide an instruction based program for the middle school girls. The coach had a conflict with the original advertised day and after reaching out to the group, the majority was willing to move the day. The two girls that could not move were invited to attend on the original day. The program will be reviewed prior to next season for the needs of the program to provide a neutral budget.

Pop Warner:

C/Peake informed the secretary of the home games for the month of October. Recreation usually orders a dumpster the week of the first home game. Pop Warner said they could do without a dumpster if DPW wants to pick up the garbage after game day. The secretary was notified that Wagner was left in an unsightly manner. Pictures will be sent to C/Peake. Also received a couple complaints regarding the level of the loud speaker. C/Peake asked for DPW to place a flag at the field for the National Anthem.

Basketball:

C/DeFelice spoke about the loss of gyms during the recreation basketball season. A couple basketball board members went to a Board of Education meeting to speak regarding the loss. Dr. Huss was able to accommodate us with an additional 2 Saturdays. With the loss of gyms on games days it produces a domino effect for other programs looking for time. C/Adornetti stated that Warriors tryouts started this past weekend. They will have another tryout scheduled for next week.

Millstone Day:

C/Russell spoke with MRL and they would like to run the home run derby for Millstone Day. Chairman Morris has also offered to help and bring supplies as needed. Signs have been placed around town. Recreation will also offer a basketball and volleyball tournament. Currently at almost 40 vendors and are still receiving walk-ins. The township is requiring the Horsemen's Association to provide coverage for the Rodeo.

New Business:

C/Russell noted that there are tot swings missing from Rocky Brook. The secretary will look to order new replacements.

Seeing no new business, Chairman Morris asked for a Motion and a Second to adjourn the meeting. C/Simels made a Motion to Adjourn, C/Adornetti offered a Second, and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Peerboom