

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 14, 2019**

Chairman Morris opened the Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Reading of Adequate Notice by Chairman Morris

Roll Call: Present: Morris, Simels, Adornetti, Skowronski, Russell, Aprile, Casale, Kilcomons

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: December 3, 2018

C/Morris made a Motion to approve and C/Adornetti offered a Second. Roll Call Vote: Morris, Simels, Adornetti, Skowronski, Aprile, Kilcomons vote yes to approve the minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairman Morris opened the Public Comment portion of the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Anthony Italiano, MUTS Liaison to the Recreation Commission addressed the Commission. He noted that Fall Soccer went very well and the younger age groups saw a strong turnout. They received positive feedback from parents. MUTS and recreation will continue to work together to develop players and volunteer coaches. Anthony noted that MUTS spends a significant amount of money on outside gym time during the winter months.

Vinny Farina, Vice President of MUTS addressed the Commission. MUTS spends about 18K for outside training and gym time and another 18K for outside leagues during the winter. MUTS would prefer to spend that money on purchasing gym time in Millstone if that was an option. Chairman Morris noted that the goal is not to have recreation pay for gym time in Millstone. The issue is that there is limited gym time during the winter for the programs in season. The MPAC reservations that are made by larger dance companies requires gym space and that impacts the amount of time the BOE is able to offer to recreation programs. Offering to pay for gym time would not alleviate that situation since the MPAC still needs to generate revenue and dance company revenue could be lost by taking away the gym space. MUTS can also use Wagner as an option since the space is too small for basketball games.

Matt Pless, Vice President of Warriors addressed the Commission. Answers provided by the BOE to resident questions about the cost paid by dance companies for the gym time did not make sense in terms of the impact it has on children participating in Millstone recreation and travel programs. The BOE should refrain from offering gym space or focus on renting the MPAC during off-peak months where the impact on youth sports would be minimized. Renting out the Middle School gyms during the months of February and March put a strain on the basketball programs to run their games. Chairman Morris noted that we need to keep a positive relationship with the BOE regarding the use of their gym time. Recreation is not entitled to every minute of gym time. We have to be flexible. If we are getting 90 percent of the time that we are requesting, why is there a problem. Recreation still has the Primary and Elementary school gyms to use for basketball during those weeks that the Middle School gyms are unavailable.

Vinny Farina and Matt Pless asked if Sunday gym time can be secured if the cost of the custodial services were paid for by recreation programs even if it means raising the fees. Chairman Morris stated that

Recreation does not want to set a precedent of paying for gym time. We have made good progress with the amount of gym time we currently get and paying for additional time would be difficult.

Vinny Farina asked if Millstone Park would be ready to use in the Fall of 2019. MUTS is preparing their budget and needs to know if they need to budget for portable lights for the Middle School field. The fields at Millstone Park are also not graded well. Chairman Morris suggested that MUTS budget for lights since the condition of the fields at Millstone Park won't be known until mid Spring.

Vinny Farina addressed the commission about allowing travel soccer players to participate in recreation soccer for a reduced fee to help solve the issue of low turnout for the recreation program at the older age levels. The Commission will review this idea further.

Chairman Morris closed Public Comment at 8:19pm

Reorganization

Chairman - C/Adornetti made a motion to nominate Chris Morris as Chairman and C/Kilcomons offered a second. Roll Call Vote: Morris, Simels, Adornetti, Skowronski, Russell, Aprile, Casale, Kilcomons vote yes to elect C/Morris.

Vice Chairman - C/Morris made a motion to nominate Ken Simels as Vice Chairman and C/Adornetti offered a second. Roll Call Vote: Morris, Simels, Adornetti, Skowronski, Russell, Aprile, Casale, Kilcomons vote yes to elect C/Simels.

Treasurer - C/Simels made a motion to nominate Joe Adornetti as Treasurer and C/Morris offered a second. Roll Call Vote: : Morris, Simels, Adornetti, Skowronski, Russell, Aprile, Casale, Kilcomons vote yes to elect C/Adornetti.

Commission Meeting Dates - C/Morris made a motion to approve the regular monthly meeting schedule and C/Adornetti offered a second.

2/4, 3/4, 4/1, 5/6, 6/3, 7/1, 8/5, 9/9*, 10/7, 11/4, 12/2, & 1/6/2020

Roll Call Vote: Morris, Simels, Adornetti, Skowronski, Russell, Aprile, Casale, Kilcomons vote yes to adopt the regular monthly schedule to be held on the following dates in 2019 and the first meeting date in 2020 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Meeting Room located at 215 Millstone Road, Millstone Township, NJ. (*) Meetings to be held at 470 Stage Coach Road, Millstone Township, N. J. 08510

Liaison for Recreation Programs 2019:

Liaison for Adult Soccer, Volleyball, & Men's Basketball	C/Adornetti/ Morris
Liaison for Pop Warner Football & Cheerleading	C/Casale/Russell
Liaison for Fall & Spring Soccer	C/Simels/Morris
Liaison for Field Hockey	C/Skowronski/Kilcomons
Liaison for Basketball	C/Adornetti/Aprile
Liaison for Wrestling	C/Russell/Casale
Liaison for Lacrosse	C/Skowronski/Russell
Liaison for Tennis	C/Kilcomons/Adornetti
Liaison for Summer Recreation Camp	C/Morris/Simels

Liaison for Millstone Day
Liaison for Holiday Lighting
Liaison for Building & Grounds

C/Russell/Aprile
C/Casale/ Kilcomons
C/Aprile/Adornetti

Chairman Morris noted that the Alternate 2 position on the Commission is open and awaiting an appointment by the Township Liaison. Commission members should contact Secretary DeFelice and let him know the level of information and involvement needed for each program. All future agendas will list both the primary and secondary contact for each position.

Adult Programs – Adult soccer has its own insurance. The cost is \$510 for the year.

Pop Warner – A&M Redbirds set their budget for the upcoming year. The last 2 years they have paid their Pop Warner dues from their booster, but it should be a recreation expense. Recreation needs to sit down with the new board and clarify their budget items. Chairman Morris noted that Recreation should be responsible for Dues, Insurance, Uniforms, Paint, Referee fees and garbage pick up costs.

C/Kilcomons noted that New Egypt may be looking to send their players to A&M Redbirds program.

C/Morris noted that flag football is growing while contact football is declining. We should be looking to expand the flag football program.

Soccer – C/Simels discussed the idea of allowing travel players from MUTS to participate in the Recreation soccer program. The suggestion was to have MUTS players pay a reduced fee possibly the difference between the MUTS fee and Rec fee (\$15). Recreation has trouble forming teams for girls grades 3 through 8th and boys grade 5th through 8th. The commission will discuss at the next meeting.

Field Hockey – Secretary DeFelice noted that this program is slightly revenue negative with the recent increase in coaching fees and decrease in participation. The coach, Sarah Cummings has received very positive feedback from both the girls and parents. We will track the costs going forward since it is not out of line yet.

Basketball – The Primary school has a broken hoop. The BOE is waiting on a part to make the repair. As long as it is repaired within several days, it should not have a big impact on our program. C/Adornetti asked if the dance companies can move their dates to try and avoid peak season for recreation. C/Morris and C/Skowronski noted that the dance dates are set far in advance and their season coincides with our peak time. It would be impossible for the BOE to move dates without risking the loss of revenue.

Wrestling – C/Russell noted that wrestling has requested to pay referees directly and have the booster club reimbursed similar to the process used by Pop Warner. The commission agreed as long as there is no change in the costs.

Lacrosse – C/Skowronski noted that the Fall clinic went well. The late fees have begun. The numbers for 3rd/4th grade girls are very low. Only 5 currently and about 12 is needed. There are 43 total girls and 48 total boys registered. The team limit is 24. Secretary DeFelice reviewed the numbers for each age group from this year and last year. 7th/8th grade boys are also down from last year. C/Skowronski noted that the Lacrosse board was selected and the tournament schedule is confirmed. The training at Sportika is optional and was noted on the registration form.

Tennis – No info. We currently do not have a tennis program.

Summer Camp – C/Morris noted that Recreation met with Jason Miller. The dates for camp are July 1st 2019 through August 2nd, 2019. The revenue reduction in last year's numbers are due to a decrease in registrations and an increase in trip costs. The trips are being evaluated to do a better job of pricing them. The bus bid will be evaluated to see if a reduction in the number of bus days can be achieved.

Millstone Day – Secretary DeFelice will reach out to JR at Frogbridge to discuss possible dates.

Holiday Lighting – Nothing to discuss

Millstone Park – C/Morris noted that Millstone Park was discussed during the public portion. There is a possibility that the park will not be ready for field activity by the Fall of 2019.

Code of Conduct – C/Adornetti reviewed the changes in the Sports Code of Conduct presented to the Commission. The changes are meant to allow for addressing minor violations in the Code without requiring Anger Management classes. The Code creates a Code of Conduct Committee consisting of 5 people. The Commission should create this committee since it is specified currently. It was suggested to have a yearly appointment with an alternate for any commissioner that needs to recuse themselves. C/Skowronski asked for clarification on when a commissioner would need to recuse themselves. It was agreed that a commissioner would need to recuse themselves if they were serving on the code of conduct committee and the violation being discussed dealt with a program that they are involved in. The alternate would fill that position. The Code of Conduct currently listed for all recreation registrations has not undergone any changes. C/Adornetti noted that a change was made requiring officials to notify the Code of Conduct Committee of all violations. C/Morris suggested that the Recreation Commission should review violations first before going to the Code of Conduct Committee. It was decided that the following escalation process should be implemented:

- Recreation Coordinator and Commissioner Liaison
- Recreation Commission
- Code of Conduct Committee
- Township Committee

Wording was changed to make anger management classes an option rather than an automatic requirement. The Recreation Commission was asked to review the suggested changes and notify C/Adornetti of any other changes. The changes will be presented to the Township Committee for their review.

C/Morris inquired about the background check status and asked for an update at the next meeting.

Seeing no further business, C/Adornetti made a Motion to Adjourn and C/Kilcomons offered a second. The Meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew DeFelice