

## **PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS**

**February 23, 2017**

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on February 23, 2017, in the Princeton Recreation Department (PRD) lower level Conference Room, 380 Witherspoon Street.

**Present:** Ms. Germaine, Ms. Butler, Dr. Cahill, Mr. Koontz, Dr. Nosker, Ms. Rogers, Dr. Frawley, Mr. Burt  
**Also Present:** Mr. Stentz, Mr. Moorhead, Mr. Marroli and Mr. Groeger  
**Absent:** Mr. Young, Ms. Griffin and Mr. Zapata

### **Public Comment**

Princeton Little League (PLL) Board Members Jon Durbin and Jeff Bergman: Mr. Durbin and Mr. Bergman spoke about proposed seasonal field use fees being considered by the Commission, an item that was not on the 2/23/17 Commission agenda. Mr. Durbin had previously met in person with the Commission subcommittee, which includes Asst. Recreation Director Evan Moorhead, Commission Chair Dr. Matt Frawley and Commissioner Darius Young, to discuss the proposed fee structure. Mr. Durbin made the following points:

- PLL and Princeton Recreation (PRD) have developed a good relationship over the past 10+ years, through which the two organizations cost-share on projects that are mutually agreed upon to be beneficial to the youth baseball program and facilities. Mr. Durbin stated that this has been a voluntary relationship and that PLL is less enthusiastic about the relationship becoming an involuntary, or mandated relationship. Mr. Durbin notes three (3) primary issues that the PLL Board members have, both as Board members and as citizens of the community:
  1. Basic usage of and maintenance of the baseball fields by PLL should be covered by the taxes that residents are paying. PLL Board sees the proposed usage fees as a service fee increase or a tax increase.
  2. PLL Board is concerned that the proposed usage fees is a slippery slope and that, if approved, the Commission may continue to come back to youth sport groups on an annual basis and request an increasing amount of funding.
  3. Timing of proposal is not good for PLL as the PLL Board is already facing rising operating costs and working very hard to keep their registration fees as low as possible.
- Mr. Bergman read an email from Post 218 American Legion Manager, Tommy Parker, expressing Mr. Parker's opposition to field usage fees, citing that fees could reduce the number of potential players for the American Legion program.
- Mr. Durbin shared a document summarizing past capital projects funded (in part or completely) by PLL.

Discussion was held and Mr. Stentz thanked Mr. Durbin and Mr. Bergman for providing constructive comments and feedback regarding the proposal. The subcommittee will continue to work on the proposal and continue to seek feedback and comments from all partner sport groups.

### **Activities Report**

- **Dillon Youth Basketball:** Mr. Groeger reported that skills clinics have been ongoing throughout the winter and weeknight practices ran through the week of 2/20/17. Final regular season games are Saturday 2/25/17. Mr. Marroli mentioned that there have also been two (2) skills clinics hosted by the Princeton University Men's and Women's Basketball teams. In addition, there are two (2) 'Dillon Basketball Nights' coming up at Jadwin Gym as part of Princeton University home

basketball games. Dillon participants receive free admission, a free snack, and a chance to play at halftime at the Women's Basketball game on 2/24/17.

- **Youth Squash Clinic:** The youth squash clinic will have its final session on 3/5/17 at Jadwin Gym. 20 participants are registered for the clinic, which is the maximum registration.
- **Special Needs Dance:** Mr. Marroli reported the last Special Needs dance was held 2/10/17 at John Witherspoon Middle School (JW). 77 participants attended the dance. The next dance will take place on 3/24/17 at JW at 7 pm.
- **Men's Platform Tennis Leagues:** Mr. Marroli reported both Men's Platform Tennis leagues have started their end of season playoffs.
- **Community Trips:** Mr. Stentz reported that there are two (2) community bus trips scheduled for spring 2017. The Philadelphia Flower Show trip will take place on 3/14/17 and a new trip has been added for May 2017 to participate in the Philadelphia Mural Tour.
- **Sharing Facilities with PPS:** On 1/19/17, Princeton Public Schools inquired about using Smoyer Park (for Varsity) and Hilltop Park (for JV) as their full-time home fields for spring 2017 baseball season. In addition, they inquired about the availability of field space at Smoyer Park for their girls' freshman lacrosse team. PPS Interim Athletic Director Brian Dzbenski expressed concern about the condition of the Valley Road baseball field. PRD expressed a willingness to consider this possibility, within parameters that would be set by PRD, and responded accordingly via email. As of 2/23/17 we have received no response from PPS.
- **Princeton Public School Summer Transportation to PRD camps:** Mr. Moorhead reported that he and Mr. Groeger met with PPS officials in August 2016 to discuss concerns about keeping track of which PPS summer-school students are being dropped off mid-day to PRD camps. PRD desires a more thorough way to know which students were present at summer-school so that we can be sure each day which students we should expect to receive at camp. The August 2016 meeting prompted a commitment to meet again this winter to discuss summer 2017. The lead PPS representative was Assistant Superintendent Bonnie Lehet, who has since retired. Mr. Groeger has reached out to PPS to inquire about continuing this discussion.

### Director's Report

- **Annual Reorganization Process:** At the request of Mr. Koontz, Mr. Stentz sought clarification regarding the Commission's annual reorganization process and whether it should take place at the end of each year (December) or at the beginning of each year (January). Princeton Clerk confirms that reorganization should take place in January of each calendar year.
- **Financial Assistance Partnerships:** Mr. Stentz reported that there is a movement to consolidate many of the individual, school-based fundraising efforts among the four elementary schools. Mr. Stentz supports this concept, but is seeking additional feedback about how this might operate. *Discussion was held.*
- **Seasonal Job Postings:** Employment opportunities are currently available for camp counselors, lifeguards, sports programs, customer service and other seasonal positions. PRD expects to hire 180 +/- seasonal employees between 2/1/17 and 5/1/17.
- **2017 Spring/Summer Registration:** Registration for 2017 spring and summer programs began 2/20/17 and is ongoing.
- **Mary Moss Playground (MMP) Project Update:** Mr. Stentz reported that 90% complete construction documents have been received from The RBA Group, Inc. The Princeton Engineering Department is reviewing the documents currently and will be responding to RBA with questions, requests for additional detail and to seek clarification. The construction documents are being hand-delivered to the Mercer County Planning Division for their review as part of the inter-local services agreement that is in place between Princeton and Mercer County. Once the

construction documents are approved by Mercer County, Princeton will move to publicly bid the construction of MMP. Mr. Stentz also reports that he will be reconvening the MMP subcommittee to review select topics as well as inviting Princeton residents Leighton Newlin and Shirley Satterfield to meet with the subcommittee to review their work regarding historical signage concepts.

### Old Business

- Revolving Trust Reserve Request:
- Mr. Stentz reported that the CP Pool filters need routine materials and equipment replacement as part of a normal 4-6 year schedule, including gaskets, o-rings, septums and a small quantity of 'socks' for the septum. The total cost is \$8,028. *Discussion was held.*
  - *Dr. Nosker made a motion to approve the purchase of detailed equipment/parts for filter maintenance, seconded by Mr. Koontz, and approved.*
- Tier 3 and 4 field and facility rental fees and priority structure:
- Mr. Moorhead reported on the proposed updated fee structure for residents/resident organizations (Tier 3) and non-resident groups (Tier 4). The proposed fees cover rental of field and facility (picnic sites), as well as usage of the Hilltop lights. These fees do not pertain to our partners, such as Princeton Public Schools and our partner youth sports organizations. Mr. Moorhead reported that fields/facilities will only be made available for rental to Tier 3 & Tier 4 groups if they are not reserved for use by Tier 1 or Tier 2 groups.
  - *Ms. Butler made a motion to approve the fee schedule and priority guidelines for Tiers 3 and 4, seconded by Ms. Germaine, and approved.*

### New Business

- Concession services for CP Pool for 2017:
  - *Mr. Koontz made a motion to award the concession contract to R & K's Poolside Grill, Inc., seconded by Ms. Butler, and approved.*
- Pool chemicals supply for CP Pool for 2017:
  - *Mr. Burt made a motion to award the chemical supply contract to Buckman's, seconded by Ms. Rogers, and approved.*
- New Program for 2017 (Lifeguard Re-certification Course):
  - *Ms. Germaine made a motion to approve the Lifeguard Recertification Course for 2017, seconded by Dr. Nosker, and approved.*
- Rental Request: Soccer Shots
  - *Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the facility rental request of Soccer Shots, Inc. for 2017, seconded by Dr. Cahill, and approved.*

### Approval of Minutes

- *Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the January 2017 Commission minutes, seconded by Mr. Burt, and approved. Ms. Butler, Dr. Cahill and Ms. Germaine abstained.*

### Approval of Bills

- *Ms. Butler made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Ms. Germaine, and approved.*

**Next Meeting Date**

March 23, 2017

**Adjournment**