

PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

May 25, 2017

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on May 25, 2017 in the Princeton Recreation Department (PRD) lower level Conference Room, 380 Witherspoon Street.

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

Public Comment

- No Public Comment

Activities Report

- **Special Needs Formal:** Mr. Groeger reported that the Special Needs Formal took place on 5/5/17 at the Suzanne Patterson Center. There were 73 participants. The Special Needs BBQ will take place on Friday 6/2/17 from 6:30-9 pm at CP Pool.
- **Day Camp Staff Orientation:** Mr. Groeger reported that staff orientation will take place on Saturday, June 10. Discussion was held.
- **Spring Youth Sports Season:** Mr. Moorhead reported that the spring season will be winding down in early to mid-June. Princeton will be hosting the Little League 50/70 District Tournament at Farmview in late June. For the last 4-5 years, Princeton has hosted either the sectionals, districts and/or state finals of the 50/70 tournament.
- **Lifeguard Orientation:** Mr. Moorhead reported that lifeguard orientation took place on Monday, May 22 in the Community Room at 400 Witherspoon. In-Service Training was held on Wednesday, May 24 at CP Pool from 5-7:30 pm and there will be another in-service training prior to opening this Saturday, May 27 from 8:30 – 11 am. After a late rush of applicants, Mr. Moorhead reported that the lifeguard staff is now at full strength (70-75).
- **Men's Summer Basketball League:** Mr. Moorhead reported that there has been difficulty in securing commitments from teams for our men's league this summer. Over the course of the last several years, the number of teams has hovered between 8 and 10. However, as of today, the number of teams committed for 2017 is at 5. Several longstanding teams in the league informed Mr. Moorhead that they would not be returning this summer. Mr. Moorhead has been reaching out to previous players, current players and the coaching staffs at local colleges, as well as advertising in local newspapers and on social media to solicit new teams. Mr. Moorhead is pushing the start of the season back in order to give some of the uncommitted groups a chance to pull together a roster and sponsor. *Discussion was held.*
- **Lap Swimmer Request:** Mr. Moorhead reported that he was contacted by Dan Fabrizio (West Windsor resident), who is currently enrolled in the spring session of Master Swim at DeNunzio Pool. Mr. Fabrizio has inquired as to whether he could register for the summer PAM session at CP Pool but swim laps in the evening instead of during the designated morning time (5:45-7:30am). Due to his work schedule, Mr. Fabrizio indicated that he cannot make it to PAM at the designated summer hours. Mr. Moorhead reiterated to Mr. Fabrizio the Commission has held firm in the past to not making exceptions to the pool fees/policy based on the specific circumstances of individual requests. Mr. Moorhead reminded the commission that Mr. Fabrizio attended the March 2016 meeting to inquire about the possibility of a special twilight admission rate. Mr. Fabrizio stated during that visit that at times in the past, he had been allowed to swim free of charge when arriving at the pool complex after 7pm. Mr. Fabrizio was told at that time that all visitors to the

complex must pay the appropriate admission fee, regardless of what time they enter the complex or how long they swim. *Discussion was held.*

Director's Report

- **CP Pool Incident:** Mr. Stentz was notified today that the family of the young man that passed away on August 20, 2016 at CP Pool has filed a lawsuit against the municipality.
- **CP Pool Update:** CP Pool will be open from 11am – 8pm this weekend and the following two weekends prior to opening full-time on Wednesday, June 14. The Rec Office will be open from 10:30am-6pm the first 3 weekends, as well, in order to process walk-in pool membership registrations. Mr. Stentz stated that the maintenance staff has nearly completed all preparations for opening the facility and reminded the Commission that preparations for the upcoming season have been ongoing from the time we winterized the pools last October.
- **CP Pool Repairs Update:** Mr. Stentz reported that several unexpected repairs became necessary during the start-up phase this spring. The list of repairs included the motor at the Baby Pool which was burned out and multiple electrical issues that were brought to our attention during the bonding and grounding inspection that took place this April. NJ State code requires that the bonding and grounding certification be renewed every 5 years by a licensed electrician and the most recent certification at CP Pool took place prior to the grand opening in 2012. Mr. Stentz stated that the staff is considering whether we should proactively have this inspection done more frequently as the wear and tear of the facility (vibration) and the corrosion caused by chlorine and water over time will likely necessitate future repairs of this type. *Discussion was held.*
- **CP Pool Tree Issues:** The Town Arborist, Lorraine Konopka, recently assessed the condition of the Willow Tree (behind the slide) at CP Pool. Ms. Konopka has concerns about the future of the Willow Tree and has assigned the town's tree crew to remove some limbs from that tree in the near future. Her hope is that the reduced weight will improve that tree's long term prospects. In addition, this tree will need to be treated for a carpenter ant infestation. Ms. Konopka was pleased to hear that the Recreation Department has proactively had the Ash tree (back corner of facility) treated for protection from Emerald Ash Borer by Woodwinds over the course of the past several years. *Discussion was held.*
- **Modified Swim Test:** Mr. Stentz reported that he is working with colleagues around the state to develop a swim test for special needs pool patrons. The group is looking at ways to modify both the environment, as well as the verbal commands that are given to the swimmer, while not sacrificing the evaluation of the swimmer's skills or compromise safety. *Discussion was held.*
- **Lead Testing:** Mr. Stentz reported that the results from the recent testing of all park water fountains came back and that the lead levels at all water fountains were below the state threshold that determines what is safe and acceptable. There were several fountains that had small amounts of lead detected but all were still within the safe range. *Discussion was held.*
- **Blue Curtain Concert Series:** Ms. Caines is working with Steve Allen from Blue Curtain to bring concerts to the CP North Amphitheater again this summer. The specific schedule and list of artists has not been finalized yet.
- **Financial Aid Update:** Mr. Stentz reported on the FA process and the coordination with the various volunteer groups at each elementary school that provide financial assistance to their students for summer recreation programming. Mr. Stentz stated that while all of the groups involved have the best of intentions, the administrative burden of managing the FA program with all of the numerous stake holders has become an administrative challenge. All of the groups involved have committed to meeting this fall to discuss ways to improve the process. *Discussion was held.*

- **CP Pool Registration Update.** As of today, there are approx. 3,500 pool members registered. Mr. Stentz reported that last year on this date the total was approximately 3,900. The cool, wet weather this spring is seen as one reason for the slow start. The Recreation office stayed open until 7pm on Tuesday, 5/23/17 and Thursday, 5/25/17 to process membership requests.
- **Day Camp Summer Lunch Program:** Mr. Stentz reported that in the first year of the Day Camp lunch program (2013), there were 163 weeks registered for the program. This year registration is currently at 450 weeks. Mr. Stentz is worried that the growth and scope of the program could potentially scare off future pool concessionaires. The current concessionaires have willingly accommodated the expansion of the program but it has added a significant amount of work to their day. *Discussion was held.*
- **Grover Park Vandalism:** Mr. Stentz reported that we continue to have a problem with graffiti at Grover Park. There have also been several instances of break-ins at the snack shed. *Discussion was held.*
- **Day Camp Update:** Mr. Stentz reported that Mr. Groeger has been spending a lot of time recently with incoming Day Camp Director Steve DiGregorio to prepare him for his new role this summer. Mr. Stentz is excited about having Mr. DiGregorio on staff and believes he will do an outstanding job.
- **Program Supervisor Job Search:** Mr. Stentz reported that approximately 30 applications were received for the open Program Supervisor position. Eight (8) applicants were interviewed this week by Mr. Stentz, Mr. Moorhead, Ms. Caines and an HR representative. Four of those eight individuals will be brought back for a second interview during the week of May 29. Mr. Stentz hopes to recommend a candidate for hire during the week of June 5 with the candidate joining the staff by the end of June. *Discussion was held.*

Old Business

- **CP South Soccer Goals:** Ms. Butler inquired as to when the soccer goals at CP South will be unlocked for public use. Mr. Moorhead stated that the goals have traditionally been locked during the spring season when the fields are used primarily for organized baseball/softball use. This is done in order to avoid potential conflict by groups competing for field space, as well as to avoid non-soccer groups having to move the goals out of the way once they are left on the playing field. Moving those goals can be quite cumbersome and once they are unlocked, the staff has no control over their use and placement. Mr. Stentz informed the Commission that the request to unlock the goals was received six weeks earlier this year (mid- April) than last year (late June) and that the staff plans to unlock the goals in early to mid-June as we have done in previous years. Mr. Stentz also reminded the Commission that there is no limitation on informal use of the field space by pick-up soccer or any other group. *Discussion was held.*
- **Mary Moss Park Update:** Mr. Stentz reported that we have still not received the final design documents from RBA Group. We've been told that we will have them by the end of the day on Friday, May 26. RBA has reported delays in dealing with NJ American Water on certain aspects of the design. Once the final design plans are received, the town's Engineering Department will review the documents and then include them into the bid package. Arrangements have been made with Princeton Nursery School, the major user of MMP in past years, to come to the wading pool at CP this summer. *Discussion was held.*

New Business

No New Business

Communications

Included in Agenda Packet

Approval of Minutes

- *Dr. Nosker made a motion to approve the April 2017 Commission minutes, seconded by Ms. Germaine and approved. Ms. Butler abstained.*

Approval of Bills

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

Next Meeting Date

June 22, 2017

Adjournment