

PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

July 27, 2017

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on July 27, 2017 in the Princeton Recreation Department (PRD) lower level Conference Room, 380 Witherspoon Street.

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

Mr. Stentz introduced Nicole Paulucci, the Recreation Department's new Program Supervisor.

Public Comment

- No Public Comment

Activities Report

- In addition to below, activity report information was included in the 7/27/17 agenda packet.
- **Summer Day Camp:** Mr. Groeger reported that Day Camp session # 1 included 252 registered campers. Mr. Groeger praised our new Camp Director Mr. Steve DiGregorio for his hard work to date. Session # 2 is going well so far with 248 campers registered. Mr. Groeger reported 138 day campers participated in swim lessons in session # 1.
- **Youth Basketball:** Mr. Groeger reported that the Girl's League concludes on 7/27/17, the Boy's junior division ended on 7/24/17, and the Boy's senior division ended on 7/26/17.
- **Lifeguard Certification Course:** PRD will be running this certification class in early August for the 4th summer in a row. We have added a second Red Cross-certified instructor to our staff, Mr. Joe Vazquez. This allows us to expand the certification course and offer it to as many as 20 registrants. We have already registered 20 participants.
- **Princeton Area Master Swim (PAM):** Mr. Moorhead is working with PAM to coordinate the re-certification of their lifeguards for fall/winter/spring PAM swimming at DeNunzio Pool. This re-certification will also be taught by Mr. Vazquez and PRD's Aquatic Director, Mike Uchrin. Having our own "in-house" lifeguards gets us a preferred rental rate at DeNunzio Pool.
- **Men's Summer Basketball League:** Mr. Moorhead reported that the Men's Summer Basketball concluded its 29th season on 7/26/17. Mr. Moorhead reported that the league was very competitive this summer and was pleased that so many community members attended the games on a regular basis.
- **Facility Update:**
 - Princeton hosted the 50/70 District baseball playoffs at Farmview Fields in late June 2017.
 - Mr. Moorhead received a facility request from The Princeton Soccer Association (PSA) regarding a large, multi-facility soccer tournament that they would like to host in Princeton on November 18-19, 2017. This event would include use of municipal fields, public schools fields, and private school fields. PSA has also been in touch with Princeton Police Department regarding parking for such an event. Mr. Moorhead will work with all parties and continue discussing the event.
- **Teen Travel Camp:** Ms. Paulucci reported that Teen Travel Camp is currently in week # 6 of 8, which will include the overnight trip to Williamsburg, VA.

- **PASDA Swim Championships:** Ms. Paulucci reported that PRD/CP hosted the PASDA Swim Championships on July 24/25 and that the event went well and was very well attended.

Director's Report

- Mr. Stentz shared his appreciation for the Recreation Staff's commitment during the 12-14 week period of the year when the programming workload is at its heaviest. Mr. Stentz reported that the staff is regularly at work early for programs and the pool, staying late into the evening for programs, and working both days of the weekend for the pool.
- **New Employee Update:** Mr. Stentz reported on three (3) new employees that began with the department this year who have played critical roles in the departmental operation.
 - **Vikki Rueda, Bi-lingual Summer Secretary (seasonal):** Vikki was promoted from CP Customer Service to replace a 10-year seasonal staffer (Barbara Lee) as our summer secretary in the main office. Vikki graduated from high school in spring 2017 and will be starting college at Ursinus College in fall 2017. Vikki exceeded any expectations that we had for such a young person in this role and quickly became someone we relied on heavily. Vikki Caines oversaw the search for this position and chose Vikki Rueda.
 - **Steve DiGregorio, Day Camp Director (seasonal):** Steve was hired in spring 2017 to fill a critical vacancy for Day Camp Director. Mr. Stentz has been extremely impressed with Mr. DiGregorio's work so far. Mr. Stentz thanked Mr. Groeger for leading the process to find our next Day Camp Director and for working so tirelessly to assist Mr. DiGregorio in his transition into the program.
 - **Nicole Paulucci, FT Program Supervisor:** Nicole emerged from a field of 30+ qualified candidates for the position and the REC Staff has immediately been impressed with her enthusiasm, willingness to listen & learn, and 'can-do' attitude.
- **Registration Update:** Day Camp attendance has increased almost 17% for summer 2017.
- **Financial Aid Update:** The PRD financial aid program, in partnership with many other local organizations, continues to do outreach into the community. Councilwoman Butler has asked Mr. Stentz to present a financial aid summary/overview to Princeton Council later this summer and Mr. Stentz is planning to do that as soon as the data can be finalized.
- **PASDA Swim Championships:** We hosted this event for the 2nd year in a row and had a wonderful event. The CP Bluefish won the championships for the 3rd year in a row. Mr. Stentz commented that parking is a big challenge for this event. Mr. Stentz thanked Ms. Caines and Ms. Paulucci for coordinating this event.
- **CP Pool fees versus Neighboring Towns:** Mr. Stentz distributed a comparison of pool membership fees that includes CP Pool and many neighboring towns/facilities. The last time that CP Pool fees were increased was for summer 2012, in line with the opening of the renovated CP Pool. Mr. Stentz noted that CP Pool fees continue to be lower than all neighboring towns/facilities.
- **NJ Recreation & Parks Association (NJRPA):** Mr. Moorhead was recently named the Chair of District 6 (Mercer & Burlington Counties) of NJRPA. These duties include organizing ongoing continuing education programs for NJRPA members and being a member-at-large of the NJRPA Executive Board.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Community Night Out: Tuesday, August 1st at CP Pool from 5-8 pm.
 - Travel Camp overnight trip: Wednesday – Friday, August 2-4 to Williamsburg, VA
 - Kids Aquathon: Sunday, August 20 at 8 am
 - CP Pool extended season dates: September 9 & 10, 2017

Old Business

- **Mary Moss Park Update:** Based on feedback from the Commission at the June 2017 meeting, Mr. Stentz met again with Administration and Engineering Departments regarding the bid/construction timeline. Based on that meeting, it was agreed that public bid on construction would take place in fall 2017 with language in the bid documents that states construction is to begin ASAP after 1/1/18, with non-weather dependent work beginning immediately after the contract is awarded. In addition, the utility upgrades needed via NJ American Water will happen before the contract is awarded. *Discussion was held regarding the Mary Moss project as well as about Mercer At-Play round # 2.*
 - It was suggested by Mr. Koontz that the Commission needs to begin thinking about what project to put forward for Mercer At-Play round # 2, so that we are ready to move forward once MMP project is completed. At a previous Commission meeting, a subcommittee was established to lead the discussion and research new projects. That subcommittee consists of Mr. Moorhead, Dr. Nosker, and Mr. Young.
- Dr. Cahill requested that the Commission review the Princeton Public Schools (PPS) Demographer's Report as a planning tool for future Recreation Department operations.
- Dr. Cahill commented that the Department/Commission should consider starting to build some traditions at CP Pool connected to opening day and the last day of each season.
- Dr. Cahill suggested that, building off of the success of Blue Curtain concerts, an expansion of the CP North amphitheater offerings be considered. *Discussion was held.*

New Business

No New Business

Communications

Included in Agenda Packet

Approval of Minutes

- *Minutes were not ready for review as of this meeting*

Approval of Bills

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

Next Meeting Date

August 24, 2017

Adjournment