

PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on February 23, 2023, in the Princeton Community Room, 400 Witherspoon Street.

- Present: Mr. Koontz, Dr. Nosker, Dr. Cahill, Ms. Germaine, Ms. Rogers, & Mr. Burt
- Also Present: Mr. Moorhead, Mr. Patrick, Ms. Wang & Mr. Marrolli
- Absent: Mr. Young, Dr. Frawley, Ms. Pirone Lambros & Mr. Petrucelli

Adequate Notice

Public Comment

None

Corner House Student Board

- Ms. Wang stated that Corner House held its annual trivia night – in January – at Maman. Also, the annual open mic night event is scheduled for 2/24/23 at Small World Coffee.

Activities Report

In addition to the activities in the agenda packet, Mr. Marrolli reported on the following:

- **Day Camp:** Mr. Marrolli stated that twelve interviews were set up for the following week (1 group supervisor and 11 counselors). The Day Camp Director has been identified, and an offer has been extended. Dr. Nosker asked how many Day Camp staff would be needed. Mr. Marrolli responded that it would depend on registration, and that the enrollment figures would dictate how many staff would be needed. Traditionally, the total number of staff has been between 25-30. Mr. Moorhead followed up by saying that he was satisfied with the current registration figures for the camp, and that potential interviewees may be slow to apply for counselor positions. Mr. Moorhead continued by stating that Mr. Marrolli, Mr. Petrucelli and Mr. Patrick were continuing to get the word out about job opportunities, through the schools, social media, press releases, contacts with other organizations, etc. Mr. Burt later asked if the camp had a CIT program. Mr. Moorhead responded that the Department was not advertising it, because of the tall order of rebuilding the staff, specifically paid staff, for Camp. *Discussion was held.*
- **Seasonal Maintenance:** 2 part-time, seasonal maintenance offers were extended, and the individuals will likely start on 3/6/23.
- **Adaptive Programming:**
 - A basketball clinic with Amazing Athletes was held at Johnson Park Elementary on 2/9/23. 9 participants took part in the program. Further programming with Amazing Athletes will be explored in the future.
 - Both Kids and Teens/Adults Adaptive Yoga will be wrapping up at the end of the week, and the next sessions of those programs are set to begin in mid-March. Dr. Nosker asked what the schools were needed for. Mr. Marrolli responded that they were necessary for securing facility usage, and that we were just waiting for the school district to approve the permit to utilize Johnson Park Elementary for the Kids Yoga Program.

- **Adult Fitness Classes:** The Department is investigating the possibility of resuming adult fitness programming at the Suzanne Patterson Building.

In addition to the activities in the agenda packet, Mr. Moorhead reported on the following:

- **Dillon Youth Basketball Update:** Mr. Moorhead stated that the boys' playoffs would start the upcoming week for the league, and that the girls' playoffs would begin the following week.

Director's Report

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following:

- **Staffing Update:** Evan Patrick was hired to fill the vacant Program Supervisor position. With Vikki Caines retiring in May, a position has also been posted to fill her role with a new title as Recreation Assistant, rather than Administrative Assistant. The title was tweaked to attract candidates who want to get into community recreation from the ground up. There will still be front office and administrative duties, as well as programming and event opportunities. *Discussion was held.*
- **Mercer-at-Play Project:** Mr. Moorhead and Mr. Koontz attended the County Commissioners Meeting in Trenton, where the grant funding for the project was approved. Contracts could now be sent to Council for final approval. Following that step, the purchasing of playground equipment, the batting cage materials and scheduling of the contractors will commence. Ms. Germaine asked when the Commission could expect the new playground to open to the public. Mr. Moorhead responded that it would depend on when the playground equipment could be delivered as well as the availability of the contractor. Mr. Moorhead stated that he should have more information on this project for the March meeting. *Discussion was held.*
- **CP South Design Project:** A kickoff meeting with the project consultants was held on 2/7/23 with the CP South Design Steering Committee. The goal of the meeting was to hash out the project expectations, project timeline, housekeeping items, involvement of stake holder groups, public meeting schedule, as well as other items. Mr. Moorhead believes that the meeting went well. The next steering committee meeting is scheduled for 3/21/23, with the first public engagement meeting slated for 3/30/23 in the Municipal Building. The public engagement meeting will be in an "open house" format from 4-7pm. The Municipality's Engineering Department will be working with the consultants to get a webpage set up for the project as well. Mr. Burt asked Mr. Moorhead who the stakeholder groups were that would be consulted about the CP South project. Mr. Moorhead responded that these would include Princeton Tennis Program, Princeton Little League, Princeton Public Schools, Princeton Dog Park Alliance, Sustainable Princeton and various other stakeholder groups that use CP South. *Discussion was held.*
- **Pickleball Update –** Mr. Moorhead stated that he received an email from Gina Pileggi, who is the President of Princeton Tennis Program. She intimated that PTP is not interested in taking pickleball under their umbrella of programming. The subcommittee of Mr. Moorhead, Mr. Koontz, Dr. Nosker and Dr. Cahill will meet about pickleball for the current season and then share any further information with the Commission about the pickleball/PTP dynamic. *Discussion was held.*
- **Dog Park Update –** Mr. Moorhead stated that the dog park seemed to be getting a lot of usage, mostly in the evenings and on weekends. There have been concerns about the number of off-leash dogs in the park following the establishment of the dog park. *Discussion was held.*

- **NJRPA Conference** – The Recreation Department staff will be attending the New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association conference in Atlantic City from March 12th – 14th.
- **Chlorine Proposal for CP Pool** – The chlorine delivery to CP Pool has had to go back out to bid after the projected cost went over the bid threshold. Mr. Moorhead stated that the price of chlorine per gallon has held steady over the years at around \$1.50/gallon. The new projected cost of chlorine will be going up to around \$3.15/gallon. Mr. Moorhead hopes to have the bid documents prepared by the next Commission meeting on 3/23/23.

Old Business

No Old Business.

New Business

- 2023 Program & Membership Fees:** Due to the increase in the cost of chlorine, minimum wage hikes, increased material costs generally, etc. the rates for programming – in 2023 – are going up across the board. Most program fees are going to go up by around 4 - 5%. Pool memberships are slightly higher since there are substantial increases to the cost of pool materials (chlorine), as well as staffing. On the topic of Day Camp, Dr. Cahill stated that she thought that the fees were too low. *Discussion was held.* There is a consensus that rates should be increased for Day Camp. The weekly resident rate would be \$200, while the weekly non-resident rate would be \$300. Early bird pricing would be adjusted accordingly. *Discussion was held.* **Ms. Germaine made a motion to approve the 2023 program fees, as amended, seconded by Ms. Rogers and approved.**
- CP Pool Concession Contract:** Mr. Moorhead stated that the concession contract was vetted by the Municipality's legal counsel, and the recommendation was to roll over the contract with the current concessionaire for this summer. Dr. Nosker asked if there were any kickbacks on profits to the Municipality/Department associated with the contract. Mr. Moorhead responded that there is not, but there is a fixed rent amount that the concessionaire will be paying to the Municipality/Department for operating the concession stand at the Pool. *Discussion was held.* **Dr. Nosker made a motion to approve the CP Pool concession contract, seconded by Mr. Burt, and approved.**

Communications

Communications were shared in the agenda packet.

Approval of Minutes

- There were no minutes to approve.

Approval of Bills

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

Next Meeting Date

March 23, 2023