

## PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on April 27, 2023, in the Princeton Community Room, 400 Witherspoon Street.

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

### Adequate Notice

### Public Comment

No public comment.

### Corner House Student Board

No Corner House Student Board report.

### Activities Report

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

- **Day Camp Staffing:** Mr. Petrucelli stated that applications were still being accepted for Day Camp Staff, but that a full staff has been hired thus far. As camp registration numbers increase, there may be opportunities to increase the number of staff hired. 46 applications have been received thus far, 27 have been interviewed, and 20 individuals have been hired.

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

- **Day Camp Preparations:** Mr. Patrick stated that staff have continued putting together the camp schedule, ordering supplies and communicating with the camp's administration, namely, Director Ben Samara.

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

- **Day Camp Update:** Mr. Marroli stated that an Assistant Director for Day Camp has been identified, and a contract offer was extended.
- **Adaptive Open Swim:** Mr. Marroli stated that the Department is working to confirm a new adaptive open swim program. The program would take place on 3 Sundays in July initially, and if successful, would likely be continued in August as well. Mr. Moorhead added that this program would take place in the mornings, prior to the pool being opened to the public. Dr. Nosker asked what parts of the pool would be utilized for this program. Mr. Marroli responded that the family bay and shallow end of the main pool would be utilized. *Discussion was held.*

## Director's Report

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following:

- **Vikki Caines's Last Day and Retirement:** Ms. Caines's last day is 4/28/23. A proclamation is being issued by the Recreation Commission to recognize the impact that Ms. Caines has had on the Department and community at large over the years. The proclamation will be presented to Ms. Caines at her retirement party on 4/28/23. Mr. Moorhead acknowledged the tremendous impact Ms. Caines has had on the department and Princeton Community and that she will be greatly missed by both her colleagues and the public. *Discussion was held.*
- **CP Pool Update:** The pool covers have been removed, and the pools have been filled. There was an issue with the main pool filter, so staff are working with one of the Municipality's consultants to troubleshoot the problem. Dr. Nosker asked if there were any pool motors in reserve. Mr. Moorhead responded that there is a reserve motor for each pool, in the event that an issue arises. The reason for this is that if there is an issue with one of the motors, then pool operations do not have to cease or at least may cease for a shorter amount of time. *Discussion was held.*
- **CP Pool Registration:** Pool registration has been open since March, and there have been roughly 200 more pool memberships sold than at the same point last year. Early-bird pricing will run through 4/30/23.
- **Camp Registration:** Teen Travel Camp registrations are in the 20s for each of the 4 weeks of camp. The Department is still waiting on the financial aid partners in the public schools to submit their hard copy forms, which will cause those camp numbers to increase, most notably for Teen Travel Camp and Day Camp. Ms. Germaine stated that she is over at Johnson Park Elementary a few days a week and has heard, anecdotally, that a number of kids are not interested in day camp this summer. Mr. Moorhead reminded the Commission that it has been 4 years (2019) since we last ran day camp and most of those camp kids have now aged out. Separately, he has heard that the number of kids coming through the various financial aid organizations will be lower than expected. *Discussion was held.*
- **Park Updates:** There have been a number of plumbing issues at various parks this spring. A backflow preventer cracked at Greenway Park as a result of the water company not shutting off the water in December when the Department asked them to. Mr. Moorhead is working through the claim process with the water company's insurance, as well as the Municipality's insurance, to cover the cost of the repair. There have been other backflow preventer repairs at Grover Park. Water fountain valves have been replaced as well. Dr. Nosker asked if the water fountains at Mary Moss have been checked yet. Mr. Moorhead said that the spray pad at Mary Moss will be checked and turned on in May. *Discussion was held.*
- **CP South Design Project Update:** A Steering Committee meeting took place on 4/18/23. The next meeting will take place on 5/9/23. The consultant has received all of the feedback from the 500+ responses to the online survey. That input will be used to come up with different concept plans for CP South. The consultant will hopefully have some renderings for the Steering Committee meeting on 5/9/23. The consultant will bring those concept plans and present them to the Recreation Commission at the 5/16/23 meeting. Mr. Moorhead noted that the May 16 date is a change from the original May Commission meeting date of 5/25/23. Mr. Moorhead will notice the meeting change through the proper channels. The next public meeting for the CP South Project will be on 6/8/23. *Discussion was held.*
- **Mercer-at-Play Project Update:** A date has not been set for the delivery of playground equipment to Hilltop for the project. Once that delivery date is set, then Recreation, Engineering,

the playground equipment company and contractor can map out a timeline for installation of the equipment, repair of asphalt pathway, and construction of the batting cage.

- **Pickleball, Princeton Tennis Program and CP South Tennis Courts Update:** The pickleball nets have been placed in storage, and Princeton Tennis Program (PTP) has begun operating the 15 tennis courts at CP South as per its contract with the Recreation Department. The pickleball subcommittee will meet on 5/2/23 to discuss its plan for the CP South Tennis Courts after the expiry of the current contract with PTP. The subcommittee will make its recommendations to the Recreation Commission in the future. Ms. Germaine asked if it was a 6-month notice that was needed to notify PTP that the Department would not be rolling over the contract. Mr. Moorhead responded that it was in fact a 6-month notice, but that everyone was working with urgency to ensure that it is not a drawn-out process. *Discussion was held.*
- **Wheels Rodeo Date Change** – The Wheels Rodeo that the Police Department organizes has been moved from 4/29/23 to 5/13/23 due to weather.

### Old Business

No Old Business.

### New Business

- a) **Chlorine Contract for CP Pool:** Delivery of chlorine to CP Pool went out to bid, and still ended up with the same company that has been supplying chlorine to the Pool for the past 7+ years. Chlorine has been \$1.44/gallon the past couple of years, but is now up to \$3.25/gallon. This is still a reasonable price, relative to what other organizations in the industry are paying for chlorine. Dr. Nosker asked about the ultraviolet system used to kill organics, and whether those systems could offset the demand of chlorine usage. Mr. Moorhead responded that there is only an ultraviolet system in place for the kiddie pool, but that natural light works as an ultraviolet system in an outdoor pool setting. Ultraviolet systems are not a substitute for chlorine, and the quantity of water in the pools requires the use of a lot of chlorine – to maintain safe conditions. *Discussion was held. Ms. Germaine made a motion to approve the chlorine contract for CP Pool, seconded by Ms. Rogers and approved.*
- b) **Hosting PASDA Swim Championships:** Commission approval is being sought to allow CP Pool to continue hosting the PASDA Swim Championships and for the decision to be made at the staff level in future years based on the criteria outlined by Mr. Moorhead. Hosting the event is a major benefit to the Bluefish Swim Team, their families and CP pool at large. The only other option for PASDA, in the area, would be West Windsor due to the size of the event and facilities needed. Mr. Burt asked why West Windsor would not be interested in hosting the event. Mr. Moorhead responded that West Windsor has not had a youth swim team since prior to the pandemic, and he has not seen a team advertised for 2023 either. *Discussion was held. Mr. Young made a motion to approve the hosting of the PASDA Swim Championships at CP Pool, the Recreation Commission signing on as a co-host for the event, as well as the decision to host in future years being made at the staff level, seconded by Mr. Burt and approved.*
- c) **New Program – Mad Science:** The Recreation Department is seeking approval to add Mad Science as a program partner, starting with a week of summer camp this summer. It is an organization that Mr. Patrick has worked with previously. Ms. Germaine commented that Mad Science has done assemblies at Johnson Park Elementary, and that they are always well received. Mr. Moorhead commented that Mad Science has come to Day Camp previously as well, and similar remarks have been made about the program. *Discussion was held. Dr. Nosker made a*

motion to approve the addition of Mad Science as a programming partner, seconded by Mr. Young and approved.

### Communications

Communications were shared in the agenda packet.

### Approval of Minutes

- **January 26, 2023:** Mr. Burt made a motion to approve the 1/26/23 minutes, seconded by Dr. Nosker and approved. Ms. Rogers abstained.

### Approval of Bills

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

### Next Meeting Date

*May 16, 2023*