

PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on June 3, 2021 remotely via Zoom.

- Present: Mr. Koontz, Mr. Williamson, Dr. Cahill, Dr. Frawley, Dr. Nosker & Ms. Rogers
- Also Present: Mr. Stentz, Mr. Moorhead, Ms. Paulucci & Mr. Petrucelli
- Absent: Mr. Young, Mr. Burt, Ms. Germaine, Aidan McChesney & Andrew DeLuca

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Activities Report

In addition to the activities in the agenda packet, Ms. Paulucci reported on the following:

- In lieu of not holding Day Camp or Travel Camp, Ms. Paulucci is excited about the new menu of programs the department will be offering this summer.
- This includes 10 new programs, from grades K – 12, at all different times of day.
- In-person bingo event is taking place on 6/17/2021. PSS and PRD are excited about holding an in person event since February 2020.
- PRD is contacting the schools about starting up dances again in Fall 2020.
- Ms. Paulucci was grateful her teammates attended a late night awards dinner.

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

- Marketing- Social Media, Emails Blasts, Flyers, etc. for summer programming
- Mitch Henderson Basketball Clinic, partnership with Princeton University Men's Basketball Coach
- US Sports Institute partnerships- variety of summer sports programming
- Working with PCF, KOKO, and Joe Fund to help families who need financial assistance

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

- **Men's Basketball League:** Plans are underway to bring the men's basketball league back this summer. League play will begin in late June with 8 teams scheduled to participate.
- **Men's 40 & Over Softball:** The league will not take place this year as a result of a lack of interest from returning teams.

Corner House Student Board

There was no Corner House Student Report.

Director's Report

Mr. Stentz reported on the following:

- **NJ Parks & Recreation Association (NJRPA) Awards Ceremony:** Ms. Paulucci received the NJRPA Bill Foelsch Award on 5/19 at an in-person ceremony in Summit.
- **Corner House Director:** Gary DeBlasio has announced that he will step down as the Director of Corner House after more than 20 years in that role. Mr. Stentz reiterated that Corner House has been a great partner with Princeton Recreation and Mr. DeBlasio will be missed.

- **Mr. Stentz's Resignation:** Mr. Stentz announced his resignation as the Executive Director of Recreation in late April to take effect July 2, 2021. Mr. Stentz has had discussions with Municipal Administration, as well as members of the Recreation Commission regarding the process to find his successor. He anticipates that the job will post internally within the municipality very soon. Mr. Stentz indicated that Mr. Frawley has volunteered to lead a sub-committee of the Recreation Commission to take the lead on interviewing candidates. Dr. Cahill and Dr. Nosker volunteered to serve with Dr. Frawley on that sub-committee. **Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve the sub-committee, seconded by Ms. Rogers and approved.**

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following:

- **CP North Amphitheatre:** Plans are underway to repair the seating area at the CP North Amphitheatre. Money was not previously budgeted in '21 for this project but municipal administration identified available funding after an inquiry from a council member regarding the condition of the seating. Recreation had requested funding for other improvements in recent years, including a new stage and improved pathway lighting. Mr. Moorhead anticipates the repair work will take place later this month. *Discussion was held.*
- **Basketball Court Repair:** Both CP and Grover Basketball Courts are scheduled for crack repair in the near future. The CP Courts should be done later this month in time for the start of the men's basketball league.
- **CP Pool Opening Weekend:**
 - Pool opened on Monday, 5/31. 423 people visited. The pool was closed on Saturday & Sunday due to rain and cool temperatures. The pool will be open weekends only through Sunday, 6/20. First weekday for public swim is Monday, 6/21.
 - Customer Service and Lifeguard staffs both had orientation/training during the week of May 24. Training will remain ongoing throughout the summer.
 - Pool Capacity guidelines changed on 5/21. State revised guidelines from a max of 50% capacity to no capacity restrictions a week before opening day. CP Pool Staff will continue to monitor attendance, particularly on weekends but we do not plan to limit access to the pool at this time.
 - Memberships are now available for purchase by new non-residents.
 - The pre-payment option is in place for Daily Admission Card holders.
 - As of late May, the state is no longer requiring masking outdoors, regardless of vaccination status. *Discussion was held.* Dr. Cahill suggested signage at the pool that mirrors current CDC guidelines.
- **Mary Moss Spray Pad:** The spray pad was activated effective Monday, 5/31. Yesterday, we discovered that the button that activates the spray features was broken. We are looking into our replacement options for this equipment and plan to order ASAP. In addition, we will seek guidance from the vendor on how to keep the spray features operating on a pre-programmed interval until such time as we can replace the button.
- **Picnic Rentals:** As of today, we have already booked 45 picnic pavilion rentals for 2021. This far exceeds the total for 2020 (14) and 2019 (20). Mr. Moorhead credited Ms. Paulucci for her help in getting the submission form up on the town's new website.
- **Spring Sports Season:** The spring sports season will be winding down in the coming weeks. Mr. Moorhead called the Commission's attention to an email from a Campbell Woods resident complaining about the parking situation near Hilltop on Sundays when the flag football club is using the park. Parking at Hilltop continues to be an issue on busy days.

Old Business

- **Mercer at Play:** Mr. Stentz provided an update on the status of the Mercer at Play Project. Municipal Administration has directed staff from Engineering and Recreation to finalize cost estimates and to put together resolutions for Mayor and Council for the following two projects: Asphalt pathway improvements and/or replacements in multiple park locations and the Replacement of the existing Hilltop ballfield lights with more energy efficient LED lighting. At the direction of administration, once those resolutions are passed, Recreation would be responsible for revising the appropriate Mercer at Play Grant documents and re-submitting to the county. *Discussion was held.* Multiple Recreation Commission members expressed their opinion that asphalt pathway repair does not meet the criteria of the grant's specified mission (addressing youth recreation opportunities). The Commission discussed options available to them at this time. The Commission decided that they would draft a letter to Mayor and Council expressing their concerns about the process thus far and the status of the Mercer At-Play Grant.

New Business

- **RT Reserve Request:** Replacement of hot water heaters for CP Pool Locker rooms/showers. *Dr. Nosker made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Williamson and approved.*
- **RT Reserve Request:** Spare motor for CP Pool Dive Well filter system. *Mr. Koontz made a motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Nosker and approved.*
- **2021 CP Pool Concession Agreement:** R&K's Poolside has expressed interest in returning to CP Pool as the concessionaire in '21 after a 1 –year absence due to Covid-19. However, due to several factors that could have a financial impact on their business, including a late start, the continued uncertainty on capacity and attendance, as well as there not being a youth day camp in '21, the concessionaire has requested a reduction in rent from the '20 proposed amount of \$8,000 to \$3,000 in '21. Mr. Moorhead has vetted this through municipal legal counsel. Their recommendation was that the Commission may approve a 1-year contract and should do so by Resolution. *Discussion was held.*
Mr. Koontz made a motion to pass the 2021 Community Park Pool Concession Agreement with R&K's Poolside Grill by Resolution, seconded by Mr. Williamson and approved. Dr. Cahill voted against.

Communications

Communications shared in agenda packet

Approval of Minutes

- The April minutes were not ready for approval.

Approval of Bills

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

Next Meeting Date

June 24, 2021