

## PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on June 24, 2021 remotely via Zoom.

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

### Public Comment

No Public Comment

### Activities Report

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

- Ms. Paulucci noted that this year in particular, she has noticed there are more students enrolled in the programs that are on the spectrum. This could be because of the smaller scale, shorter day programs. This allows for more opportunity for people with disabilities.
- 10 weeks of programming begins on 6/28, with 10 new programs being offered this summer.
- All of the new programs this summer are completely full, including a new Chess Program with 80+ students.
- Boys Basketball Clinic, Youth Dance Program, Chess Program, and Princeton Empowerment Program all begin the week of 6/28.
- Adaptive Bingo was a huge success for the first in-person event since February 2020. PSS and PRD plan to offer an in person dance, outdoors, in September.
- Our next Virtual Adaptive Dance is on 7/16/2021 with 75 participants.

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

- US Sports- 7 weeks of 5 programs (Lacrosse, Flag Football, Multi-Sports, Golf, Soccer) starting with Lacrosse on Monday 6/28
- Evening Basketball Clinics for boys and girls in 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade in July.
- Mitch Henderson Clinics Monday 6/28 & Wednesday 6/30.

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

- **Men's Basketball League:** League play began on Monday, 6/21. There are 8 teams in the league. Fan turnout thus far has been quite positive and Mr. Moorhead is excited to be able to bring this long-standing program back to the community after a 1-year absence due to covid.

### Corner House Student Board

There was no Corner House Student Report.

### Director's Report

Mr. Stentz reported on the following:

- Mr. Stentz thanked the Recreation Staff, Recreation Commission and all who attended his farewell party on 6/18/21. Tonight is Mr. Stentz's final meeting as the Executive Director.

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following:

- **50/70 Little League Tournament:** We are hosting the 50/70 District Tournament at Farmview this weekend and will host the Sectional Tournament in early July. This is an opportunity for Princeton to highlight Farmview as one of the premier little league facilities in the area. PRD maintenance has been working to prep the fields and the park in anticipation.
- **Project Updates:**
  - CP North Amphitheatre: The seating repair is underway and we anticipate it will be completed in the next several weeks.
  - Basketball Court Repair: Crack repair took place at Community Park prior to the start of our men's summer basketball league. Repairs will take place at Grover Park this fall.
- **CP Pool Opening Weekend:**
  - The pool is now open 7 days per week as of this past Monday, 6/21.
  - As of today, we have 3,795 members. Mr. Moorhead expressed his hope that we will exceed 4,000 in the next few weeks. In 2019 we had roughly 4,500 members and in 2018 there were 4670 members.
  - There are almost 1500 registered for the Daily Admission Card (DAC).
  - We are now allowing members/DAC holders to bring non-resident guests (with a limit of no more than 5 per day). We held off allowing non-resident guests for the first few weekends until we were comfortable that we could safely accommodate.
  - The Concession stand opened on Saturday, 6/19.
  - Session 1 of swim lessons started on Wednesday, 6/23. Saturday session starts on 6/26. Both sessions are nearly full for all classes.
  - Bluefish Swim/Dive Team are in their second week of practice. Morning practices started on Wednesday, 6/23. We will be hosting some in-person meets for both swim and dive teams in July. This includes a possible end of year invitational meet with 4-5 other clubs that would take place in the morning during the last week of practice (week of July 26). This meet would provide one final chance for Bluefish swimmers to compete, as well as being an opportunity for PRD to make some additional revenue by charging entry a fee to visiting swimmers & spectators. Mr. Moorhead reminded the Commission that any additional revenue is extremely helpful in offsetting membership numbers that are behind pre-covid levels.
- **Princeton Special Sports:**
  - We were just informed earlier this week by PSS President, Deborah Norcross that PSS will no longer be running their youth sports programming going forward. That program has been on hold since covid. This notification came via email and without warning. PSS is going to focus on adult/teen programming, including the dances and special events. Much of their leadership is moving away/ leaving the area and Ms. Norcross indicated they can't handle the program from a manpower standpoint
  - About 3 years ago, Mr. Stentz, Ms. Norcross, former Mayor Lempert, former administrator Marc Dashield and Mr. Moorhead discussed this very topic. PSS indicated back then that their leadership was in transition and it would be difficult to continue this current program indefinitely with an all-volunteer base. At the time, Mr. Stentz implored the administration to think creatively about this issue and to be proactive with regards to the municipalities' role in this program. Mr. Stentz put together a proposal for administration in which he was clear that PRD could not take on this additional workload with our current staffing and that it would require another full-time position. Since Mr.

Stentz put together that proposal, there has been no movement on the part of the municipality. *Discussion was held.*

### Old Business

- **Mercer at Play:** Mr. Moorhead provided an update on a recent meeting with municipal administrator, Bernie Hvozdovic and municipal engineer Deanna Stockton to discuss the status of Mercer at Play Grant and to identify a way to move the project forward in a timely manner. Ideas discussed included the replacement of the existing ballfield lights at Hilltop with more energy efficient LED lighting, as well as the possible renovation of the Hilltop playground. Multiple Recreation Commission members expressed their concern about the funding being used for park pathway improvements. *Discussion was held.*

### New Business

- **Appointment of Executive Director of Recreation:**  
Dr. Nosker made a motion to approve to appoint Mr. Moorhead to a 3-year term as the Executive Director of Recreation, seconded by Mr. Williamson and unanimously approved.

### Communications

*Communications shared in agenda packet.*

Mr. Moorhead called the Commission's attention to the email from Brian Tumpowsky, Princeton Girls Hoops, with a request for outdoor facility space and consideration for listing on the PRD website along with our partner youth sports organizations. *Discussion was held.*

### Approval of Minutes

- April 22 minutes: Dr. Nosker moved the April minutes, seconded by Mr. Williamson and approved. Dr. Cahill abstained
- June 3 minutes: Dr. Nosker moved the June 3 minutes, seconded by Mr. Williamson and approved. Mr. Young, Mr. Burt and Ms. Germaine abstained.

### Approval of Bills

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

### Next Meeting Date

*August 26, 2021*