

PRINCETON BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

A meeting of the Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners was held on July 22, 2021 remotely via Zoom.

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

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Activities Report

All activities reports provided in the agenda packet.

Corner House Student Board

There was no Corner House Student Report.

Director's Report

Mr. Moorhead reported on the following:

- **Program Staff:** Ms. Paulucci and Mr. Petrucelli are both absent tonight because they had to fill in for last minute staff absences at two of our late afternoon/early evening programs. Mr. Moorhead reported that both are routinely working 10-12 hour days to cover the volume of programs that we are running this summer. Mr. Moorhead reminded the Commission that due to the recent departure of Mr. Stentz we are currently short-staffed during our busiest season. Mr. Williamson expressed his gratitude to the staff for their work this summer and their ability to continue to provide excellent services to the community during this time. *Discussion was held.*
- **Assistant Director Position:** Mr. Moorhead has been working with Human Resources and Administration to finalize the Assistant Director posting. He anticipates the job will be posted publicly by month's end and that we will look to begin interviewing candidates shortly after Labor Day once summer programming has ended and the pool has closed.
- **Project/Facility Updates:**
 - **CP North Amphitheater:** The seating repair is complete and we hosted a Blue Curtain Concert last Sunday, 7/18. Mr. Moorhead reports that staff is extremely pleased with the project result. There are also lighting improvements that will take place in the amphitheater area in the coming months.
 - **CP Kiddie Pool:** Mr. Moorhead reports that the kiddie pool may likely need to be re-plastered this off-season. The number of cracks that we are experiencing continues to increase and it becomes difficult for our maintenance staff to continue to patch them. Mr. Moorhead reminded the Commission that this is the 10th summer of the new pool and repairs like this are to be expected. Staff has been planning for this eventuality for several years with funding already approved by the Commission at prior meetings. Staff is seeking updated quotes for this work with the understanding that the project may need to go out to bid.

- **Mary Moss Park:** The button that activates the spray features at the Mary Moss Spray Pad has not been working since early June. Staff ordered a new button at that time which was delivered this week. However, that button did not work once installed by an electrician. Tech support for the company concluded that the new button may be defective and has ordered another unit to be shipped to PRD. The spray pad continues to run on an automatic cycle of 5 minutes on and 10 minutes off from 11am-6pm daily. *Discussion was held.*
- **CP Pool Update:**
 - The pool is now at approximately 4380 members for the summer. Mr. Moorhead was pleased that we exceeded 4,000 members and reminded the Commission that membership revenue is vital to meeting our financial obligations. *Discussion was held.*
 - Daily Admission numbers have been steady although likely not quite to pre-covid levels. Mr. Moorhead anticipates having some year over year comparisons to share at a future Commission meeting.
 - Bluefish Season:
 - The Bluefish Swim & Dive teams are nearing the end of their season and have participated in multiple in-person meets both at home and away.
 - CP Pool will be hosting several end of season meets during the morning next Monday, 7/26 – Thursday, 7/29. These meets will be the final opportunity for Bluefish swimmers/divers to compete before the season’s end.
 - The Bluefish annual end of year picnic is scheduled for Thursday, 7/29 at 5:30pm at CP Pool. This year they will also commemorate 50 years of summer swim teams at CP Pool. Former members, coaches and administrators have been invited to attend the event.
 - Facility Sub-Committee: Mr. Moorhead would like to re-engage a sub-committee of the Commission to help examine several recent requests by external groups to partner with PRD, use municipal facilities and to receive assistance with distributing their program information. Mr. Moorhead will ask for volunteers at a future Commission meeting. Dr. Cahill suggested reaching out to Princeton Public Schools for their policy on rental groups. *Discussion was held.*
 - Virtual Meetings: Municipal administration has indicated that board and commissions will likely be able to resume in-person meetings in the fall. It’s unclear at this time whether board/commissions will be allowed to continue meeting virtually if that is their preference. *Discussion was held.*
 - Municipal Administrator, Bernie Hvozovic plans to attend a Recreation Commission meeting in the near future to introduce himself to the Commission.

Old Business

- **Mercer at Play:** Mr. Moorhead provided an update on the following:
 - Phone call with Leslie Floyd, Mercer County Planning Director on 7/12/21. Ms. Floyd provided the following information to Mr. Moorhead.
 - Princeton must request in writing, an extension for the Mercer at Play Grant
 - Once Princeton has decided on a new use for the grant funding, council will need to pass an amended resolution that includes an updated grant agreement with the county.
 - County does not consider improvements to existing park pathways to be an acceptable use of the grant funding. In addition, replacing existing ballfield lights

with more energy efficient LED lighting is also not likely to meet with county approval.

- A playground renovation would be a suitable use for the funding according to the county.
- Mr. Moorhead met with Municipal Engineer, Deanna Stockton and Municipal Administrator, Bernie Hvozovic on 7/12/21 to provide a follow up on his call with Leslie Floyd.
 - The idea of a Mercer at Play work session at a fall council meeting was discussed.
- Mr. Williamson informed the Commission that members of council have discussed an idea that would use the county grant funds to create a new walking path/trail and exercise area on a piece of land owned by the municipality in the northwest corner of the town. Mr. Moorhead requested that additional details be provided to the Commission, if this proposed idea is a priority for council. *Discussion was held.*
- Mr. Moorhead received confirmation that the county has approved our request for an extension.

New Business

- **Pool Covers – Repair/Replacement**

Ms. Germaine made a motion to approve the replacement of the dive pool cover and the repair of the main pool cover, seconded by Mr. Burt and approved

Communications

Communications shared in agenda packet.

Approval of Minutes

- June 24 Minutes: *Dr. Cahill moved the June 24 minutes as ammended, seconded by Mr. Burt and approved.*

Approval of Bills

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

Next Meeting Date

August 26, 2021