

**Regular Meeting**  
**Recreation Commission**  
**Borough of Rumson**

June 15, 2016

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:04PM.**

Present: James Dengler, Alternate Chair; Kerry Chandler; Chris Hawke; and Jonathan B. Kiley.

Councilman Ben Day was also in attendance.

Kevin Delia, Recreation Director, was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

The minutes from the May 18th, 2016 Recreation Commission meeting were presented. Motion to accept the minutes as written was approved by Chris Hawke and seconded by Jonathan B. Kiley. All in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

**GENERAL INFORMATION FROM DIRECTOR**

- The treasures report was provided by Helen Graves, Borough of Rumson CFO to the Recreation Commission.
- Kevin Delia provided an explanation as to why the Recreation Trust had a substantial amount of funds. He explained that due to the continuing registrations of both summer and fall programs the account was expected to be inflated at this time of year. Kevin continued to say that the numbers would come back down once the payouts occurred for the camp coaches and counselors. He also added that there has been some discussion to use some portion of the excess funds to put back into the park, such as Meadow Ridge and Victory Park.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- The Recreation Commission Policies Draft was deferred until August's meeting due to the low attendance of Recreation Commissioners.
- Kevin Delia detailed his plan on offering more resources to the volunteer coaches. He explained the initial step is to give coaches greater access to online tools to communicate with their teams and have the ability to access emergency information from their smart phones. The next step is to decrease the amount of time it takes to be background checked by eliminating the finger printing method. Kevin gained approval to use a vendor called NCSI to do background checks through an online system. The last step is to provide the coaches a platform to access practice plans and other info they need from

the Recreation Director. The company is called Alpha Sports. Currently they only have basketball and will eventually expand into soccer and baseball. Kevin continued that Ben Day will help with the final decision on League Apps, NSCI has been approved and the Alpha Sports is something that still needs to be discussed.

- Chris Hawke discussed the travel sports skill sessions that he is working on with high school coaches and players. Chris has been in contact with Will Gould, RFH Boys Varsity Soccer Coach, to run a pre-practice session to focus on specific aspects of soccer. Kevin Delia added that he has also spoken with Chris Champeau about doing similar practices with basketball. Kevin said this needs to be considered across all programs at some point but the way to introduce this idea would be to use travel sports first.
- Kevin Delia explained to the Rec Commission about the meeting with WeForum and the Environmental Commission regarding their promotion of using reusable water bottles. The thought would be to provide these to the recreation teams that win the annual in-town championships as a prize. The Rec Commissioners thought it would be best that WeForum would pay for the bottles if they want their logo on it. Kevin said he would discuss this further with WeForum and get back to them.
- Kevin Delia reported to the Rec Commission that the Pickleball lines were permanently put in place in Victory Park. Kevin also informed the Rec Commission that Kim Smith was interested about continuing the Pickleball through the summer but wanted to know if we should charge a registration fee for the new sessions. The Rec Commission decided that it should remain free for the rest of the summer and will cover registration for the beginner clinic as well.
- Kevin Delia again raised the issue of the state of the trails at Meadow Ridge Park. He showed the Rec Commissioners a sample of the material that could be used to the running trail at Meadow Ridge and also showed them the cost of the product with delivery. The estimate for Meadow Ridge would be \$80,000 just for product and delivery, not installation. Ben Day asked if we could get, Dave Marks, the borough engineer to give us his feedback on the work that would need to be done on Meadow Ridge Trail. Kerry Chandler asked if Kevin could ask the company if there was a location they worked on in the immediate area so commissioners and the public could see a sample of the material, possibly running on it to sample the finished product.
- Kevin Delia told the recreation commission about the fall registration and the totals so far for each activity.
- Kevin Delia said the plan is to have a chess club and a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade field hockey clinic, they just have not been posted yet. He explained that he is waiting to get confirmations from some people to oversee the programs and finalize the schedule. Jim Dengler asked if Fair Haven would be invited to join the program and Kevin said he would discuss this with Kate Bavuso, who is going to run the clinic.
- Kevin Delia told the Recreation Commission about the meeting that took place with the travel baseball coaches two weeks prior regarding the abuse of the fields during the spring. He continued that the meeting was brought about by Rob Anderson's concerns regarding the abuse of the baseball fields by the travel baseball coaches on Sundays. Kevin said that Tom Rogers, Mark Wellner, Council Woman Laura Atwell and

Recreation Chairman John Lembeck were in attendance. Jonathan B. Kiley, who was in attendance at the meeting continued with greater detail of the incident and the meeting. He also added that he hopes the Rec Commission does a better job of handling incidents that occur in the future. The discussion continued concerning the state of the playing field at Piping Rock and how the field conditions, especially the baseball infield, should be improved. Communication between all interested parties was deemed to be a positive step in improving the baseball programs in Rumson.

- JB added that the Two River Little League All Star tryouts could have been managed better and asked if we could ask them to improve the information handling and the selection process.
- Kerry Chandler asked what the details of the paid trainers were with travel baseball. JB explained that the process is similar to the process used by travel soccer. The process used by travel soccer was detailed by Chris Hawke to the Rec Commission. He continued with his thoughts on how the Rec Commission can stipulate the overall costs and require coaches of the travel teams to provide the Rec Commission a detailed plan for expenses attached to each season for all the travel sports.
- Kevin Delia asked the Recreation Commission to approve new travel soccer coaches for the Fall of 2016; Mike McCarty, Boys U12. All in favor.
- Kevin Delia asked the Recreation Commission to approve travel basketball coaches for the Fall/Winter of 2016; Kathy Foos and Paul Hughes, Girls 11; Dean Scarpa and Chris Hawke, Girls 12; Steven Mahedy, Girls 13; Colin Callahan, Boys 11; Andy Taffin, Boys 12; Mike Cecil and Rob Patton, Boys 13. All in favor.

**PERSONNEL ISSUES at 8:24 (closed session)**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (closed session)**

**MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:28pm**

Kerry Chandler made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by JB Kiley. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by: Kevin Delia