Harrington Park Recreation Commission Meeting
January 10, 2024 Minutes

Rob Hwang opened the meeting at 8:00 pm with the Open Public meeting announcement: In compliance with Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, adequate notice of the scheduled meeting was made. It is posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Center. Copies have been mailed to the BERGEN RECORD, SUBURBANITE, and THE NORTHERN VALLEY PRESS. A copy has been filed with the Borough Clerk, and copies have been mailed to individuals requesting the same.

COMMISSION Members	**PRESENT**	**ABSENT**
Steve Howe	x	
Robert Hwang	x	
Mahdad Parsi	x	
Ashley Plescia		x
Matthew Saland		X
Councilwoman Chung	x	
Lara Toomin, Recreation Director	x	

Lauren Pribila and Barry McAuley were sworn in.

COMMISSION Members	**PRESENT**	**ABSENT**
Steve Howe (SH)	x	
Lauren Pribila (LP)	x	
Mahdad Parsi (MP)	x	
Barry McAuley (BMc)	x	
Ashley Plescia (AMP)		x
Matthew Saland (MS)		x
Rob Hwang (RH)	x	
Councilwoman Chung (JC)	x	
Lara Toomin, Recreation Director (LT)	x	

Rob asked everyone to introduce themselves as there are new members.

Approval of minutes of November 2023 Mahdad moved to approve, second Steve. All in favor.

Reorganization**: Appointing Commission Officers**

Mahdad nominated Rob as Chair, second Steve.

Roll call vote	**Yes**	**No**
Steve Howe (SH)	x	
Lauren Pribila (LP)	x	
Mahdad Parsi (MP)	x	
Barry McAuley (BMc)	x	
Rob Hwang (RH)	x	
Carried		

Rob nominated Steve as Vice-Chair second Lauren

Roll call vote	**Yes**	**No**
Steve Howe (SH)	x	
Lauren Pribila (LP)	x	
Mahdad Parsi (MP)	x	
Barry McAuley (BMc)	x	
Rob Hwang (RH)	x	
Carried		

Park Monitoring (Prior to Meeting Each Month to Allow for Reporting at Meeting)

Pondside

Highland Field Brian Hutchinson is interested in volunteering to paint the fieldhouse. Volunteers are needed. A waterline is also needed. Lara asked if the container can also be painted. Opening Day may be different this year. It may be done away. Lara shared that all sports put in money for a new shed, as the old shed was destroyed. Councilwoman Chung shared that the bulk of tree money this year has to be focused on the school, as many trees need to be taken care of. A few at Highland may be able to be trimmed as well. Councilwoman Chung, Lara, and the Softball Commissioner will walk the field and discuss what needs to be done. Councilwoman Chung will talk to DPW about picking up the shed debris.

George Street The grant has been received. The hope is to install the equipment in the spring.

HP School Rec does not use the school field anymore.

Beechwood

Don Horsey

Columbus

Grants/Budgets Rob explained the budget structure and that each sport needs to be autonomous. He also gave an update on the projects and grants that are in the works.

Opening Day, The Fishing Derby, Town Day, and the Ragamuffin are some of our events.

For 2024

Fishing Derby Saturday 6/15 10:00-12:00 Steve will coordinate the event

Opening Day This will most likely be held at Rockland Boulders this year. Players will be able to walk the field and then have a barbeque.

Town Day September 7 (rain date September 8) 12:00-4:00. Everyone will go to set up and then spend an hour selling wristbands. Rob, Barry, Lauren will coordinate.

Ragamuffin October 26 Lauren will ask the Juniors if they can lead this event.

Teens for tomorrow were awesome.

Roles and Responsibilities

School coordination Lauren

Field coordination Steve

Tennis Mahdad, Steve, and Rob will coordinate

Park assignments

Pondside Lauren

Highland Steve

George Street Ashley

Beechwood Barry

Don Horsey everyone

Columbus is problematic because the water company wants to fence the entire area. The town is fighting this.

Discussion about whether someone training one or two kids should have to pay the same as someone running a whole camp.

Lara shared that the goals will be locked up.

Permits will be needed for pickleball.

Mahdad asked if the use of the fields can be limited to Harrington Park residents. Councilwoman Chung will speak with the attorney.

Other Items/Updates Soccer Referee Fees (MP) Mahdad shared that referees are now paid through the town. They are kids who have gone through the HP program. They get paid $25 a game, which is in the middle of what other towns do. He asked to codify this with the Rec Commission. HP provides shirts and whistles. The league provides refs for 5-8 for the most part. Our refs mostly do 1-4. Next year he would like 7th and 8th graders to volunteer one or two games to get experience. Mahdad moved to make this a permanent arrangement for at least this year, second Rob.

Roll call vote	**Yes**	**No**
Steve Howe (SH)	x	
Lauren Pribila (LP)	x	
Mahdad Parsi (MP)	x	
Barry McAuley (BMc)	x	
Rob Hwang (RH)	x	
Carried		

Discussion about the George Street ice area. Councilwoman Chung will ask whether it can be limited to Harrington Park residents. She said that a policy would then need to be put together. She will circulate sample policies.

Lara asked whether spaces could be reserved first for HP residents.

Adjourn Mahdad moved to adjourn, second Steve. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

NEXT MEETING

Next regularly scheduled meeting is February 14, 2024