

**HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION  
380 HILLSDALE AVENUE  
HILLSDALE, NJ 07642  
201-666-4800 X1560**

**HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES OF January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

**Meeting 1**

**Attendance:** Dewey Burluson, Greg Stalb, Deb Szabo, John Corring, Delia Collis, Ann Cron

**Councilman:** Anthony DeRosa

**Borough Admin:** Chris Tietjen

**Rec Director:** Patty Hughes

**Guests in attendance:**

Drew Metz, Butch Franklin, John Najarian, Chris Statile, Rob Harris

Dewey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Dewey was voted the Chairman of the Rec committee once again with John Corring as the vice chair. All sub-committees are remaining the same. Anthony explains the roles the committee.

**Meeting 2**

**Attendance:** Dewey Burluson, Greg Stalb, Deb Szabo, John Corring, Delia Collis, Ann Cron

**Councilman:** Anthony DeRosa

**Borough Admin:** Chris Tietjen

**Rec Director:** Patty Hughes

**Guests in attendance:**

Drew Metz, Butch Franklin, John Najarian, Chris Statile, Rob Harris

Dewey called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm

John Corring approves the minutes and Deb 2nds them.

There are no permit approvals at this time.

Dewey welcomes everyone and explains the roles of the committee and how they create policies, oversee the fields, and provide to recommendations.

Butch and John attended the meeting to discuss having the carnival at stonybrook. The fireman are unable to use St Johns this year due to the amount of commuters. The school is worried about the moving cars in their lot. They would like their carnival to take place on the field at stonybrook. Originally the committee did not recommend having the carnival there. Some concerns were brought up by Drew and Dewey about the fields being ready for the kids to play soccer. Patty was concerned because she needs to get stonybrook ready. As long as the carnival is before 5/4/20. After hearing from John and Butch, the recommendation was changed to allowing the carnival to take place there. Butch and John said they would fix any damage to the grounds and Chris Statile said he did not think the carnival would cause any issues to the grounds. This still needs to be brought in front of the council.

Dewey says a main goal this year is to grow the rec trust fund. He thinks this can be done through a number of ways such as the festival and newsletters for example.

The idea for the 2021 open space grant needs to be decided upon. Dewey recommended updating McSpirit Park, it is close to the library and good for kids. Another idea is putting more into Beechwood Park. Expand the seating, band shell, benches or updating the park.

The town would like to continue to have concerts at beech wood. Seniors are not that interested in going to Beechwood, they say there are too many mosquitos there. The rec committee is also interested in speaking to the woman who is in charge of the concerts to try and help work with her to introduce some new bands.

Patty goes on to explain the history of town day now known the Hillsdale Festival. She also mentions that she spoke to someone from the Yankees and is going to try to do a trip to a game for the town residents.

### **Council Comments**

Anthony asks Chris (the new boro admin) to keep the recreation committee in mind when making decisions. There was a lack of communication with the previous admin that we are hoping to avoid now. Anthony also asks Chris if any of the capital funds can be used for park repairs, Chris said he will look into it.

Anthony informed us that there bids out for the numerous improvements that need to be made to the fields. He also said that Chris Statile is looking into the possibility of a senior center/recreation center.

### **Recreation Director Report**

Patty thanks everyone for their participation in the holiday in the park event. She does say that a PA system is needed for the future.

The Van Saun tree theme this year will be candy canes. The 2019 tree will be planted at stonybrook.

Eileen will be starting to work for the rec department 5 days a week. John Noone has been named the new camp director. Patty is meeting with BOE Superintendent to find out about using the schools for camp again. Currently they said yes to Meadowbrook but the gym may not be available.

The basketball program is using George White School with the new scoreboards. Their uniforms arrived before the season started as well.

The next senior lunch was on Jan 15<sup>th</sup>. The arts and crafts program starts on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Committee Comments**

Rob Harris from baseball says opening day will be either the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of March. The players used to only use wood bats but the baseball organization is looking to change that so they can play other towns who no longer use wood bats. Patty will speak to the insurance company about the change in bats.

Ann motions to close and Michelle 2nds

Closed 8:12

Respectfully submitted,  
Meredith Anides

**Next meeting, February 6th**