

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

**HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2016**

**Attendance:** Rob Ricco, Andrew Puller, Deborah Szabo, John Noone, Dewey Burleson, David Dembowski. Jenna Szabo

Absent: John Corring, Ann Cron

Councilman: Anthony DeRosa  
Director Patty Hughes

Guests in attendance:

Lacrosse: Mike Loughlin

Hoops: Lauren Cullinan

Soccer: Scott Perlman

Football: Devon Flanagan

Baseball: Abby Lundy

Patty called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

**Approval of Minutes:**

Corrections mentioned to fix the name of the hoops representative

Motion: Andy Puller accepted. Dewey Burleson seconded this motion

**Correspondence**

Email from Lauren Bacsik who is the PV Varsity Softball coach asks for permission to have a 5K race on March 12 to start and end at Stonybrook. Dewey asks about implications on town (police presence etc.). This run is being used as a fundraiser to raise money to build dugouts. This was OK'd by recreation commission. It was brought up that the town will most likely not do more than one of these types of events a month.

**Topics for Presentation/Discussion:**

**Halloween in Hillsdale:**

Patty thanks everyone for their support and help in making this event successful. There were a few lessons learned from this event. There was no need for a BBQ but there should have been more options for the children. Perhaps there could be two bounce houses, ice cream truck, and two popcorn machines. About 650 dollars was raised and the event lasted roughly from 3-5pm. There were roughly 400 people in attendance and all 225 pumpkins were taken. Patty has the idea of combining town down with Halloween in Hillsdale and even including a fall festival type event as well. This larger event could be held at Beechwood Park. We can try to fundraise for this large event.

### **Tree Lighting**

This event is scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm with a rain/snow date of December 8th. Patty has secured a DJ and choir. There will be candy canes handed out to the children. The fire department has agreed to the use of their truck and playing Santa. Patty has reached out to Starbucks for a coffee donation and to Dunkin Donuts for donuts (plain, powdered & sugar) and hot chocolate. Patty is looking for volunteers to help with this event.

### **Budget/New Events:**

Per Patty we should know what other events we would like to plan as well as how to improve on current events as budget season is coming up. The Memorial Day parade was mentioned as this has been something on the agenda for a while. The commission asked if we have money to add onto this parade. Some ideas that were brought up by the group were floats made by boy scouts, girl scouts, and sports teams. Andy Puller shared his ideas via flashcards, some of these ideas included dance and cheerleading teams and the high school marching band. The marching band is part of the existing parade. It was brought up to learn the intention of this parade, a somber or joyful event? Councilman DeRosa plans to speak with Mayor and the American Legion to get their opinion and find out what the veterans are looking for in the parade. Dewey also brought up his ideas in the form of a top ten list. Some such ideas were flags and flowers, army jeep, juggler, unicycle and boy scouts holding war flags. Patty mentioned that there is some extra money in the budget due to the rain and canceled parade last year. The idea of a float competition was mentioned; perhaps we can get students and various groups to make floats if there is a "winner". People will bring more ideas to the next meeting.

### **Liaison to the Mayor and Council:**

Councilman DeRosa brought up the issue of the lights out at Corra field. He also said that the new lightening detectors will be installed by the end of the month. Patty stated the company will be in town on Monday at 1pm, to go over locations.

Councilman DeRosa welcomed Jenna to the committee and said that she will be nominated again in the New Year due to her taking the end of an unexpired term. . He also asked for her input on any of the topics.

The councilman mentioned the Rutgers course is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup>. He also brought up the topic of shopping at small businesses. The official day through Amex is Nov 26 however the councilman would like to promote shopping at small businesses in town as they do a lot to help out the town. He did send out a request for further information on this topic.

### **Remarks for Citizens**

The representative from the soccer Scott Perlman mentioned the padding on the lights poles on Centennial field has been worn down and he is worried for the safety of the kids. Who is in charge of fixing this? Soccer or Recreation? Patty said to email her and she will get in touch with the DPW.

Devon from football asked what the protocol for upgrading fields was. He thinks the old score board should be removed from Memorial field as well get rid of the fencing and put up temporary fencing to make this field better and more up to code. Per Anthony DeRosa it is up to the rec commission to make these decisions and help this process along.

The approval of coaches was brought up by Dewey. Patty states that the associations were supposed to send their timelines for coaches. In the meantime it was decided there was no official timeline for this. The idea of bringing up coach certification on Community Pass was mentioned. This posed a probably because people do sign up through community pass for certain sports. Is there a way to just have them fil out a form on community pass if there is an interested in coaching. Devon suggested cards, but this had already been vetoed. The biggest issue people have is the fingerprinting as they expire every three years. The Rutgers, lightening and concussion forms only need to be filled out once. This could change for the lightening form as they get installed and the process may change. The representative from soccer (Scott) and baseball/tee ball (Abby) said they will work together to get the coaches certified.

**Permit Request:**

Arsenal Soccer Club requested centennial field for 11/7 for their final game. Approval was given however starting in 2017 there will be a charge for the use of the field.

Meeting adjourned, 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Meredith Anides

**Next meeting, December 8, 2016, 7:00pm**