

**HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**380 HILLSDALE AVENUE**  
**HILLSDALE, NJ 07642**  
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**HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES OF February 4th, 2021.**

**Attendance:** Dewey Burluson, Ann Cron, Michele Hausch, ,Greg Stalb, Kevin Cuff, Delia Collis, Sarah Armstrong

**Councilman:** Anthony DeRosa  
Business Administrator: Christopher J. Tietjen  
Mayor: John Ruocco

**Guests in attendance:**  
Drew Metz, Rob Harris

Anthony swears in Debbie Szabo and Sarah Armstrong

Greg called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm

Greg offers his contact information to the committee.

There is a discussion on how the minutes are distributed. It is decided that the process that was under Dewey will continue. The minutes will be sent to the recreation present who will distribute to the rest of the group.

There are permit requests for lacrosse, weather permitting they are approved. All sport participants must sign a hold harmless form. All permit requests go through the req committee and then to the BA.

The sports associations want to know if the hold harmless that was signed last year is it still good this year. The answer is no, as a new form must be signed every calendar year. The HSBA will look into placing the form on their digital platform

Greg asks about the rec report moving forward, it is discussed that Patty is still on leave. Eileen is not currently required to attend recreation meetings. Without Patty the scheduling of rec programming will be very difficult. It will be ever harder without the ability to use the schools for indoor activity. As the weather warms up, there will be a disunion about school field usage.

Grant money for memorial has been used and the work is now complete. Dewey requests an accounting of how all the money was spent. Chris says he will put that together and he it over to Dewey.

The bid for the slit drains at centennial just went out to bid. The grant is a shared grant with the borough where town will match and contribute what the state provides. The money they are

currently working with is 80,000 from the state with a match of 80,000 from the borough. The drains will most likely cost less than the total grant. Whatever money is left will be put back into other parks. The recommendations will come from the borough engineer and the rec committee. Greg mentions the subcommittees and asks if this is something for them to deal with. He would like to see the building at centennial upgraded. Anthony steps in saying we will be to make better decisions when we know exactly how much money we will have left over.

Dewey takes this opportunity to discuss how he believes that the views of the recreation committee and the sports associations are not taken into account. Anthony reminds him that is the job of the committee to recommend things to mayor and council but they have the final decision.

Chris says there is a 6 year plan on how to the use money in the rec account.

Dewey questions why it has taken so long to move on the work on centennial, Chris responds saying that it is because of COVID. The delay in the work will not affect future grants or work that needs to be done with the new grants.

Dewey questions Chris on the rec trust account. He wants to understand what the money in the account can be used for. Chris explains that it cannot be used for any capital improvement. He also explains that this account is not for growth but to use it for the rec programming only. The conversation regarding the rec trust account continues and the ways it can and cannot be used.

After the discussion of the rec trust, it leads into senior programming. Ann is asked what the interest is from the senior community in zoom classes and other senior based activities. Michele again explains her work at the Tenafly senior center and how she would be happy to include the Hillsdale senior residents in the programming. Michele gives wonderful examples of what she is doing with her seniors, such as Tech Tuesdays. They have in person programming as well as Zoom meetings.

Debbie is interested in Pickle Ball is wondering if this is something that can done in the warmer weather. The logistics are discussed as well as possible locations for the sport.

Rob Harris from HBSA inquiries about the hold harmless, he asks if it needs to be paper or if it can be digital. The BA says is can be in any format. Rob also states that there will be no opening ceremony for baseball this year.

They Mayor joined the meeting and started discussing the Memorial Day Parade. He is waiting on instructions from the governor. The governor usually gives direction at the last minute.

The high school liaisons discuss that the winter sports are on but there are no fans or parents allowed.

Debbie suggests the newsletter for the town not just as a recreation newsletter. Christopher says he will review the rec fund money and is supportive of mailing the newsletter.

Dewey motions to close and Ann 2nds

Closed 8:42

Respectfully submitted,  
Meredith Anides

**Next meeting, March 4th**