

HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION
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HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF March 4th, 2021.

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

Councilman: Anthony DeRosa

Guests in attendance:
Drew Metz, Rob Harris, Craig Kardell, Tom Clancy

Greg called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

The approval of the minutes is placed on hold as they were never distributed to the committee. Moving forward they should be mailed out with the meeting invite.

There was no rec director's report due to the fact that Patty is still out on medical leave. Eileen was unable to attend the recreation meeting. There is a plan to distribute Easter Eggs for children to have their own hunts. This will occur on March 20th. It has been approved by Chris. The borough is asking for help on the 20th to hand out the Easter eggs.

There has been no answer from the America Legion regarding Memorial Day. John Corring will reach out to them to try and get some answers. The borough is also waiting on directive from the state to see if parades will be allowed.

There is concern about having the summer concert series at Beechwood since the band shell roof is collapsing. There is no plan to fix it at the moment. In terms of fixing the issue, is this for the DPW to do, grant money or parks and rec to fund? Anthony will look into this. There was an application to use Beechwood on March, may need to reschedule due to weather and roof safety.

There will be a bagged lunch for seniors on 3/16 in honor of St Patrick's Day. There will be someone playing bagpipes as well this idea came from Chris and Eileen.

There are sports applications for Soccer and Lacrosse.

Council Remarks

The 2022 grant needs an application by April. Borough engineer recommends Glendale (McSpirit) park. The committee disagrees and suggests more money going to beechwood. We have until 4/7 to decide. Dewey does say in defense of McSpirit is that it is by the library and kids can gather there. Others think seniors will get more out of the money being used at beechwood. Perhaps an eagle scout can take on McSpirit? The beechwood recommendations are

walkways, band shell roof, electricity, storage room update, amphitheater update and playground equipment.

There has been no additional information regarding a community center or turfing centennial field.

The BOE says that the middle school George White is no longer serviceable. That means they are asking the borough to give them land to build a new school or expand on the current. A possible deal can be made to include the building of a community center along with it.

The borough will be debt free and is considering borrowing money to help build a community center.

There are bids out for Centennial. The bids came in ranging from 150-400K. The borough must accept the lowest bid. Unfortunately when the bid specs went out with three drawings, a main and alternates. The main specs were supposed to be for a soccer field with the alternates for baseball, however the reversed drawings were made. The committee was in favor of the soccer being the main focus.

The committee is looking into a Facebook page for the recreation committee to own. Access for All has one.

Debbie has been in touch with Greg and Eileen regarding pickle ball. The courts at Pascack Valley can be used for pickle ball and Debbie has been in touch with a company. In order to reserve them some decisions need to be made sooner than later. Tony and/or Greg will follow up to see we can get this set up.

John Corring is putting together a fundraiser for a family in town. The recreation committee stands behind John Corring in this. He did ask if he was allowed to have food trucks or a bbq. There will be a discussion based on the food options.

Sara Armstrong will be asked to work on the summer concert series. She has an idea for a concert series for children. This would be one in which the children learn all about classical music and different instruments in a series of classes, at the end the children will be able to perform their own concert.

Sara also recommends using the grant discussed earlier at Ralph Park. This is a forgotten park where a lot of the neighborhood children go. There can be swings added or other things added in the areas that are just gravel.

Updates from the HS liaisons are that now PV will be named Panthers not Indians. As of now, prom and graduation are on. Sports are being played, there is wrestling and volleyball that just started. Lacrosse and baseball will be starting as well.

Sports Association comments

Drew was disappointed to hear that the bid that went out had the soccer as the alternate drawing spec. He wants to know who reviews the specs before they go out for bid. The borough engineer crafted the request but we will look into the review of it.

Lacrosse practice starts right away with games starting on 3/27. Football will be putting in their permit requests now.

Tom Clancy joined the call. He wanted to represent his application to use the band shell for his dance program. The committee believes that this request will be granted as long as there is no safety issue with the roof.

Greg motions to close and Corring 2nds

Closed 8:26

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Anides

Next meeting, April 1st.