

## Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday March 5, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Attendees: Theresa Miller, Pat McGlone, Diane Doherty, Lenny Wagner, Dan Posternock, Lauren Romano, Joe Horwitz, Cyndee Solomon, Candace Coleman, Sal Petriello, Luca Petriello, Joshua Bowers, Mike Miceli, Tamara Johns

Absent: Chris Schaeffer, Jessica Vosbikian, Dave Zipin, Danielle Miller

1. Welcome – from Chair Sal Petriello
2. Minutes from 2/6/24 meeting were confirmed with no changes
3. Chairman's Report/Goals: Sal – some member's goals have been received; please send all outstanding ones to Theresa. At our next meeting we will be putting the goals up on a board to discuss and deciding which ones to flesh out. Sal described a parch band event like the one held annually in Collingswood. This would be a town-wide event with food or food trucks. He nominated Lauren to lead this effort and suggested that the planners aim for a small event, held on Main Street in the Fall. Sal has reached out to some of the more senior members of the RAC to get some ideas of what's been done before and to get some ideas of what we can do going forward. Sal said Town Council is looking at the RAC, as well as other committees, to see what we are accomplishing so we will need to step up and get more involved.
4. Committee Reports:
  - a. Teens – Luca has created a group chat to keep all teen RAC members communicating. Some of their ideas include an Arbor Day event, ideas to use the football field more and drive in movies in the Summer. There was also some discussion about expanding the Challenger/special needs sports programs, possibly with flag football. Mike will contact Dan to discuss this further. The sports equipment collection will be held in the Spring as well as some of the equipment distribution. Luca has made up a draft flyer to advertise the collection. Swaps will be held at some parks and some kids sporting events. Collection will start on 5/13 and will run until approximately 6/7. Places discussed for distribution of the equipment include the SLBC Kayak Race and Moorestown Day.
  - b. Special Needs – Diane thanked everyone who volunteered for the Family Game Night and said it was both a fundraising success as well as well-received family event. SpEAC just held an Executive Functioning parent seminar and the next SpEAC meeting will be March 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.
  - c. SLBC – Lenny said the group has been approached by a kayak rental company re: installing lockers at the park that would contain rental canoes and paddles as well as life preservers. The suggested area to install these would be two units of four lockers each near the floating docks. SLBC would get 50% of the rental fees and the rental company would take care of all maintenance of the equipment. There were some questions about the \$19,000 purchase

- price shown in the brochure Lenny passed around. The company that approached SLBC is unknown to Theresa and her contacts in the NJ parks and recreation committee so she may call for some references. It was suggested that SLBC look for other companies that do these rentals and compare them. There will be further discussions with George Gravenstine for more details. Theresa said she will let Kevin Aberant know that we like this idea and will be seeking out further information on it.
- d. MoorArts – Candace let us know that the Comedy Night Fundraiser is coming up soon and tickets are now on sale for the event. Candace is considering reviving the group Moorestown Creates as part of Sustainable Moorestown and she has spoken to Wolf Scakel about this. Kahra Buss will be scheduling a meeting with the original people from Moorestown Creates to get an idea of where the interest lies. Tamara and Pat would like to get seniors involved in this initiative as well.
5. Recreation Advisory Committee purpose/charter: the charter for this group was re-written about a year ago with input from all members. Lenny used the analogy that in can seem like this committee is “friends of the library instead of the library trustees.” i.e. we are a group of volunteers as opposed to the group directing recreation.
  6. Director’s Report – Theresa said that the rec basketball program is wrapping up and Spring programs are beginning. She reminded us that all RAC members need to create a recreation department account on the website [www.moorestownrec.com](http://www.moorestownrec.com) so that we can stay informed on what’s offered. There was a virtual meeting with the mayor and town council re: the green space next to the rec building. There is a concept plan online that can be reviewed. On Wednesday, 3/6 Theresa and Sal are meeting with all the chairs of the Moorestown sports groups. The township will be holding another meeting re: Yancy Adams park on 3/6/24. The Historical Society has received a grant to preserve the history of the West End Center. This center was used as a community center for local blacks when the Community House on Main Street was segregated. The building was torn down in the 1960’s and stood in the area that is now Yancy Adams Park. Rec Summer programs are gearing up and hiring has begun. These programs include theater camp, sports camps and a special needs/inclusive camp. The camp for people with special needs is entirely supported by fundraising efforts and this camp costs about \$50,000 per summer to run. Homegrown Moorestown will be hosting a Longest Table Event on Friday 5/31/24. They are hoping to get at least 200 tables reserved for this fundraiser and all proceeds will go to Mission Voice (which supports the camp for people with special needs.) Registration will be on the rec website and will be \$20 per person with tables of 6 people each. They will supply the table and you bring your own tablecloth, food and beverage. This event is for people 21 and older and is BYOB.
  7. Old Business – none
  8. New Business – Sal is recommending that we hold Summer meetings so that the RAC does not lose momentum. These could be virtual meeting or sub-committee meetings.