

Middlesex Recreation Commission
1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, NJ 08846
Commission Meeting Minutes for July 13, 2015

Chair Sherley Penrose opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Commission members present:

Cassius Kennick
Sherley Penrose
Rich Rutkowski
Lileen Schwarz

Members Absent:

Glenn Dickey
Bob May
Rich Tarbous

Also present:

Dina Fornataro-Healey, Recreation Director
Mike Girvan, Assist. Recreation Director
Steve Greco, Council Liaison

Cassius Kennick made a motion to accept June 2015 minutes with a second by Rich Rutkowski and approved by all members present.

Buddy Ball Program Leader, Alaina Chemey, was presented with the outstanding Volunteer Award.

Public Session:

No one present

Directors Report

- Artstechsolutions Theatre Camp will run August 3rd-7th.
- Basketball Clinics for boys and girls in grades 3-8 are in discussions for the fall. There would be 16 days for \$30 per child.
- Cross Country fall program is being worked on with Rich Thomasey.
- Eating for Energy's June 15th second seminar was held with Amy Napoli. There were 7 in attendance. Very good information was given.
- Tennis camp begins on July 6th and runs for the week.
- The summer Happy Camper Club program sold out all 6 weeks.
- PonyShare summer camp will run from July 13th-July 17th at Mt. View Park. There are 8 registered thus far.
- Soccer has 57 kids registered so far and the deadline is August 3rd.
- Men's Softball is 2 weeks behind the original schedule due to rain outs. If it should rain on July 16th then playoffs will begin the following week.

- Movie Night in the Park is scheduled for July 10th and August 7th.
- MountainView Park's new entryway sign was ordered and received. The old sign was lost during Super Storm Sandy. DPW will install as soon as possible. The map holder and info center have been ordered.
- Summer Playground camp runs through August 7th. There are 56 registered at Mt. View Park location and 32 for the Watchung location.
- Yoga has 7 registered for the session scheduled to begin on July 6th. It will be pushed back one week until it gets the 10 people needed.
- National Night Out will be on August 4th in Mt. View Park.
- The HUD committee will be purchasing a baby changing station for the men's restroom in the Recreation Center.

Councilmatic report -

1. Recreation Director to go through old files so auditor can determine exact amount of Trust money available.
2. Council member Greco stated it was explained to him that additional help for Recreation is a budgetary concern. For example, if Recreation programs increase then additional help will increase too.
3. Mt. View Park sign was put up on July 13th.
4. Gate at the basketball/tennis courts to accommodate residents with disabilities is being looked into by the Mayor.

Trust Account and Account details report

Motion to accept made by Cassius Kennick pending the auditors' approval and seconded by Rich Rutkowski. Roll call was taken with all Commissioners approving.

Commission Committee reports - No reports

Board of Education Report - No representative

Correspondence – None

Volunteer nomination – None

New Business

1. Recreation Director made a proposal for the men's and women's restrooms in the Recreation Center to be renovated. It would be completed in 2 phases. The women's restroom to be completed in 2015 and the men's restroom to be completed in 2016. This proposal will be revisited.
2. Recreation Director would like to have the west side of the road in the back of MVP closed off to traffic on a permanent basis. With more use of the park, it is becoming a safety concern with children using the field on one side and the playground on the other. There is also more residents using the park to walk and ride bikes and traffic has become more of a concern. Commission directed the

chair to write to the Mayor and Council explaining our position on this issue and asking for permanent closure of the road.

Old Business

1. Consideration has been asked to create soccer and basketball programs for high school students who wish to play while not on the high school teams. The fact is if Recreation is to expand and have more programs, such as this one for high school age residents, then additional full time help is required. Councilman Greco will advise the Mayor and Council about the need for more help
2. Council member Greco will follow up on a request to install a gate that can accommodate people with disabilities who wish to use the tennis or basketball courts. At this time the only way to access these areas is from either side of the courts by way of steps. Suggestion is to have it installed next to the existing large gates right of the parking lot. The Mayor is looking into this.
3. MountainView Park's new entryway sign was ordered, received and put up.

Seeing no other old or new business, Commissioner Penrose read a statement advising residents that the approved minutes will be available on the Borough Website within three working days of the meeting and the agenda for the next meeting will be posted on the Recreation Bulletin Board no later than 48 hours prior to the monthly meeting.

At 8:05 p.m., Commissioner Rich Rutkowski made a motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Cassius Kennick.

Next Recreation Commission meeting will be August 10th, 2015, 7:30 pm at the Recreation Center.

Minutes submitted by
Linda Chicarelli, Rec-Commission Secretary