

TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD ("PRAB")
Minutes of February 2, 2016 Meeting

In Attendance: Susan Lichten, Brendan Molloy, Karl Hinrichs, Charlene Decker, Frank Lattarullo, Stephen D'Angelo, Matt Trainor, Lisa Larsen, Jennifer Giusti

Absent: Norma Hill, Daniel Zenkel

The Minutes of the January 5, 2016 meeting were accepted and approved.

Stephen D'Angelo announced the appointment of Susan Lichten as Chairman of PRAB.

Update and Request for Advisory Approval on:

1. Replacing of Backstop at IBM Field 1: Matt has one quote in the amount of \$10,400 and is currently waiting to receive another quote and the backstop will replicate the backstop in Fields 2 and 3.
2. Lombardi Park Pavilion Roof: The roof has significant deterioration. Two quotes have been received to take off the old roof and to install the new roof; one for \$11,500 and the other for \$11,950.
3. To be presented in March - Clove Road Field Dugout Replacement: Approximately six to eight years ago, the roof caught a wind gust and pulled off part of the dugout. The Town Building Inspector took a look and said that it's not going to fall tomorrow, but don't wait too long before replacing it. The PRAB recommends replacing both dugouts, not just the one. Matt Trainor is obtaining proposals and has also approached Bob Candrea for contractor recommendations or for possible donations.

A motion was made and accepted authorizing Matt Trainor to go to Town Board for Items 1 & 2 above.

Camp & Pool 2016 Update

Matt Trainor reported that the School District will not give the go ahead with camp dates until the school calendar is set. We are patiently waiting and are anticipating camp to run from 7/5 through 8/12, six weeks. Pool pass renewals will be able to be done online, only if the pass selected is the same as last year, and given that the Town will be operating the pool again this year.

Discussion on naming of facilities and memorials in Parks continued

A handout was distributed which included guidelines from three other municipalities: Rye, Port Chester, and Greenburg. All three handouts use similar language. The Town Board is requesting guidelines; Matt Trainor will draft a document for the PRAB's review, discussion and editing.

IBM Parking Lot Project

We are very close to striping the lot and a handout was distributed showing two options prepared by Kellard. Both options include angled parking; the difference is that option one has two painted islands by the entrance/exit, which gives a turnaround area and option two has one island at the entrance/exit with no turnaround area. Planters should be placed at the corners of the painted islands instead of poles. PRAB members feel option two is preferred; keep it simple and potentially less dangerous than having a turnaround area.

Introduction of Jennifer Giusti, Senior Recreation Leader at North Castle Rec and Parks

Matt Trainor introduced Jennifer Giusti who was hired in June 2015 and then gave the floor to Jennifer. Jen has worked in recreation all her life, mostly aquatics, but has run camps, programs for all ages, and basketball programs as well. She hit the ground running with the pool. She is also in charge of programming at the North Castle Community Center in North White Plains, as well as programming at Hergenhan. She scheduled programs from AM to PM for the winter 2016 program brochure. Registration was poor; only one or two registrations for a handful of the classes. There is a lot of competition from Mt. Pleasant and White Plains. Mt. Pleasant runs programs in their schools. Another big problem is transportation. There is no bus from Armonk to North White Plains; there is a bus from Valhalla schools to Clove Road which can accommodate 15-20 kids max. There is also competition from the North Castle Library. We are going to try to partnership with the library because both entities are hurting. Karl Hinrichs asked two specific questions of Jennifer:

Q. What do or don't you worry about that might keep you awake at night?

A. Getting kids into programs in North White Plains. There is a need but it has to be cost effective.

Q. What is the direction three years from now if you had an unlimited budget?

A. For the Town to buy the pool. If programmed properly, the pool could bring in a lot of money. She would like to offer more options for Teens and would like to be able to offer scholarships or discounted rates for the people of North White Plains. We have to do a better job of tracking those entering the NCCC building and decide on how far we want to go in serving non-residents at a discounted rate. We have to make sure our residents are being served the most.

Liz Duffy, Senior Recreation Leader for Senior Citizens will be introduced at the March meeting.

Discussion on Private Rentals / Use of Recreation Facilities by Private Instructors

Matt has had requests from private instructors who are looking to rent a space to use to run their program. There is a stipulation that Town facilities are not be used for money-making profit. Matt has received more and more for-profit inquiries and has had to put them on hold. He sees it as an opportunity to make some money if the gym is not being used and available. Matt will come up with a fee for discussion at the next PRAB meeting; perhaps have a "Commercial" category.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 6:15 PM.