

# August 2013 Recreation Commission Meeting

## Meeting Open to the Public:

**Maria Elena Bellinger, Council Liaison:** Report given by Sue. Maria was approached by several parents who were not happy with being told by the Tackle & Cheer Group that they either had to work a coin toss or write out a check for \$50.00. This requirement imposed by Tackle & Cheer has to do with paying off the lights at West Brook School. Maria feels that such requirements need to be noted in our brochure. This morning Mrs. Caruso who I believe is the new chair of that group called wanting to know what can be done about some mom who has written them three bad checks. She wants to file a complaint with the police. I told her how we handle such situations but did not offer her any help or advice. **Discussion – Borough Attorney should be approached about what we should or shouldn't put in our brochure concerning the fees that Tackle & Cheer and/or other parent groups require.**

**Discussion concerning a scholarship girl who dropped out of cheerleading due to inability of her family to come up with all the extra charges associated with cheerleading. Commission agrees to split these costs. Sue to look into what these costs are.**

**Joseph Sexton, Superintendent of Shade Tree & Parks:** Crews are preparing all the facilities for the fall sport programs. All facilities will be ready by next week.

The Board of Education will be lining the West Brook Football Practice Field.

Capital money has been allocated to resurface the Sports Complex Basketball Court as well as one of the two tennis courts. The second tennis court will be replaced with a surface that will allow for volleyball and other activities.

Funds have been allocated to replace the fence at Sirianni Park that separates the park from the golf course.

## Director's Report

**Trust Funds:** In conversation with Mr. D'Arco this past summer, he told me that the funds in our trust accounts at some point turn over to the borough's general account. It is illegal how we have been using our trust funds. If this is the case then I suggest that we reduce the prices of many of our programs. The enrollments would probably go up significantly, which might cause other issues. **Discussion – Meeting needs to be set up between Shade Tree & Recreation before any one or both departments approach the CFO.**

**Parisi Speed School:** Brandon has been calling me about running training sessions for our athletes. He has hooked up with the club soccer teams in town and now wants to target our soccer program for additional business. **NO**

**Summer Programs:** The tennis enrollment numbers continue to decline. Enrollment the first three weeks was 37 kids and the second three weeks 34 kids. It is definitely not our instructors as they are two nice young men. Depending on where our program is to take place next year, I would think about switching the program from the morning to the evening. In 2012 the salaries for our tennis staff of two totaled \$2199.00. This year the amount spent on the same two was \$2168.00.

Our summer basketball program ran one week later than planned due to some cancellations due to rain. In 2012 the salaries for our basketball staff was \$1150.00. This year the amount spent on the basketball staff was \$951.00. Seventy nine kids took part in this program.

We have made it through another summer playground. The weather for the last day was a bit iffy and so I had to make changes to the items I had originally ordered for that last day. As a result we presently have \$3995 credit with Party Perfect Rentals which I will be using towards as our Pumpkin Hunt as well as Tree Lighting/Winter Carnival. For Winter Carnival I plan on ordering a giant Snow Globe that people will go in and have their picture taken.

Bob and I are really not satisfied with the performance of the teachers that we have overseeing the Midland Kindergarten thru Second Grade Playground. The one time that I pulled up there unannounced it was like turning on the lights and having the cockroaches scatter. Bob noticed that himself and we had several parents comment on what they see as a lack of supervision. The Tuesday of the last week, we were notified at 9 a.m. that the water was being turned off for the day at Midland School due to work in the neighborhood. I made the decision to send everyone over to our other Kindergarten through Second location at Stony Lane for the day. Pam came in my office at the end of the day really upset and in tears. She runs her location like we want it to be run, making sure that her counselors do their jobs. There was much friction between Pam and Lois. Several of the Midland counselors were rude to Pam and her staff. This carried over to the last day when both locations combine for the last day picnic. What Bob and I have discussed is having only one Kindergarten through Second Grade Site next summer. Midland this year had 142 kids during the first three weeks, about 117 for the second three weeks. Stony Lane averaged 45 kids the entire summer. Pam said she could handle up to 200 children as long as we gave her one additional teacher. We wouldn't have to fire any of the Midland Staff. We would place each one of the three teachers at our other sites. Some of them might choose not to come back, as might some of our other teachers who are already stationed at the other sites. One of Pam's teachers is thinking of having a second child and might not be working with us next year to begin with. Bob thinks that extra EMT that we would have to place should be assigned to the trip program. Also, Bob thinks all our summer staff should have to sign off on a contract of sorts – a list of rules and regulations and what will be expected of them. This would include the site supervisors. **Discussion – should not hire back anyone who isn't doing what is expected of them.**

The trip program sold out for the first time in several years. By the second session, everyone on the wait list of 20 some kids were at least offered the opportunity to be in the second session. We had a number of parents call to drop their kids from full six weeks to the first three weeks and so it was easier to accommodate everyone on the list.

Last year the salaries for our playground staff came to \$126,787.69. This year the total was \$130,279.96. We need to budget for the lead teachers at each site to make more than the teachers who are at each site as assistants.

**Tackle Football:** Tom Wiedemann is suggesting that recreation stop supplying girdles and pads to the boys as they come back too dirty to re-use. He feels that the parents should buy their sons these girdles, which go for \$19.99 at Sports Authority. **The rec department's girdles should at least be offered to everyone. Those who want to buy their own can do so.**

I recently requested a resolution be drawn up so that we can dispose of football equipment that is no longer usable. I was surprised at the amount of shoulder pads that are being thrown out – something like 178 pairs.

**Baseball:** Barry Abel stopped by earlier in the week to ask about the reimbursement. At that time I asked him what Major League Baseball Teams would be sponsored by Babe Ruth this fall – none – anyone with a team is doing it on their own. Therefore I will require certificates of insurance from any team wanting to use our field and if the membership is not 100% Paramus residents, I will require the fee of \$100 per game or practice. A week or so ago, the mayor emailed me concerning baseball games being scheduled on the major league field at the complex this fall. He advised me that before any schedules are made I should check with him. As you know the complex is set up for football and soccer games once softball is finished. The football league does require roping off of the playing area. As far as the soccer field, the goals are anchored into the ground and not easily moved. Also bleachers are set out for the spectators. To have baseball games played there in the fall would require Jay's crews to continually move the soccer goals and bleachers. **Discussion – all in agreement that major league baseball should not be played at the complex in the fall.**

**Intown Soccer:** As usual there is a shortage of volunteer coaches, most evident in the 6<sup>th</sup> through eighth grade girls' league where we have one of four coaches needed.

Because of low numbers in the seventh & eighth grade boys' league we restructured the leagues so that the 5<sup>th</sup> graders are playing with the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> graders and the 6<sup>th</sup> graders are playing with the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Also, by restructuring the leagues, we had enough coaches to cover all of the levels.

Bob reported that at this point, after many emails to the parents of girls in the 6th thru 8th grade indoor soccer league, he still has only one coach for a four team league. What he wants to do is make it a three team league, which will allow for a later start but still get in a full schedule. **Laura suggested that he contact last year's Coach of the Year, Dave Pagliaro.**

**Travel Soccer:** The league that we have been in for 30+ years does not have enough teams to support a U12 Girls Division. I have reached out to another travel league in the area about accepting our girls into their league but have yet to hear back. We know of at least 2 girls

on this team that do not play club soccer and so if they ask we are going to put them into the intown league, even though we are at the maximum of 16 per team.

**Inline Skating:** I did cancel the 7 p.m. class due an enrollment of four kids. This is no longer a strong program. There are 24 kids enrolled in the 5 p.m. class and 16 kids enrolled in the 6 p.m. class. I sent letters out to the three boys who have worked this program the last couple of years and have yet to hear back from any of them. **Discussion – Laura to ask her son if he would be interested in working this program.**

**Phys Ed For Tots:** Tried reaching out to the girl who has been our instructor for the past couple of years advising her of my plans to consolidate down to two classes per Saturday. Have yet to hear from her. The numbers are as follows: 4 @ 9 a.m. 3 @ 9:45 a.m. & 2 @ 10:30 a.m. 4 @ 11:15 a.m. Should I just cancel this activity? **Discussion – Laura knows some college girls who live in Paramus who might be interested.**

**Volleyball:** Maria Elena, her assistant coaches and players will be running our volleyball program this season. Since they will all be volunteers and not paid employees they do not need to get drug tested. In the past we have paid people to run this program. Maria Elena would like this program to take place in the High School's Varsity Gym. I have put in a request for that. Maria Elena thinks it would be nice that if at the end of the season we provided them with a pizza party. **OK**

**Winter Brochure:** I have been working on the winter brochure. I do not plan on offering Baton as no one really called to complain about cancelling this program this past Fall. Again, the numbers are so low, that it is not worth all the effort into finding & hiring Baton Instructors. The fact that everyone has to get drug tested doesn't make the task of finding these workers any easier. Last time we ran this program I had put baton in the West Brook Cafeteria because of the low numbers and needing the gym space for basketball.

What are we doing about wrestling? Wrestling gets advertised in this brochure. **Vince to contact Joe Mancuso and get back to Sue with information for the brochure.**

**Pumpkin Hunt:** Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

**Tree Lighting/Winter Carnival:** The Mayor is going to establish a date. This event may be held on a Sunday afternoon starting at around 3 or 4 p.m. with tree being lit at the conclusion of the event. A Friday night is also being considered.

**Men's Softball:** Elks defeated Biagio's in the semi-final round before taking two of three from War Dogs to win this year's championship.

**Vacation:** I have 22 vacation days left. I'll be taking Friday off, going to the Ohio State Home Opener. I will be taking the first week of October off and probably taking most of December off.

## **Acknowledgement of Coaches:**

### **Tackle Football**

Vince Feorenzo  
Charles Field – Pee Wee Head  
Thomas Myack  
Joseph Mancuso  
Michael Martinelli  
Domenic Salvemini  
James Dolack  
James Connolly  
Charles Alaimo  
Carlo Lalomia  
Kevin Carmichael  
Frank Brenniser  
Sean Jones  
Thomas Wiedemann  
Robert Voorhis  
Andrew McElroy  
Anthony Feorenzo  
Greg Gass

### **Travel Soccer**

Michael Rohdieck – Freshman Boys  
Katelyn Weiss  
William Burke  
William Remschel  
Andrew McDevitt

### **Travel Basketball**

Joan Daniels

### **Cheerleading**

Tara Denicolo  
Toni Hroncich  
Stacey Heron  
Dina Pecoraro  
Sandra Martorano  
Jeanne LaFerlita

### **Competition Cheer**

Kimberly McAvoy  
Jaclyn Spallitta

### **Intown Soccer**

John Mattessich  
Emil Trione  
Anand Shulka  
John Cascone  
David LaGrone  
Thomas Park

Jason Durand  
Brian McAvoy  
Raymond Allen  
Rocco DiStefano  
Alexander Villatore  
Michael Ramirez

Ronald Gilmartin  
Michael Patti  
Timothy Coyle  
Gary Moffitt  
Michael Somma

## **Committee Reports**

**Football:** Tom Locicero brought up the problem with the football jerseys that were ordered by the football association that were delivered in the wrong sizes. **Discussion – In order for the Rec Department to order jerseys, at least three informal quotes would be**

**needed. Time does not permit for this as these jerseys are needed for next week. The parents are going to be asked to pay for the jerseys and the boys' names will be put on them as they will be theirs' to keep.**

**Basketball:** Steve advised Sue that another gym other than West Brook (new) is needed for the boys' senior league as there is no place for the spectators to go.

**Lacrosse:** Steve asked why helmets are not required for girls who play lacrosse. **Bill S explained the differences between the boys & girls game.**

**Girls' Softball:** Vince noted that we need to rearrange the grade/age requirements for our travel softball teams.

With concern to the intown league next season, Tom L thinks that we need to go with less teams to avoid all of the forfeits that occurred.

**Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. by Vince**

**Seconded by Tom L**