

## October 2013 Meeting of the Paramus Recreation Commission

**Meeting Open to the Public:** Patti Scornavacca, Lisa Milordo & John Driscoll from Heart to Heart & Associates LLC with a proposal to run some special needs programming through the Recreation Commission. **Discussion**

Maria & Bruce Fernandes asking that consideration be given in placing their son on the fifth grade travel basketball team. A problem with registering online resulted in their son being placed on the wait list. **Discussion**

**Maria Elena Bellinger, Council Liaison:** Asked why are coaches allowed in the gym during the tryouts? Someone approached her about this and said it was unfair. **Discussion – next year no coaches in the gyms during tryouts.**

Our rec volleyball program under her direction is doing well. Each session she has three varsity players, 3 JV players and 2 freshman players helping out alongside herself and one of her assistant coaches.

**Joseph Sexton, Superintendent of Shade Tree & Parks:** The slide at the Madison Playground has been fixed. A piece of equipment here at Petruska Park has also been fixed. Jay's next Petruska Park project is to replace one of the slides.

Jay wanted to know if there is a schedule in place for making sure the AED's are all in working order – batteries not dead. **Discussion – Have Mr. D'Arco ask the ambulance corp to monitor the AED's.**

The volleyball project slated for the Sports Complex is on hold. An alternate site is being sought. One thought is to convert the tennis courts at East Brook School which are no longer being maintained. **Discussion**

**Present Jay's Capital Budget Plans for the Rec Commission as well as for the Sports Complex.**

### Director's Report

**Rec Budget for 2014:** Present Budget Plan for 2014. **Discussion – Include the facility scheduling module.**

**Travel Basketball:** The tryouts have concluded. Mike Mongelli is planning on coaching the seventh grade team. He has stated that he wants to carry ten boys. His son as well as another boy will be trying out in a couple of weeks because they were both injured during the tryout time frame. Therefore notices will not be going out to that grade level until those boys have tried out and been rated. On the eighth grade level, Alex Dunn prefers to carry ten but because there is a boy who was also injured during the time of the tryouts, he will take eleven if this boy rates higher than any of the top ten. Alex wants to start practice as soon as possible and so he does not want to delay the notices going out. Joe Berardi, the former Syracuse player, will be

coaching the fifth grade boys' team. That is the one group that did not require a tryout because at the deadline there were only twelve boys registered. However after the deadline passed five parents called with all sorts of claims about why they hadn't registered their sons on time. They were all put on our waitlist and already two have come off of that wait list as two of the original twelve have decided not to play travel basketball. I thought I had done a really good job of avoiding conflicts with all our fall activities but it ended up that I had the second tryout for the boys' 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams scheduled for the same night of a Senior "C" Football Game. I'm not sure how many boys were affected but we did hear from two parents.

We only got the results late this afternoon and so I will be sending out the letters tomorrow after Bob double checks to make sure that I have all the top ten selections correct.

**Travel Soccer:** We are once again hosting all the championship games. Championship Saturday will take place on November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Sports Complex starting at 9 a.m. The fifth and last game is scheduled to start at 4 p.m. With the exception of our U10 Boys' Team all our travel teams are either in first or second place with a combined record of 26 & 4. The U10 Boys' team is not doing as well and is just 1 & 5 and in last place. **Discussion – look into joining Northern Counties**

**Tackle Football:** Paramus H.S. will be the site of this year's Super Bowl, which is also scheduled for Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. The rain-date would be Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Winter Registration:** Is now being accepted On Line. Mail In Registration ended yesterday. In Person Registration will be held next Monday and Tuesday. Late Registration will begin on Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Bids:** Have gone out. Deadline for returning them is Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Football:** A storage POD from Pods Enterprises has been donated to the Borough of Paramus Recreation Football Program. A resolution was drawn up so that this donation could be accepted.

**Softball:** At the last meeting I brought up that I had met with Mike Rennar and he had given me a list of ideas that he and a newly formed softball parents' association have come up with in order to revitalize girls' softball in this town. Does anyone have any comments concerning those proposals?

**Wrestling:** I met with Joe Mancuso on Monday afternoon. He is really interested in bringing the wrestling program to another level and eliminating all the problems associated in the past between the two "camps." Some of his ideas include: lowering the age to six – many other communities start their programs with six year olds; he would like a year round program – like we have pick-up basketball, he would like what he called "roll-arounds." He is seeking practices during the winter break – which I know the travel basketball coaches would also want.

This coming season there needs to be more matches being held in Paramus. He is going to put together an estimate of what he thinks we would be spending on tournaments and trainers. Just today, I got feedback from Bridget concerning Joe's requests for use of the high school on Saturdays for meets and a large fundraising tournament. The problem is that Rec cannot use the high school gyms before 1 p.m. Joe indicated this restriction is going to severely hamper the fundraising efforts of his parents' group. I suggested looking into the use of OLV. A major problem with using another site is that the mats are going to have to be moved. **Discussion – Sue to contact Bergen Community College**

**Intown Basketball:** On the Clinic level, Bob and I have decided to add an extra first grade as well as second grade session on Monday nights. As a result of this addition we are then lowering the number of kids per session on Wednesdays & Fridays from 30 to 20 to make it a more manageable activity. We also decided to hire Randy Sanchez to run this program for several reasons: the first being that we have gotten a ton of positive feedback concerning the job he has been doing with our 3X3 program; the second being that we struggle to get more than one volunteer coach to work the individual sessions.

**Paramus Junior Hockey:** Would like to advertise this clinic in our hallway. **SHOW FLYER OK to post in hallway.**

**Pumpkin Hunt:** This coming Saturday – setup at 9 a.m. – If it rains we will move inside and go to East Brook.

**Winter Carnival:** Are we charging to play the "games" with the proceeds going towards a fund for ill children in town? If so, how much 50 cents or one dollar? **NO**

### **Acknowledgement of Coaches**

#### **Travel Basketball**

Jean-Anne O'Neill  
James Abbruzzese  
Paul Buccola  
Bruce Berger  
Rob Hackel

#### **Intown Soccer**

Joseph Tavano  
Vicken Yaghdjian  
John Tabor\*  
Rami Audi  
Mike Iannantuano\*  
Gina Vitale\*

#### **Intown Soccer**

Andrea Guidetti  
Al Onove

#### **Intown Basketball**

Joseph Tavano  
Darlene Piserchia  
Al Abbatiello  
Jonathan Kim  
Al Onove

Brian Bedosky  
Amedeo Folcarelli  
Sergio Puentes  
Garry Rogers  
Thomas Gianquitti  
Joseph Sari

**\*NEED TO COMPLETE CONCUSSION CERTIFICATION**

**Assistant Director's Report** Intown soccer is progressing well with no major issues thus far. Out of our 36 intown teams, just one is winless (they do have a tie at least).

For intown basketball, I only have 4 intent to coach forms thus far; for indoor soccer I have 13. I'm hoping that once in-person registration begins on Monday, we'll see an increase in coaches. I have not yet scheduled rating sessions or drafts because I'm unsure when we'll have enough coaches in place. I sent an e-mail out to all our summer camp staff and previous 3x3 instructors to advertise our openings for score keepers and hall monitors. I have received 3 applications so far. Last year we needed about 15 scorekeepers and 5 hall monitors.

We met with a representative from Capture Point yesterday to discuss their Community Pass software as a replacement for RecTrac. Unfortunately, the longer we use RecTrac, we're discovering more and more issues that make our daily lives difficult. Mr. D'Arco suggested we look into a new system when the new volunteer/veteran discount came up because we explained to him that our current system could not handle the discount and would lead to a lot of inconvenience for those volunteers/veterans (i.e. they cannot register online).

I have some experience with Community Pass since I've worked with other Rec Departments who use it. I also did an internship with one of their salesmen when he owned his own tennis company. It's an internet-based software so from IT's perspective it would be a great upgrade and mean less work on hardware and servers for them. From the pool's perspective, Stephanie outlined several problems she has with RecTrac on a regular basis that could be solved with Community Pass. Similarly, many of the special situations we deal with (i.e. the 50% discount on activities but not uniforms or transfers from tryouts to travel teams) would be easier to handle.

As with any major change like this, there will be some hurdles to get past. The biggest issue would be bringing our RecTrac database over to Community Pass. The sales rep assured us that it is possible and they have done it in the past for other departments (most recently in Linden) migrating from RecTrac.

I researched some other software but do not believe they would 1) solve our problems and 2) be able to accommodate both Rec and the Pool fully. The programs I looked into were: JackRabbit (which I've personally used), MyRec, RecDesk and E-Desk.

Ultimately, my belief is that now is a good time to move to a newer, more user friendly software. RecTrac is full of features (things like locker rental management and golf course management) but we do not use these and it does not make it worthwhile to stick with a software that cannot properly handle the things we do. Community Pass offers an "a la carte" model where we can pick the modules we need, so I think it makes more sense to go with a software that caters to our actual needs and makes our lives easier. **Discussion**

### **Committee Reports**

**Board of Education:** Steve wanted to know if we have access to every gym possible especially on Saturdays. **Discussion**

**Motion to Adjourn at 9:10 p.m. by Vince**  
**Seconded by Donna**