



Hopewell Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, May 14, 2018

Present: Mike Chipowsky, Theresa Dolhon, Tom Finn, Paul Kinney, Rob Marino, Brian Ross, Burt Sutker, Kurt Vollherbst, and Judy Niederer - Director.

Absent: Kristin McLaughlin- Liaison, Mark Shreve

Call to Order/Minutes Approval

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Mike Chipowsky. The meeting minutes of Monday, April 16, 2018 were unanimously approved with a motion from Burt and a second from Tom.

Public Comment Section - There was a member of the public present; Mary Elizabeth Myers. She wanted to make a proposal that the Recreation Advisory Committee amend their field use policy specifically “to state that the residency requirements for the Competitive/Select programs be of no greater proportion than their representation in the affiliated recreational program. For example, if 1,000 children are enrolled in the HVBSA recreational program and 100 of them are non-residents, then each competitive/select team cannot have more than 10% of its players made up of non-residents. This will prevent the recruiting of out of towners that is currently taking place and prevent the situation that occurred this year that resulted in a team with only 4 Hopewell 4th graders on a 10U travel team from happening again.”

The director said that all members of the RAC will receive a copy of the email that was sent by the Myers family. Furthermore, the RAC members decided to look at the current Field Use Policies at their next meeting which will be held on September 17, 2018.

The director noted that the HVBSA is compliant with the non-residency requirement in that there has to be 51% of the roster as Hopewell Township residents. There are currently 71% Hopewell Township residents on the 2018 HVBSA roster. If you account for Pennington and Hopewell Borough players, then the percentage increases to 86% of the players residing in Hopewell Valley.

Liaison Report - No report

Director’s Report - Judy Niederer

- **Past Events** 4/25 “Carousel” on Broadway (sold out), 5/10 NY Botanical Gardens (sold out)
- **Upcoming Events** 5/17 NY Botanical Gardens (sold out), 5/21 Overnight Trip to Long Island & Hamptons (sold out), 5/24 Spirit of Philadelphia “Tall Ships Cruise” (sold out), 6/5 Surprise Trip (sold out), 6/24 HVVA Fireworks & Car Show. 6/25 Phillies vs. Yankees (sold out), 6/27 “My Fair Lady” on Broadway (sold out), 7/2 “River Lady” Paddlewheel Boat Cruise and Lunch on the Toms River (sold out), 7/11 Doolan’s Spring Lake (sold out), 8/28 “Songs of the Silver Screen at the American Music Theatre, 9/6 Hudson Valley Mansions Tour
- **Unfinished Business**
 - **Mercer At Play** - No report

- **Field Use Fees -**

- ◇ It was the consensus of the group that the increase in fees for the turf field is done incrementally so the youth sport organizations are not saddled with a large increase in field use in a one year time period.
 - ◇ It was also the consensus of the group that the increases occur on an every other year basis.
 - ◇ A recommendation was made to increase the turf field from \$37.50/hour to \$40.00/hour for no lights and from \$75.00/hour to \$80.00/hour with lights effective September 1, 2018.
 - ◇ A further recommendation was made that the field use fees be increased by a separate Ordinance in 2019 to be effective 1/1/20 from \$40.00/hour to \$45.00/hour for no lights and from \$80.00/hour to \$90.00/hour with lights.
 - ◇ Grass fields - still the consensus that the grass fields be available at no charge to the resident non-profit groups. A recommendation was made that a \$25.00/hour fee be charged to any resident youth or adult group that is not a non-profit group. This gives the director the ability to charge non-resident groups \$50.00/hour for the use of grass fields.
 - ◇ The last recommendation was that there is no charge for the use of both the basketball and tennis courts because they should not be “rented” to groups and be kept open to for general public use only.
- **Open Space & Recreation Element of the Master Plan -** The Planning Board will be reviewing and discussing the Open Space & Recreation Element of the Master Plan at their May 24th meeting. The recreation director will attend the meeting to answer any questions they may have regarding the Recreation aspect of the plan.

New Business

- None at this time.

Comments for the Good of the Order -

Meeting Open to the Public - No members of the public were present at the conclusion of the meeting.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm with a motion by Tom and a second by Paul.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 17 at 7pm.