

Byram Township Recreation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 20, 2017 7:30 P.M.
Agenda/Notes

- I. Call meeting to order, 7:30 PM Flag Salute, Moment of Silence
- II. Roll Call:

Charles Kranz	Chairperson	x
Robert Brady	Member	x
Bill Schilling	Member	
Diana Fleming	Secretary	
Dina Trunzo	Member	x
Len Bicher	Member	x
Shawn Armstrong	Member	
	Alternate 1	
	Alternate 2	
Janet Meisner	Recreation Director	x
Nisha Kash	Council Liaison	

- III. Approval of notes from August 16, 2017 - *approved*
- IV. Key items for discussion and possible action:
 - a. Committee goals for 2017 – Charlie Kranz- The following are goals to be considered. – *approved with several rewordings. See attached codicil*
 Goal#1 Research grant opportunities which may be available for sports, passive recreational activities or cultural, social and educational programs.(Discussion: check NRPA & NJRPA websites for upcoming grant info)
 Goal #2 Improvements to fields and trails:
 - a) Investigate the building of three kiosks at COJ Park. They will contain information such as where each field is located, distance of walking paths, and information regarding the various sports organizations. Possible locations would be near the field house, near the entrance by the large parking lot, and finally, one by the stairs at the Roseville parking lot. In addition, add mile markers to the walking path (ex. ¼ mile. ½ mile etc) (discussion: We would look for scouts or others to build the kiosks using plans we have from previous kiosks. We would provide access to each of the sports groups. Could also hold NRPA Posters on wellness, walking, etc.)
 - b) Inquire about the acquisition of new field lights. Newark Airport replaces their lights each year. They donate them to different communities. (Discussion: Would the twp allow installation? Could the sports groups fundraise to pay for installation? Bob will look into additional info.)
 - c) Promote our trails. Research best ways to encourage Geocaching(Discussion: Use the school’s electronic backpacks, Put info on police message board. Add info to official and unofficial Byram social media.)
 Goal #3 Research to find funding opportunities to review our parks to ensure that they are ADA compliant. Findings would be sent to the Mayor, Council and Manager to determine if this is an issue they wish to pursue. Review should be done by an ADA consultant.
 - b. Giovanni DiMeo has expressed his desire to resign from the Recreation Committee with an email to the Township Clerk.
 - i. Moves Robert Brady into full member position and leaves two alternate spots open.
 - ii. Leaves Vice Chair position open. Fill now or wait until January Reorganization meeting?
 – *Len Bicher was elected as Vice Chairperson*
 - c. Winter Sports Council
 - i. 8:30 start time so that current coaches can make the meeting

- ii. Wrestling has asked for time in Byram Schools
 - 1. 80% of their kids are Byram kids (same as every sport)
 - 2. Difficulty for the past several years has been that the fire marshal has not allowed wrestling mats to be stored in hallways.
 - a. Met with school supt who has suggested that mats could be stored in Open Space as that area is no longer being used for instruction.
 - b. Mats would be wheeled out of Open Space, down the hall to APR or gym to be used.
 - 3. Including wrestling at Byram moves youth basketball, men's basketball and Saturday soccer to alternate schedules/locations
- a) *Wrestling will have 2 – 3 meets on Saturdays. Will try to schedule most of them in Dec before Soccer and Men's Basketball needs Sat space. They should have their meet schedule within the next week or so.*
- b) *Soccer doesn't need all the time on Sat. Men's Basketball will have 9:00 am – 11:00 am and Soccer will have 11:00 am – 7:00 pm. If Wrestling needs to schedule a Sat meet in Jan or Feb, they will cancel practice or hold it after the meet is over.*
- c) *Discussed use of Open Space for wrestling. Originally appeared that it would be available, but may not be at this time. Wrestling will readdress with the School Supt.*
- d) *Wrestling currently has 5 nights at Netcong Gym and 2 nights at Stanhope's APR. Willing to exchange time in Netcong or Stanhope for time in BIS APR or gym*
- e) *Youth Basketball will see if there is additional space in the Stanhope gym. If wrestling doesn't use the APR on two nights, could cheerleading move there and let Youth Basketball use the gym for 5 nights instead of the current 3 nights? If so, then Wrestling could have the Byram APR for 2 nights.*
- f) *Either Youth Basketball could use Netcong for 2 – 3 nights and use the Byram APR or gym 2 – 3 nights and Wrestling would use the opposite nights. Youth Basketball usually has two groups use the gym at a time and one group use the APR*
- g) *Men's basketball would like 2 nights, 8:00 – 9:30 in any gym except Stanhope (they still charge adult groups for weeknights). Netcong charges a fee for the "season", so it would also be more to pay for just a few hours each week. The Lakes School gym is too small for the men to play in. BIS Gym would work best, but Netcong would be a consideration.*
- h) *Group will get together again in one month (October 18) (or sooner) to finalize schedules once the aforementioned information is gathered. Soccer and Men's Basketball only need wrestling match schedule to work around.*

V. Recreation Director's Report

- a. Second Saturday Hikes – Oct 14 will become the Charity Hike instead of Cranberry Overlook.
- b. Afternoon Advantage classes (Drawing, Karate, Dance, Yoga, New – Healthy Eating mid Oct – Thanksgiving)
- c. Continue offering dance and karate in the dojo or dance studio
- d. Men's Basketball fall session
- e. Letters to Santa in Dec
- f. Holiday decorating contest?
- g. Not sure if Youth Guidance Council is running a Halloween or Holiday event
- h. Recreation Director is retiring Jan 1
 - i. Twp Council has expressed a commitment to continue Recreation in Byram although it may be in different formats

VI. Council Liaison Report –

VII. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports: - *These reports will be prepared by the lead committee person by the weekend before the Recreation Committee to be distributed prior to the meeting and discussed if there are comments/concerns*

- Buildings and Grounds: Shawn, Bob, Len
- Byram Day Committee: Giovanni, Charlie, Diana
- Lenape Valley Municipal Alliance: Dina
- Open Space Committee: Bill, Shawn
- Tri-Town Subcommittee : Dina
- Sports Council Subcommittee: Len, Bob
- Strategic Planning/Capital Improvements Subcommittee: Bill, Charlie – see goals above
- Walking/Biking Trails: Diana
- Council Liaison: Nisha Kash

VIII. Any other items from the committee

IX. Open to the public

X. Adjournment

Codicil: changes to Goals:

Goal #1 Research grant opportunities which may be available for sports, passive recreational activities, or cultural, social and educational programs.

Goal #2 Improvements to parks and trails:

- a) *Investigate the construction of three kiosks at COJ Park. Kiosks would contain information such as field location, distance of walking paths, information regarding the various sports organizations and other leisure activities. Possible locations would be near the fieldhouse, near the entrance by the large parking lot, and one by the stairs at the Roseville parking lot.*
- b) *Investigate the acquisition of new field lights. Newark Airport replaces their lights each year and donates them to different communities.*
- c) *Promote our trails. Research best ways to encourage Geocaching. Add mile markers to walking paths and trails (ex ½ mile, 1 mile. Etc.)*

Goal # 3 Research funding opportunities to review our parks to ensure that they are ADA compliant. Findings would be sent to the Mayor, Council and Township Manager to determine if this is an issue they wish to pursue. Review should be done by an ADA expert.