

**Midland Park Board of Recreation
Meeting Minutes - April 5, 2021**

Attendance:

Recreation Board Members: John Torry, Laurie Ten Kate, Greg Baiunco, Kathleen Chirkis, Matt Wostbrock, Fusun Garrett

Recreation Dept. Coordinator: Kathy LaMonte

Town Council Liaison: Lorenzo Damiano

Board of Ed. Liaison: Brian McCourt

Call to order: John Torry called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of March 2020 Minutes: Motion to approve by John Torry and seconded by Laurie Ten Kate

Correspondence: None

Sports Liaisons:

Baseball/Softball – There will be no parade this year, but the season is starting soon, as planned.

Football/Cheer – The period for scholarship applications is still open. Registration for the fall season will be starting soon. The joint Midland Park – Waldwick football and cheer board recently had their first meeting, which was productive.

Soccer – The Soccer Board has been meeting monthly, and will meet next week. There has been a lot of interest and great sign-up numbers for spring soccer, which is starting soon. Registration for fall soccer will also begin shortly.

Basketball- None

Recreation Dept. Coordinator's Report: There have been 39 registrations for Rec Camp so far. This year there will be an abbreviated Rec Camp, with shorter hours and Covid precautions in line with the relevant health guidance during the summer. While a traditional Easter Egg Hunt was unable to be hosted, a drive-by Easter Egg event took place and approximately 120 people participated.

Open to public comments or questions:

- Public question about the lack of posted meeting minutes for the Board of Recreation (BOR).
 - The BOR did not meet from the start of the pandemic until March 2020. Minutes from that Zoom meeting were approved today and will be posted online.
- Public question about whether the BOR receives financial statements from the individual sports organizations.
 - Yes, starting in November 2020 all sports boards have provided their financial statements to the Recreation Dept. Coordinator (RDC).
- Public question on whether it concerns the BOR that there has not been a history of the BOR supervising or auditing the finances of the individual sports organizations.
 - BOR members noted that the board has been delegated an advisory role in relation to the sports organizations and has limited supervisory power over them.
- BOR members stated that there are 2 open spots on the BOR, due to 2 recent resignations. You can submit an application on the town website. The town council ultimately approves BOR appointments.
- Public question about whether the Board of Education charges sports leagues for use of fields.
 - BOE liaison mentioned that they used to charge for use, but don't currently.
- Public question and comment on a desire for the BOR to host more adult activities, such as a basketball league.
 - BOR members noted there are currently activities such as pickleball, yoga, zumba, and more. The RDC stated that when there is community interest expressed for additional, specific activities, she is open to adding them.
- Public comment about a desire for an online calendar of events, so that they can better track what activities are being held.
- Public question about the Woodside property – whether there will be further development and if the current fencing will be left open.
 - BOR members stated they would have to follow up to be certain, but they believe both of those things (closed fencing and no development) were stipulations tied to the gift of the land.
- Public question and comment on the finances of the individual sports organizations.
 - BOR members noted that the board is advisory, and if it is to gain more oversight powers the town council would have to grant it those responsibilities. At the moment, the sports organizations are accountable to their stakeholders, all who participate in those sports, and through their board meetings and any open board positions.
 - Further clarification was noted that the volunteer BOR members have not been auditing the financial statements of the sports organizations which have been handed over since November 2020. The sports boards themselves do have some responsibilities that come with being 501(c)(3) organizations.
- Public question about how some residents are able to be on multiple boards.
 - BOR members noted that there has historically been a lack of interest in BOR positions, and that there has only been one application for many of the recent

openings. The BOR would welcome more community interest in open board spots and monthly meetings.

- Public question and comment about creating a shared Google Doc with information on field usage.
 - The RDC noted that in past years there was a shared document given to coaches, and this may be implemented again. Further discussion will take place on this topic.
- BOR members noted that the board is mainly responsible for community events, such as Community Day and other holiday gatherings.
- Public question about which organizations or boards are responsible for the snack bar.
 - The RDC noted that the snack bar will not be open this year, but that traditionally it has been a shared responsibility of the baseball and softball organizations, with minor assistance from the Recreation Department.
- Public question and comment about which fields are the responsibility of the BOR.
 - BOR members noted that the junior/snack bar field and Vander Meer field are the two which are town owned.

The next Board of Recreation meeting is planned for 7pm Monday May 3rd, at the Dairy St. pavilion.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by John Torry seconded by Matt Wostbrock. Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.