

MIDDLETOWN RECREATION COMMISSION

Thursday, March 14, 2019

The Middletown Recreation Commission held their monthly meeting on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation & Parks Department office.

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Shawna Strenfel, Vice-Chairwoman Daniel Higbie, Wayne Hawkins, , Alderman Jerry Kleiner, Alderman Tom Burr and Supt. Chris Brinckerhoff.

Absent: Rollin Lybolt, David Bechtle & Michael Torres

GUESTS: Roseanne Darrell, Little League President & Darin Cross, LL Vice President

Rosanne and Darin communicated to the Recreation Commission some of the recognitions Little League is looking to implement this year. A team will be named "Sky's the Limit" for a player Sky Mendoza who suffered severe injuries in a car accident and is battling all her obstacles. Her mother Jennifer Parisella was killed in that accident and Little League will be naming an award in her name. Little League numbers are currently at 235 and they are allowing some late registrations where there is room. They are asking if the City can put up a link on the City's Website directing residents to their online registration for Little League.

A request was made to grant during Little League Season that a small sign could be put over the concession stand window naming the stand as Lena's Café in memory of Lena Citriniti a longtime volunteer in the concession stand. A request was also made to have temporary removable small signs on the backstops of minor #1, minor #2, Girls #1 and Girls #2 recognizing those that have giving service for the betterment of Middletown Little League. Their last request was for approval to put a small scoreboard on the Stevens Field that would be paid for through donations. Their requests were unanimously approved on a MOTION by Wayne Hawkins; seconded by Daniel Higbie.

It was mentioned the concession stand is in need of some new doors.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the February 13, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved on a MOTION by Daniel Higbie; seconded by Shawna Strenfel.

AUDIT: February program revenues were \$14,076.50. There was a \$5,000.00 reimbursement check from the National Recreation & Parks Association for the Out of School Grant. Brining yearly revenue total to \$40,760.00

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Personnel – There have been no changes in staff. We will be starting a seasonal laborer in the Parks Department on April 1st

Activities – Winter Volleyball and Soccer has finished up. Pre-School Playtime started. Spring and Summer program registration is open to the public. The department will be participating in the KidsMarathon program with the 10K classic and will hope to implement it at the Run 4 Downtown as well. On Thursday, March 21st the Rec. Dept. and Police Dept. will host Hidden Mischief program through ADAC.

Maintenance – The Parks Department is in full swing preparing outdoor facilities for spring sports and facility improvements. Projects include: Finishing the Disc Golf Course for the May 4th Ribbon Cutting, finish the expansion of the parking lot at War Memorial Pool, getting parks site ready for installation on new playground equipment, opening tennis courts,

preparing Watts Park for Little League opening day, Tree plantings and installing the pre-fabricated mini-shelters. Working Supervisor Bianchi has been assisting in the planning of the Davidge Park Expansion, the development of the Reservoir and will be involved in the planning of the new recreation office at the old Start Center.

RECREATION & PARKS COMMITTEE: Alderman Burr reported that City has purchased the State's Start Center for \$1.00 and that the Recreation Dept. along with some police programs will move into that campus. He also mentioned that the City began its Municipal ID program. He is hoping in the future the ID's can be used for benefits for residents using our programs.

OLD BUSINESS: Online registration is overall going well with a few obstacles we are navigating as the public and ourselves learn the new process. All the spring projects were mentioned in the above Maintenance Report. Superintendent Brinckerhoff did inquire with School Assistant Superintendent Amy Creeden about implementing Before Care in the elementary schools next school year. She will communicate with principal for feedback and get back to us. The Davidge Park Disc Golf Course will have a Ribbon Cutting on Saturday May 4th at 10:00am.

NEW BUSINESS: School Superintendent Richard Delmoro announced that we would not be able to use Monhagen Middle School for Sports Camp this Summer. We are working with school staff to find a home in one of the other schools.

The City purchased the State's old Start Center on County Route 78 for a \$1.00. Recreation office and programs will be relocating to this wonderful facility by the end of this year. A great opportunity to expand programming for our residents. Planning continues for the development of the reservoir. There will be a presentation to the public and council in April.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: City Pride Clean Up is Saturday April 27th. The Little League Parade will be Sunday, April 7th. Step off is at 11:00am from Presidential Park Elementary School.

ADJOURNMENT: The March meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. on a MOTION by Wayne Hawkins and seconded by Daniel Higbie.

NEXT MEETING: The April meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 10, 2019** at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation & Parks Department office.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Brinckerhoff, Superintendent