

MIDDLETOWN RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, October 12, 2022

The Middletown Recreation Commission held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation & Parks Department gymnasium building located at 393 County Route 78.

ATTENDANCE: Vice-Chairman Anthony Williams, Wayne Hawkins, Dr. Lynnette Williams, Gabriela DeJesus, Keymell Gill and Superintendent Raelynn Bertholf.
Absent: Chairman Daniel Higbie, Shawna Strenfel

GUESTS: Alderman Kleiner

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter from Middletown Little League requesting the Babe Ruth Field be named after Daniel Miller. *The Recreation Commission in full support. Motion made by Wayne Hawkins and seconded by Anthony Williams to accept this request.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes from the September 14, 2022 meeting were accepted by Wayne Hawkins; seconded by Dr. Lynnette Williams.

AUDIT: Program Revenues for:

September 2022 totaled:	\$8,570.00
'22 Grant and Donations Received	\$0.00
'22 Year-to-Date Revenues	\$228,297.50

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Personnel – All full-time workers working. 1 seasonal employee working in our Parks Department. Two Reservoir part-timers and two part-time park patrol employees. All programming positions are full. Looking to hire new Full time Laborers in 2023.

Activities – FREE: Teen and Youth Open Gym Basketball, Teen Boxing, Storytime, Youth Fitness and Special Events.

PAID: Boxing Training, Little REcers, Youth Breakdancing Clinic, Fall Adult Tennis, Youth Soccer Clinic, Youth Cheerleading Clinic, Cheerleading (Squad), Youth Lacrosse Clinic, Rising Stars Basketball Clinic and Crochet Clinic.

UPDATE: Fall Programming coming to an end soon. Starting to plan for Winter programs. Saturday, October 15th Halloween Event; 20 Trunks. Saturday, October 22nd Halloween Parade; NEED CANDY. Schools Trunk or Treat 18th. YMCA Trunk or Treat Saturday, October 29th. Recreation Youth Fitness Halloween night for kids Monday, October 24th. MYC numbers are increasing. – Thanksgiving Food Drive. Planning for December – Polar Express, Santa Paws, Quick Stop Santa Stop. ABCD – November 11th volunteering – Day of Service. Merry Mailboxes going out first week of November. Looking for Guest readers. Working on Book Club.

Maintenance – Watts Park upkeep. Mowing. Garbage. Picking Parks. Scheduling Winterization of Dog Park, Watts Park, Maple Hill and Davidge Park. Wolslayer Field – Everything complete except of bathrooms stalls dividers and seeding. Reservoir Trails – Lots of down trees on power lines. Working with O&R. Dog-Park – Water issue resolved. Hoping users do not leave it running. Academy Avenue Park – Gazebo down, electric box getting buried. Mini-Shelter will be installed. Davidge Park Dam – Has a leak and needs to be repaired. DPW working to fix it with Parks Department. Fountain exposed and needs repairing.

RECREATION & PARKS COMMITTEE: Nothing to report. Superintendent requested a moment of silence for Lichtenstein Family.

OLD BUSINESS: Dr. Lynnette Williams introduced Keymell Gill as our second student representative. Update about Vanduzer Picnic Grove being named after past Superintendent of Recreation Christine Brinckerhoff; it is on hold right now but will not be forgotten. Raelynn discussed the retirement of John Bianchi and his new title of Deputy Commissioner of Parks Department; discussed Matt Lybolt becoming Working Supervisor. Raelynn discussed the budget and how the initial submission did not go over well; she emailed everyone at the budget hearing about her reasoning for the increases.

NEW BUSINESS: Superintendent reported out about Garden Lovers' requesting signage in Thrall Park for the garden beds that they maintain. Reported out Contessa Beckford is in Leadership Orange and enjoying her experience thus far. Superintended is apart of the HVLSA and they are looking for her to host the meeting in Middletown so the Recreation members can view our facilities. Superintendent presented a YouTube video about Youth Sports and the positive and negative impact it is having on our community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Nothing to Report

ADJOURNMENT: 8:38pm motion made by Wayne Hawkins; Seconded by Anthony Williams.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 9, 2022** at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation & Parks Department gymnasium building located at 393 County Route 78.

Respectfully submitted,

Raelynn Bertholf, Superintendent of Recreation