

## **Ardsley Parks & Recreation**

### **July 20, 2021**

The July 20<sup>th</sup> Parks & Recreation meeting began at 5 PM. In attendance were Trish Lacy, Steve Edelstein, Abe Falek, Lorraine Kuhn and Dave Whitehead.

Barbara Evans, Ardsley resident and her daughter Louella Otis, Girl Scout Silver Award candidate, were present as our guests.

Minutes from the June 15, 2021 meeting were approved. They will be posted on the Recreation Commission webpage.

#### **Old Business:**

#### **Juneteenth Celebration:**

The Ardsley Multi Cultural, Diversity and Inclusion Committee hosted a Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup> PM at Pascone Park. Trish thanks everyone who made the event a success including Highway Dept and Ardsley Police. There were about 100 people attending. Everyone enjoyed the whole day.

#### **Juneteenth Music Festival:**

Ardsley Parks & Rec hosted the Juneteenth Music Festival in the Park on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Trish reports that the concert was a success despite some rain. The music was great.

#### **Pride Event:**

The Ardsley Multi Cultural, Diversity and Inclusion Committee will be hosted their first Pride Event on June 26<sup>th</sup> at Pascone Park. Trish says it was another great job by everybody involved. Steve says about 100 people attended in total, passing through and enjoying the displays and activities all afternoon.

#### **Ice Cream Social:**

The very popular Ice Cream Social was a HUGE success with over 1200 kids and parents attending. Big thanks to all who helped out.

#### **Ninja Grit Program:**

This program held at Pascone Park was very popular. The 6 week and 8 week sessions filled up and just finished up. Trish will run another 8 week session in the fall on Fridays.

#### **Tennis:**

The second Summer Tennis session is halfway through and has been very popular. There are 52 kids and adults registered.

#### **Summer Chess:**

The student Chess program has returned to the Community Center and is running well. There are 3 weeks left in the session. Chess program will continue in the fall.

#### **Men's Softball:**

Men's Softball League starts playoffs this week.

#### **Concerts-in-the-Park:**

The "Almost Country" concert had to be canceled due to rain, but has been rescheduled for August 28<sup>th</sup>. Marc Berger and RIDE played Saturday but attendance was low due to the weather. Dave said it would be nice to have a new staging area with good lighting. Steve said the Gazebo is not the best place for bands. Dave said you just need a concrete slab for a stage and a power source. He said that that Dobbs Ferry venue at the waterfront is a beautiful facility.

**Defensive Driving Course:**

Trish ran the Defensive Driving Course, which is held at the Community Center, in the summer for the first time. There were six attendees. She will run the course again in the fall and there will be many more attending at that time.

**Upcoming Programs:****McDowell Basketball Court:**

Sport Tech started repairing the McDowell Basketball Courts today. They will be done in about 3 to 4 days.

**Electronic Bulletin Board:**

Trish says that she now has 3 quotes for the Electronic Bulletin Board to be installed outside the Community Center. The wiring for the Board is complete.

**Movie-in-the-Park:**

Trish is coordinating with Officer Tony Vacca on scheduling our Movie-in-the-Park. AV equipment and a blow-up screen are available for use.

**New Business:****Community Center:**

Barabara and Louella came to discuss expanded use of the Community Center, especially for youth activities. Trish said that there is very little storage space but some things could be stored in the small Conference room. The computers could be removed and the windows covered over to make it a secure space to store a ping pong table, portable pool table, foosball table, video game and magnetic dart boards. Louella would like to set up student activities weekdays from 3 to 5, possibly as part of her Silver Girl Scout project. Lorraine mentioned that Homework Helpers meets 3 to 5 on Wednesdays and Drop in is 3 to 5 on Fridays during the school year, and it may be good to contact our Youth Advocate for help. Louella asked about selling candy at the after school activities and Trish said sale of items is not usually allowed. Steve mentioned sales at the Snack Bar, and he will look into regulations regarding the Community Center. Louella suggested having movies and music at the Community Center. Trish said that the Youth Advocate had run Art 'n Crafts and Cooking activities. Barbara said that promotion of after school activities is needed. Abe suggested that maybe we could get help from a marketing company. Dave asked about Google Classroom pages for communication, and Barbara said that every teacher has a page. She said that perhaps 2 to 3 AMS students could be Community Center Ambassadors to spread the word about activities. Steve said they might be able to get help from local businesses. Louella said karaoke would be a good idea, and certainly food is needed after school. Steve suggested vending machines, and Lorraine said you just need to make sure that the vendor maintains them. Trish has a small amount of budget which might be used for the program. Abe said that perhaps Louella can organize community help rather than raising money for donations. Steve said that some student artwork might be nice for the Community Center. Barbara said the Louella's project involves 50 hours of planning, preparing a budget and a final presentation. Projects have included Little Free Libraries, and Animal Rescue efforts. Dave talked about "Ardsley's Got Talent" and Steve mentioned "Friends of Ardsley Parks & Rec", maybe creating a 501C3. Dave said PTA might be able to help, or National Honor Society and he suggested communication on Snapchat. Dave asked about Wednesday early dismissal for scheduling. Barbara asked about the Youth Advocate, and Steve said that she is salaried by both Ardsley School District and the Village. Barbara will begin by contacting our Youth Advocate to coordinate with her and stay in touch with Parks & Rec Dept.

**"Event Guy":**

Trish met with an Ardsley resident who organizes musical Bingo, Glow-in-the-Dark shows, DJ nights and Trivia nights for adults and children, and she would like to schedule some events at the Community

Center. Dave said that students used to gather every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday at the AHS Gym for music. Abe said sports would also be good. Steve said events would need good promotion. Trish said that Jay Leon is donating a ping pong table, and Steve said it should be put on wheels. Dave asked if we could store it in the back room and Lorraine said you just have to leave the back exit clear. Abe said to pick a “long date” to schedule a test event. Trish reminded us that October 10<sup>th</sup> is the 125<sup>th</sup> Village Anniversary celebration. Steve said it should be a Food Truck event, about 4 trucks and maybe a breakfast truck. Trish has been talking with Officer Tony Vacca about having a Car Show. She would also like to have Gil Parris perform. There are 560 contacts on myrec for publicity and Trish will try to find a contact for students too.

**Metro Sports:**

Trish is planning a Tee ball program and multi-sports for the fall. She will contact Metro Sports.

Next Meeting: Tuesday **Sept 14** at 5 PM

Respectfully submitted:  
Lorraine Kuhn