

Ardsley Parks & Recreation
January 25, 2022

The January 25th Parks & Recreation meeting began at 5 PM. In attendance were Trish Lacy, Craig Weitz, Abe Falek, Gina Goldstein, and Lorraine Kuhn.

Rec Comm welcomes new members Alka Shukla and Mona Swanson.

Minutes from the December 14, 2021 meeting were approved.
They will be posted on the Recreation Commission webpage.

Old Business:

Adult Open Gym:

Trish reports that Adult Open Gym Thursday nights at AHS is on hold through January. She is hoping to restart in February. There are 27 participants in this program.

Youth Basketball:

Trish says that sadly this program was canceled by Greenburgh Rec. 115 children are enrolled and they were only able to hold two practices. Trish has been in contact with Wayne Bass, Elmsford Recreation Director, to see if part of the program can be rescheduled. She says this may be difficult because gyms will be needed again for Baseball and Softball in March.

Seniors:

Rec Comm sends condolences to the Watson family on the passing of our Senior Marie Agnano. Nick continues to call and stay in touch with the Seniors. Program will resume at the Community Center when it is deemed safe.

Youth Advocate:

Our Youth Advocate has had to switch back to virtual Homework Helpers and Friday Open Rec programs. She is hoping to resume at the Community Center shortly.

Upcoming Programs:

5K Race:

Trish has contacted Gail Sherry from Super Race Systems, Garrison NY. She says that neighboring Rivertowns highly recommend her services. The 5K event is planned for May 1st. Gina asked how it will be organized, and Trish said that she just needs to provide the organizer with an Excel spreadsheet listing runners. Rec Dept will provide granola bars, water and tee shirts. Ardsley PBA and SAYF Coalition are co-sponsoring the 5K with the Rec Dept. Alka mentioned that she had just run a ½ marathon and asked about charities. Trish said the 5K may be run in honor of Dan “Mully” Mulholland who just passed away. Craig said that donations could possibly be handled through GoFundMe, Alka added that there is 3% tax. Abe said maybe we should skip the donation, and just give the charity address. He asked if there was a cost to runners. Trish said that Hastings charges \$20. Gina asked about the title for the race, and Craig suggested Ardsley Village 5K. Abe said maybe we could choose a different honoree every year, an Ardsley person. Craig said we could feature this on signage, and Gina suggested putting it on award medals too. Trish said she had good supplier for tee shirts. Gina mentioned a spirit wear dealer. She wondered if we should cap the number of participants at 300. Trish said we will be able to keep track of sign-ups on myrec. Gina said if still needed, people can stay masked until the race starts. Gina wants to form a 5K Planning Committee soon. She wants to add a 1 mile Kid Run. She suggested that we might follow with a festival including food trucks. She reminded us that we were thinking about an Earth Week theme. She suggested asking DeCiccio to sponsor. Craig said we may want to keep it simple for our first year back. Trish is going to ask AHS Key Club and Scouts to hand out water. Alka asked about having a small loop race. Gina suggested setting a 2 hour

time limit for the 5K course. Trish said that SAYF has organized a 5K race before and she will check with them about the route.

Enrichment Program:

Trish spoke with Elena Olivieri, co-founder of Child.Cor, an enrichment program that provides children with the necessary tools and strategies to manage their everyday stresses. The program goal is to educate the whole child. Trish explained that in today's world, this could be very helpful. Trish is planning two one-hour classes, 9 to 10 AM and 10:30 to 11:30 AM, on Saturday mornings at the Community Center. They will run for 6 weeks. Classes are for ages 7 to 12, with a maximum of 12 per class. If this program goes well, Trish will set up after school sessions. Gina asked when classes would start, and Trish said she is aiming for February.

Virtual Rec Contests:

While waiting for activities to begin again at the Community Center, Trish is running the 2nd Annual "Guess the Kisses-in-the-Jar" virtual contest. Details are on myrec. Deadline for submission of entries is February 11th. Winner receives a \$25 gift card and the jar full of candy kisses.

Snow Angels:

Trish is looking for volunteers to shovel driveways for the elderly and people with illnesses who need help in the Village. We have 5 volunteers currently, but with more snow on the way, we could use some more.

New Business:

"ARE YOU OKAY?" Program:

Trish created a new program to assist elderly and people with illnesses during storms and natural disasters. She made an "ARE YOU OKAY?" form and mailed it out to Seniors in the Village. The form will be used to contact residents to make sure they are okay or in need of any help. Alka very kindly volunteered to help out with grocery shopping if needed. Mona asked about cooperation with the Atria and average age of participants. Trish said that Rec Dept has a good relationship with the Atria, that they sponsor programs at their location, and the ages are 80+ years old.

Pascone Softball Field:

Trish reports that the Softball Field was severely damaged, both infield and outfield, last weekend by two children riding ATVs. They were caught, but no charges were pressed. Instead, they will pay for all materials needed to fix the field and donate their time. Abe mentioned that Community Service should be considered as well.

Community Center Maintenance:

Special thanks to Highway for spending two full days at the Community Center last week fixing cabinets, changing all ceiling tiles, staining the kitchen cabinets, and ordering all new LED ceiling lights. Craig said we would also get WiFi thermostats. Trish will order the outdoor digital sign with remaining Rec funding from this year's budget.

Pascone Park Bleachers:

There is enough funding left over in the budget to order two new sets of bleachers for Pascone Park. Trish said they will be < 32" height to conform with safety standards. Craig said that the bleachers in Macy Park were really nice.

Tennis Tournament:

Mona asked about having a Tennis Tournament again. She has been in touch with Ron Schwartz who used to help run the Tournament and now lives in Connecticut. Trish will look into this idea.

Next Meeting: Tuesday February 8 at 5 PM

Respectfully submitted:
Lorraine Kuhn