

Ardsley Parks & Recreation
January 10, 2023

The January 10th Parks & Recreation meeting began at 5 PM. In attendance were Trish Lacy, Gina Goldstein, Christina Hansbury, Lorraine Kuhn, Alka Shukla, Mona Swanson and Dave Whitehead.

Mayor Kaboolian was present as our guest.

Welcome to our new Village Board Liaison Trustee Andy DiJusto!

Minutes from the December, 2022 meeting were approved and will be posted on the Recreation Commission webpage.

Old Business:

World Cup Event:

Our World Cup Event was a success with 40 people watching the Finals at the Community Center. Everyone enjoyed breakfast and seeing the game with friends.

Menorah Lighting:

Our 1st Annual Menorah Lighting was a huge success. Over 100 people attended. Children played games and there was holiday music. Food was obtained from a caterer, and many thanks to all who helped out.

Youth Basketball:

Youth Basketball games started this weekend and everything is going well. Thank you to Wayne Bass, White Plains program, for including 3rd & 4th and 5th & 6th grade girls teams.

Open Gym:

Open Gym continues to run smoothly. We are up to 30 enrolled.

Winter Chess:

Winter Chess is in full swing, with 28 children participating. The program runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There was a question about age limit, and our instructor Mr. Kan will tutor young children so they can join the program.

Video Game Coding & Lego Robotics:

These two new programs started up yesterday. There are 20 children signed up.

Seniors:

The Seniors continue to stay busy this month. They have Musical Bingo and will have a Painting Class tomorrow. Next week they will have lunch at Castle Royale. Senior Breakfast will be held at the Community Center on January 25th at 11:30 AM.

Youth Advocate:

Our Youth Advocate continues to run a very successful Homework Helpers program on Wednesdays and Open Rec on Fridays. We are in the process of putting together a Friday Gaga Ball after school activity, to be held once a month. It will be indoors, and move to an outdoor location when the weather gets warm.

Upcoming Programs:

Winter Gaga Ball:

Indoor Gaga Ball starts this Wednesday and will run for 6 weeks. There are 12 kids signed up. A Rec member asked if we could add some more players.

Indoor Multi Sport Squirts:

This program will run Saturday mornings at the Community Center starting Jan 21st. There are 9AM and 10AM classes running with a total of 15 children. Another class may be added. Six more children would need to sign up.

Adult Zumba:

We are adding a six week Adult Zumba class which starts on February 6th. It runs on Mondays from 7 to 8 PM at the Community Center. It was suggested that we add a Yoga Class. We may add an outdoor Yoga Class when the weather gets warm.

ADMI Lunar New Year Event:

The ADMI Committee will be hosting a Lunar New Year Event on Jan 21st at the Community Center for 1 to 3 PM. Fong Xing Restaurant is donating fortune cookies.

Holocaust Remembrance Event:

There will be an International Holocaust Remembrance Event on Wednesday February 1st from 4 to 6 PM. It will be live streamed at the Community Center.

5K Race:

We are planning our 2nd Annual 5K Race for Sunday May 7th. We will use Gail Sherry/Super Race Systems once again, as they did a great job last year. We are going to use another race route, starting at Concord Road School and continuing through side streets. We can stay off main roads and the route will be much safer.

Easter Egg Hunt:

We are thinking about running this year's Easter Egg Hunt under the lights at McDowell Park Field #1. It will be held on Friday March 31st or Saturday April 1st. It was suggested that Saturday will be a better day for young children.

New Business:**Holi Celebration:**

The Holi Celebration is being planned for April 23rd, rain date April 30th. Dean Balducia will supply food and colors. Food will be from Royal Palace. The event will be free of charge. There were questions about permits, and these will be referred to Charles Hessler/Village Executive Assistant.

Pickle Ball:

A Pickle Ball Court may be added to our Tennis Courts. Repainting of the court will cost about \$900, and the net will not need to be changed. The same court reservation system will be used. There were comments that the myrec reservation system is difficult to use.

Parks Master Plan:

Focus Group meetings are now finished. There will be presentation of the Final Master Plan. There was a question about how the Village Budget will be used. The Village does projects which are included in the Capital Plan. There is some grant money available from Sen. Stewart-Cousin's office and Assemblyman Abinanti's office. Upgrade of the bathrooms at Pascone Park is planned, but we are waiting for the Master Plan to be complete. The Master Plan will enable us to seek more grants.

Parks & Recreation Improvement Suggestions:

It was suggested that the distribution of youth ages served be determined to better serve all ages. It was mentioned that the baby bucket swings need some refurbishment although they were recently replaced. Also, it was suggested that more sensory equipment be included in the playground, and that children should have input into new playground design.

It was suggested that we have multiple people doing balloons & face painting at events to accommodate more people attending the events.

A Special Needs Event was proposed, perhaps a concert in the park using headphones.

Adult Game Night was suggested, perhaps “Left/Right/Center”, “Family Feud” or Trivia Night.

A Chess Tournament could be held but a large venue like the school gym is needed. We already have a one-week Chess Camp.

It was suggested that Addyman Square be used for an event again. Maybe there could be a band at McGreevy’s. Hastings Friday Night Lights was mentioned as an example. It was said that the Square would be more attractive with a “green wall” on the side facing the Thruway.

Bicentennial Park was proposed as a site for an outdoor event. It was mentioned that maybe Ardsley Day could return to the downtown business district.

There were requests to improve myrec and make it more “user-friendly”.

Next Meeting: Tuesday Feb 14 at 5 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Lorraine Kuhn