

MIDDLETOWN RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

The Middletown Recreation Commission held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation & Parks Department office.

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Dave Bechtle, Rollin Lybolt, Wayne Hawkins, Daniel Higbie, Michael Torres, Alderman Jerry Kleiner and Supt. Chris Brinckerhoff.
Absent: TroiChanel Johnson, Vice-Chairwoman Shawna Strenfel

GUESTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: Email from Alderman Kleiner inquiring about the maintenance and lighting of the walking path going from Beacon St. toward Chappell Park. Concern was passed on to Street Dept. who maintains path. A thank you card, from the Middletown High School Honor Society, thanking the department for attending their Touch a Truck event on May 13th. A thank you card, from Susan Depuy, thanking the Commission for her Gold Award recognition.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the June 13, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved on a MOTION by Wayne Hawkins, seconded by Rollin Lybolt.

AUDIT: The June, July and August revenues totaled **\$61,091.00**. A donation of \$75.00 was received from Sundae Delight for the Mayor's Youth Council. A total of \$2,100.00 in donations was received for the development of the Disc Golf Course. Donations were: \$1,000.00 from Keith McCormack, \$400.00 from Alan Turken Insurance Agency, \$100.00 from Donna Serpentine and \$600.00 from Creative Hair Design.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: **Personnel** – Two part-time laborers remain on payroll in the parks department. Asst. Supt. Raelynn Bertholf will be a member of the 2018 Leadership Orange. Staffing for all summer programs was a success and employees did a good job. Staff has been hired for our fall programs: After School Sports Academy, Pre-School, Teen Center, Boxing, Soccer, Cheerleading, Volleyball and Pre-School Playtime. Keyboard Specialist, Deborah Sherman, retired from the department after 39 years of service. Debbie was a key player in building the strong Recreation Department in the City of Middletown. She will be deeply missed.

Activities –With no Sports Camp this summer we found our numbers low in all of our programs. Residents took advantage and enjoyed our summer camps which included: Little People Playtime, C.I.T., Junior Police Academy, Summer Leadership Academy, Adventure Program and Cheerleading. Pop-Up Bar-B-Ques were a success with the Fire & Police Department. Residents enjoyed food, fun and meeting city employees. Successful special events were the Community Camp Out, and Cops and Kids Day. The City added a swim session for those residents with disabilities to enjoy the water at War Memorial Pool. The After School Sports Academy started on Monday, September 11th. The program is for grades 3rd – 8th. Special programs coming up this fall are Scarecrow Contest, Touch-a-Truck, Harvest Festival and Scavenger Hunt. The Fall, Winter and Spring Brochures are available and distributed in the community.

Maintenance – A water fountain was installed in the Dog Park, donated by the Orange County Health Department. Humans can drink from the top and dogs from the bottom. Maple Hill Pool will be getting resurfaced with a new liner this fall. Playground Equipment for Maple Hill Park has been ordered. We are waiting the completion of a water retention project by

the DEC at Maple Hill Park before installing the equipment. The Parks Department received a much needed new garbage truck this summer. Men continue to work on the development of a Disc Golf Course, additional Parking Lot for War Memorial Pool and are preparing fields for soccer and football season.

RECREATION & PARKS COMMITTEE: Nothing This Evening

OLD BUSINESS: The Skate Park in Erie Way Park has been completed. There was a ribbon cutting on Sept. 1st. The park is getting good reviews and is in constant use. We have been receiving donations for the Disc Golf Course and our hoping to have the first 3 holes totally completed by October.

NEW BUSINESS: Superintendent Brinckerhoff and Working Supervisor John Bianchi are working on the 2018 budget. The Recreation Department received a donation of a 2008 Chevy Suburban from Mid-City Transit to be used in everyday operations. This school year the department, under Asst. Supt. Bertholf's leadership, has started an After School Sports Academy for grades 3rd – 8th. Elementary students stay in their schools for programming. Middle School students will be bused to the Michael G. Perkins Community Center. Program Coordinator Nicole Psarakis is developing a new system for community agencies to use park facilities for special events. Proposals for the event must be submitted for department approval, giving us more knowledge of what the event will entail.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: The June meeting was adjourned at 8:41p.m. on a MOTION by Dan Higbie, seconded by Rollin Lybolt.

NEXT MEETING: The October meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation & Parks Department office.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Brinckerhoff, Superintendent