

MIDDLETOWN RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

The Middletown Recreation Commission held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation & Parks Department office.

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Dave Bechtle, Vice-Chairwoman Shawna Strenfel, Wayne Hawkins, Daniel Higbie, Alderman Jerry Kleiner, Alderman Tom Burr and Supt. Chris Brinckerhoff.

Absent: Rollin Lybolt and Michael Torres

GUESTS: Shade Tree Committee Members Barbara Bonham & Mary Ellen O'Neil

CORRESPONDENCE: Orange County Parks asking us to participate in Santa's Toy Box

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved on a MOTION by Wayne Hawkins; seconded by Daniel Higbie

AUDIT: October program revenues were \$22,190.60. Grant reimbursements from Solutions Funding were \$22,906.11 and the 10K classic gave the Mayor's Youth Council at \$500.00 donation. Bringing year-to-date revenue total to \$340,533.94

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Personnel – There has been no changes in personnel since the September and October meetings.

Activities – The Halloween Block Party in collaboration with the YMCA and Elks Club was a success. Parent's Night Out had 27 kids enrolled. Fall Volleyball, Soccer and Cheerleading are over and all winter registration is out to residents. The Department has hosted 2 birthday parties and has received numerous inquiries to host more. The Cops and Cookies event is maxed out with 50 participants. Many special events are planned for the holiday season.

Maintenance – Single shelters have been fabricated and ready to install in various parks. A Polar Express Float was assembled for the Tree Lighting Parade. New tires were purchased for the backhoe. The Lions Shelter has a new roof paid through the NRPA grant. Lowe's Hero Project is complete at the Maple Hill Pool House. The new doors, lockers, hanging hooks, paint job and floor covering looks great. The Eagle Scout Project to the Maple Hill Walking Trail will include trail markers and benches; as well as grooming the trail. The Tennis Shack renovations have been complete with new roof, siding and paint. Road front fencing will be replaced at Bennett Hill Park. We are replacing the aging swing set at Beattie Hill Park. The crew has been mulching leaves where ground is hard enough to drive equipment.

RECREATION & PARKS COMMITTEE: Alderman Burr reported that the 2019 Budget will be voted on by the Council the end of November and is under the 2% tax cap. The City voted to implement Municipal ID to its residents. Alderman Burr thanked Alderman Kleiner for his hard work on the Municipal ID.

OLD BUSINESS: The department is moving forward in receiving \$9,400.00 from HealthlinkNY for the LIFT Orange Up Grant for implementing a soccer league and program. The Davidge Park Expansion Project continues to move along. Drawings and Project Manual are being complete. SEQRA paperwork is complete and will be getting approved by corporate council. Fusco Engineering is completing the topographical Survey. All is currently on schedule to start in the spring. Playground equipment has been ordered for the three parks. Installment may have to wait till spring, due to the uncooperative weather.

The drainage issue at the Dog Park has not been addressed due to the very wet weather. A resident took matters in their own hands digging trenches to try and remove water from the saturated ground resulting in a bigger problem. The park was closed a couple days until we could bring in stone and make the ground safe for pets and owners. This is a temporary repair and the proper work will be complete once weather allows. The Shade Tree Committee presented a diagram of where they would like to plant trees in the dog park. They will be meeting with Working Supervisor, John Bianchi, to make a plan for plantings and placement.

NEW BUSINESS: The Recreation Department is now hosting children's Birthday Parties at the Michael G. Perkins Community Center. Different packages can be purchased for the perfect party.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There will be NO DECEMBER MEETING...

ADJOURNMENT: The November meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m. on a MOTION by Shawna Strenfel and seconded by Dan Higbie

NEXT MEETING: The January meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation & Parks Department office.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Brinckerhoff, Superintendent