

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, January 18, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**BOARD OF RECREATION  
RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY  
November 16, 2023**

President Diane Maglione called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m., it having been duly noted that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., notice of which was published in The Record and the Star Ledger as well as posted on the Village bulletin board. Roll call was taken. Commission members present: Diane Maglione, Howie Jacobs, Gil Bell, Matt Florio, Melinda Lugo, Melina Pope, Barbara Steiner, Bella Wagner. Excused: Hal Bomzer, Anthony Lopez, Mike Ruiz.

The minutes of the October 19, 2023, meeting were approved on a motion made by Howie Jacobs and seconded by Melinda Lugo. All were in favor of the motion.

**Correspondence:**

- Email dated 10/19/23 from Public Schools Re: Saturday Night Hoops approval for hs gym 1/6/23 – 4/6/24.
- Email dated 10/20/23 from Dawn Dwyer Re: Requesting Refund because they moved out-of-town.
- Email dated 10/20/23 from Scott Bisig, Interim Business Admin. Re: Training in Basketball Skills – must have at least 75% enrollment residing in RP & LF to be Class B usage
- Email dated 10/24/23 from Hal Bomzer Re: Thank you for the gifts and support.
- Email dated 10/31/23 from SRP Re: American River Film
- Email dated 11/2/23 from DPW Re: Need Event Form for Christmas Tree Lighting
- Email dated 11/2/23 from Stephanie Takach, Admin. Asst. to Scott Bisig Re: Grant gym unavailable 12/9; only until 8:00 p.m. on 12/8 and also unavailable 12/19 due to winter concert.
- Email dated 11/9/23 from Angela Evertz Re: Girl Scouts would like to sign at tree lighting.
- Email dated 11/16/23 from Public Schools Re: Girls 7/8 Travel Practice @ Lincoln approved 4/2/24 – 6/27/24.
- Email dated 11/16/23 from Public Schools Re: Coaching Certification Clinic approved for 11/30 @ Lincoln cafeteria.
- Email dated 11/16/23 from Public Schools Re: Basketball Clinic Meeting approved for 11/28 @ Roosevelt Cafeteria

A short discussion was held on people not reading notices distributed electronically in the schools. It was suggested that the Board should try to post signs on the school doors and maybe see if distributing paper flyers in the schools helps more people learn about registrations and events. Melinda said she would hang flyers in the stores for the tree lighting.

**RP Running Club** – This is a program led by Anthony Lopez. It takes place at 12:00 p.m. every Sunday. The group meets at the entrance to the nature preserve. It continues to grow weekly.

**Back-to-School Giving Tree** – No activity at this time.

**Wish Tree** – The sign-up genius should be live shortly. We will use the same procedures as the back-to-school giving tree and have the gifts dropped off to the welfare dept. and then delivered to the schools to make sure all children receive them for Christmas. The link for this year will be: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D45A5AC23A0F8C07-20231>. If anyone plans to participate, there are holiday gift bags in the office that members can use. A couple organizations already have the info they need for the wish tree.

**Tree Lighting** – The tree lighting will take place on December 3, 2023. Melinda Lugo is handling the event this year and has begun preparing for it. Members are needed at 5:00 p.m. to assist at the event. The characters are lined up: Elsa, Olaf, and an Elf. Melinda will be preparing a schedule and timeline of the events. She will print out everyone who needs to be thanked. Everyone has been confirmed for the event. The Chamber of Commerce is hosting an after party at MK Valencia for adults and children. They are sponsoring an Ugly Sweater Contest. Five prizes will be awarded: Grand Prize 0 Ugliest Sweater, Best Group, Most Humorous, Most Creative, Grand Prize – Youth. Prizes include gift cards to Apothecarie, Wahizza, McKenna Elizabeth Aesthetics, 4 Season Crepes, Brownie Bar Café, 7-11 and Salon Renegade. The Board of Recreation has been working with local businesses to get involved in community activities.

**Holiday Display Contest** – The prizes are in. This year judging will be done beginning at dusk on December 20, 21 & 22. Dayle will deliver the prizes. Addresses will be given to the judges on December 20.

**Basketball:** Due to low enrollment in the boys' divisions, the divisions were changed for the boys. Clinic for boys will now be Grades 2 & 3, Divisions will be 4/5/6 and 7/8. The meeting for the scorers/timers will be November 29 at 7:00 p.m. at Lincoln School. The referees/coaches meeting will take place on November 29 at 7:30 p.m. at Lincoln School. Certification class will take place on November 30 at 6:30 p.m. at Lincoln School cafeteria. Everyone has been notified of the meetings.

The basketball clinic will begin on Saturday, December 2, 2023, and run through Saturday, February 26, 2024. It will meet on the following Saturdays: 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/24 and end on March 2, 2024. There will be an important meeting for all parents of children enrolled in the clinic on Tuesday, 11/28 7:00 pm @ Roosevelt School cafeteria. This meeting will cover the curriculum for the clinic, as well as what is expected of all the parents.

Clinic participants are Grade 2 girls and Grades 2 & 3 boys.

Basketball Committee: Bella Wagner, Melinda Lugo, Howie Jacobs

Division Heads:

Clinic – Royce Morris

Girls 3/4/5 – Gil Bell

Girls 6/7/8 – Bella Wagner

Boys 4/5/6 – Melina Pope

Boys 7/8 – Melinda Lugo

Each team needs to have one head coach and two assistants that are 18 and over. The girls 6/7/8 division will ask parents to volunteer to be an assistant. The coaches normally cover each other's teams so there really isn't a problem with this division. Every person working with children must first complete a background check and have it reviewed by the Board of Recreation before they can work in the program. The site manager must wear a vest.

Diane Maglione explained the background check process to members. There is a background check that the Board knows came back incorrectly so they are looking into it further. The Commissioner is going to be looking into possibly switching companies now.

Melinda Lugo wanted to make it clear that she will not be a division head next season. She will complete this season but after that, she will no longer be the division head. She is officially requesting that her position as Division Head end after this season.

Bella Wagner made a motion, which was seconded by Melinda Lugo, as follows:

- 1) To hire T2S Basketball instructors, to train Board of Recreation players/coaches (Board's discretion to choose).
- 2) The Board of Recreation to offer separate developmental skills clinics (which participants would pay for individually) to be made up of 100% RP and LF residents or students. The clinics would take place during the Board of Recreation's permitted use of the school gyms.
  - If there is a reason for an out-of-town player to be added to the program, this registration must be approved by the Board of Recreation prior to any participation.
  - Out-of-town registration (non-RP & LF residents or students) would be on a case-by-case basis to be decided upon by the Board of Recreation).
- 3) Registration forms will be given to the Board of Recreation directly.
- 4) Payment for these clinics will be made to the Board of Recreation directly and the Board of Recreation will compensate T2S for their time.

The additional skills clinic, requested by parents, is in addition to the current recreational basketball program for those players looking to improve their skills beyond the normal recreational program, and all costs to be paid for by the parents. All members were in favor of the motion.

A discussion was held on appropriate behavior by parents/fans/players at games. Melinda said if saying something escalates the situation, she will not say something. Cheering is allowed. The Board is not looking for abusive language to players or officials.

**Big Mike's League** – There were not enough teams to hold the program this year.

**Saturday Night Hoops** – High school boys and girls, 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade, can join the Rec basketball league for Saturday night games at the high school. Tryout date and times: **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M. – LINCOLN SCHOOL.** Season runs from approximately December 9, 2023, - April 6, 2024. The permit was received yesterday.

**Girls' 3/4 Travel Basketball Team** – Carlos Alvarez coached this team. Have not heard from him yet.

**Girls' 7/8 Travel Basketball Team** – Al Ramirez is coaching this team. They will be practicing at Lincoln on Tuesdays and Thursdays until Rec basketball starts.

**Boys' 7/8 Travel Basketball Team** – Deinde Otuyelu is coaching this team. Have not heard from him yet but did hear from Ponce Protasio that he is interested in starting a boys/ 5/6 travel team. He was going to speak with Deinde to get some help in organizing a team.

**Bowling** – No activity at this time.

**Women's Softball** – There were not enough teams to play this year.

**Fourth of July** – No activity at this time.

**Rag-A-Muffin** – The parade was cancelled on October 21 due to rain. The rain date of October 28 was used. A lot of the trophies came in broken. The Board will look into the price of a local supplier next year. The new divisions didn't really work out. There were only 3 entries in total for the new divisions so next year, the Board will go back to the original divisions. There were approximately 125 people in the parade with 99 separate entries. Division 1 – 14; Division 2 – 8, Division 3 – 10; Division 4 – 14; Division 5 – 2; Division 6 – 3; Division 7 – 8; Division 8 – none; Division 9 – 8.

The three separate performers seemed to work out well keeping the crowd entertained. The DJ was very good this year. The community service students that showed up were very helpful.

**Adult Trips/Activities** – No activity at this time.

**Archery Clinic** – The fall session will end on Saturday, November 18, with a "WINNER WINNER TURKEY OR HAM DINNER - JOIN US AT THE LAST ARCHERY SESSION AND MAYBE YOU'LL BE A WINNER - OPEN TO ALL RESIDENTS 6 YEARS & UP - SAT NOV 18 - SESSIONS RUN 9AM, 10AM OR 11AM ARCHERY RANGE LOCATED BEHIND DPW.

Due to mostly rainy days where archery had to be cancelled, participants can sign up for the spring session at no cost. The spring session will run from April 13 – June 24.

Commissioner Olson wants the long range open. Gil Bell would prefer to have netting first. Commissioner Olson said NASP said it is fine without the netting. The people that qualify to use the range should be able to hit a target.

**Tennis** – No activity at this time.

**T2S Basketball** – The Board of Education did not give permission to use the school for T2S Basketball in time to start the next session, so Larry Umana is holding it in Bogota.

**Ping Pong** – Sue Chak is running the program. They will be starting up another session on 11/27 that will run for 8 weeks. The session will start at 6:30 p.m. so the youth center employees can let them in. It will be held on Mondays only. The donated ping pong table is broken. Sue Chak will bring in one of her tables to use. She must make sure they put back the tables and chairs at the end of every session.

**Summer String Camp** – No activity at this time.

**Treasurer's Report** – The report will be given next month.

**Old Business:** Nothing at this time.

**New Business:** none at this time.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 15, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at p.m. on a motion made by Bella Wagner and seconded by Gil Bell. All were in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara DeLuca*

Barbara DeLuca

cc: Commissioner Mark Olson

**BOARD OF RECREATION  
VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK, NJ  
MEETING DATES FOR 2024**

**ALL MEETINGS TO BE HELD AT 7:00 P.M. PREVAILING TIME AT THE CIVIC CENTER, UPSTAIRS, LOCATED AT 159 PARK STREET ON THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH, UNLESS POSTED OTHERWISE**

**JANUARY 18  
FEBRUARY 15  
MARCH 21  
APRIL 18**

**MAY 16  
JUNE 20  
JULY – NO MEETING  
AUGUST – NO MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 19  
OCTOBER 17  
NOVEMBER 21  
DECEMBER – NO MEETING**