

**MINUTES OF THE
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 16, 2021**

PRESENT: Jennifer Castelhana, Richard Ellrodt, Tony Goncalves,
Ian Harris, Meg Kaplan, Dana Mayclim

ZOOM: Peter Cipriano, Melissa LeSavage, Bill Pink

ABSENT: Jennifer Cayea, Daniela Goldman, Barbara Granata

Meeting started at 7:30PM at the Lewisboro Parks and Recreation Department Office located in the Onatru Farm Park Main House as well as on zoom.

I. Public Comment - None

II. Minutes - Postponed

III. New Business

Announcements - Michael Harris has resigned his position on the Advisory Council. All PRAC members with terms expiring at the end of 2021 will get an email about returning for another two-year term. The Advisory Council is up to 10 members and 5 associate members; with this resignation we are back at only 10 members.

2022 Budget - The budget was approved after the executive session meeting on December 9th. In this budget, a Recreation Supervisor position has been approved to replace Reed Pullem's Recreation Assistant position. This position requires an

individual to have a college degree with 3-5 years of experience in the recreation field. The highway and police departments received one additional employee for each of their departments. The Parks and Recreation Department's revenue was increased for the upcoming year to compensate for the positions that were approved.

Basketball Update - This year saw a loss of approximately 20 overall teams in the program. Games start on Saturday, December 18th at Increase Miller, Lewisboro Recreation Gym, John Jay High and JJMS Middle Schools. Masks will be worn by all participants, referees, and spectators. There will be an extra 15 minutes between games to be able to empty the gym before the next game begins. This year will see many new scorekeepers.

Staff Updates - The Parks Department will see a new employee being hired in mid-January.

IV. Old Business

Lewisboro Playground Committee - The playground equipment will be ordered tonight. The installation will need to be bid out while the demolition can hopefully be done in house. The committee is still fundraising to help offset any fees - selling bricks and an Oktoberfest for the grand opening.

Sub-Committee - Town Park Tennis Courts - Rich, Daniela and Melissa suggest that an engineer is hired along with a surveyor to see what the land could be used for. What should be done first - survey to the town or work on the master plan? Can Kellard Sessions and the sustainability committee investigate this?

Preserves - Six Eagle Scouts have completed their projects and will be recognized on January 8th at a Court of Honor.

Another donation of \$5,000 was made by a Neighbor of Brownell for a grand total of \$25,000 to upgrade that preserve.

The bridge at Old Field will be replaced.

Cross Country Trail is almost complete with less than 4 feet left. April 3rd will see its first race.

V. Superintendent's Report

The winter brochure is online only which should be up next week. Most programs will start in mid-January.

Light Up Lewisboro - Fifty homes were listed on the map and there were 11 prize winners. Judging was done the second week in December.

Santa letters are in process of being written and sent out with the help from a Town Resident.

Food drive was held this afternoon from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. not as successful as past ones but still a great amount of food and toiletries were donated.

Tree and Menorah lighting was held on Sunday, November 28th (first night of Hanukkah) at the Lewisboro Library. Approximately 60 people attended and were very thankful. Both the tree and menorah were donated to the Town. And Town Councilman Tony Goncalves planned and executed the whole event within only ten days.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:53PM. The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council will be held on Thursday, January 27th at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura A. Stone

Laura A. Stone
Senior Office Assistant