



Village of Mamaroneck Parks & Recreation

Barry Casterella
General Foreman of Parks

Offices located in the
Stephen E. Johnston Beach Pavilion
Harbor Island Park
P. O. Box 369
Mamaroneck, NY 10543

Recreation: (914) 777-7784
Parks: (914) 630-7158
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Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Attendees:	Carlo Reca	Randi Robinowitz	Kristen Vetter	Dan Margoshes
	Tina Maresca	Kathleen Gallaher	Manny Enes	Veronica Colman

Absent: Emily Marshall

Present: Barry Casterella – General Foreman of Parks
Jason Pinto – Senior Recreation Leader
Joe Russo – Harbor Master
Trustee Nora Lucas – Liaison
Trustee Kelly Wenstrup - Liaison
Jerry Barberio – Village Manager

Meeting called to order by Tina at 7:36 p.m. and seconded by Randi Robinowitz. Previous month's minutes were not reviewed or approved.

Additional Kayak Racks for West Basin – Discussion with Harbor Master Joe Russo – Season starts May 1. The fees for storage are \$180.00 for a Village resident and \$300.00 for a non-resident. Rye Charges \$300.00 for either a resident or non-resident. Most of Rye's kayaks are stored in the water. We presently have 30 dry spots and 20-30 storage spots in the water. Some users like to store their kayaks in the water, some like the dry rack. If the rack is full when they submit their application, they are forced to take the water storage spots. Applications for kayak storage get mailed out in January each year. When we utilize a kayak spot, we are giving away a dingy spot. There is no preference for spots (resident/non-resident) - whomever paid first gets priority. We lose nine boat slips due to kayak storage. The kayak owners are the most difficult to please users. Joe would like to see the kayak racks moved to the beach area. It is staffed better, safer and easier to navigate location. Lay kayaks on the beach and lock them up with cables. We have volleyball and other events. Joe suggested by the old pier. Jason and Barry are not thinking it is possible due to the rack storage and boom location. Barry said if you could put a dock by the bait station like in previous years. Joe claims you would be converting the commercial area to a recreational area. Jason thinks we have already outgrown our beach area and he does not want to add additional racks on the beach area. Perhaps off the fishing dock would be the solution - Joe suggested. Put a floating dock or extend the dock as much as you want to accommodate the required storage. Carlo suggested by the county pier side. There needs to be a hard look at the area to determine if it is viable. Jason thinks we need to give priority to disabled individuals to create an easier spot to launch from.



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Pickleball Discussion – A resident named Judy came to this month's meeting to discuss pickleball. She teaches pickleball in the High School gymnasium. She has at least 15 people each time it is offered. She is inquiring as to where they can play Pickleball outside the school gym as there are no local facilities. She claims that Mamaroneck has tennis courts which can be converted to a pickleball court. Jason claims that it is the fastest growing sport in the country. You can play with two people but four is ideal. It is the same dimensions as a badminton court. The games are short and can be played as a *pick-up* sport. Barry is working on a place to put some courts. There are two tennis courts in Florence Park. We can take one of the two and convert it to a pickleball court. The contractor Gerosa can take the one tennis court and convert it to two pickleball courts. Since a Sportime negotiation is in the works for extending their facility for another year, the Rec Commission can talk to Sportime to discuss this option of utilizing some of their space for Pickleball. Tina wanted to know if you can utilize Stanley Park for installing a Pickleball court. Barry suggested to have the Rec Commission send a letter to the Board asking about the one court being done in Florence Park and to then obtain a price to install a Pickleball court at Stanley Avenue Park. Informal vote was taken on Stanley Avenue and to have a conversation with Sportime. Additionally, speak to Sportime regarding a portable basketball system to be donated by Carlo. This would be good for camp.

Waterwheels – We are installing a sprinkler system to trench the water lines, no hoses. This will save time and money in the long run. It currently takes two men an hour and a half to set them up each time they are installed.

Parks Department Staff Daily Assignment – John Carpino will be performing daily checks on parks and equipment work on Parkway, construction in parks, etc. He will act as a daily site manager to make sure all procedures are followed and completed properly.

Ribbon Cutting for Spray Ground Improvements – Renovation work is completed, working with installer to adjust pressures, directions, and obstructions, etc. We will have an official ribbon cutting ceremony for the grand re-opening of the spray ground. A flyer was created to announce this event. A press release was also created to describe the original project and what work was done currently. Phase 2 is a work in progress. It is not in capital until 2021. This is the budget year - Feb/March timeframe for construction and ready for opening in June.

Mamaroneck School District Facilities Usage Agreement – Jason, Barry met with the Assistant Superintendent, Facilities Manager, Finance Manager and Athletic Director. An agreement was reached which would allow for the school to utilize Harbor Island Park for Fall Cross Country athletes to run on the outside basin perimeter, provide four dates for Field Days and occasional use of the park for modified football games. In return, the Recreation Department can utilize the school gymnasium at no cost unless there is a requirement for a particular individual for programming or if a custodian is required to open it on days that it is not open.

Agreement for Sportime for Harbor Island Parking – Jason spoke to the BOT and Jerry & Jason were directed that they could negotiate with Sportime on parking issues in Harbor Island Park. Historically, we have been giving Sportime numerous passes each season at an average cost of approximately \$6.00 per pass. This is unfair to residents



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who pay \$41.00 for a season pass. Jerry decided on a \$12,000 fee with no season passes. This agreement will provide either a 15-minute temporary parking pass for drop off or they can get a four-hour pass if needed (only for members of Sportime). Members need to show the Sportime ID in order to receive either temporary pass. The police have been shown the passes so they can be aware of what the passes look like and can address parking issues going forward. Barry suggested we hire a retired police person to check the passes on parked cars in the harbor.

Farmer's Market/Cooking Class Discussion – Jason was approached by *Down to Earth Farmer's Market*. They are not renewing their agreement with St. Thomas. They asked about possible solutions for a new location and were brought down to the harbor to view the space. Jerry is investigating the possibility of RFP requirements and availability at the park. Joint cooking program in conjunction with this would be a desired outcome. The program is based on locally sourced food, can offer classes for children, adults, scout troops, etc. The logistics will be studied in the future to potentially proceed with this arrangement.

Hommock's PTA Event – Jason provided a description of what is requested by the PTA for the fund-raising event. The PTA provides all equipment for the event and they do all set up and take down. Last year's event went very well. Rec Commission voted on the event and it was approved to proceed with alcohol resolution proposal for this year's event.

Additional Lights for Volleyball – Westchester Volleyball NY inquired to see if there were portable lights that could be utilized for their matches (similar to the lights used for carnival, etc.). This would be for next season. They are looking for post lights on the sand side for the matches. They would be wired to main electrical panel from the stage. Barry suggests putting them up, try it and see if there are any complaints about them. Not a big expenditure – they would be on for approximately one hour per night of playing. They can be used for events and other programming if needed beyond volleyball. Timing is important as to when they turn on and when they turn off. Carlo suggested a cost analysis on the project. Randi said we should bring it to next month's meeting.

Comprehensive Calendar for Activities at Harbor Island Park – There should be a central area or printout to describe all events and times throughout the year. Jason additionally wanted to have a Recreation Department brochure printed twice per year to include events as well as schedules for non-recreation information such as recycling, trash pickup schedules, etc.

The meeting was called to a close by Tina at 9:10 p.m. and seconded by Randi.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the pavilion in Harbor Island Park.

Minutes were recorded at the time of meeting and subsequently transcribed by Charles Vigliotti.