

## Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – June 27, 2022

Chairperson Brian Sulewski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Notice Statement – The Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied by notification to the Hunterdon County Democrat and by posting with the Township Clerk and on the Delaware Township bulletin board on March 24, 2022.

Flag Salute – Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Judy Allen, Joe Benincasa, Erin Buchanan, Rebecca Burns, Charles Herman, Steve Smotrich, Jes Stahl, Brian Sulewski,

Absent: Tyler Kadezabek, Heather Opdyke, Tim Soltis, Linda Ubry

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of June 6, 2022 – Steve moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of June 6, 2022, Joe seconded the motion, and with one correction members present approved the minutes with abstentions by Rebecca and Charlie.

### SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM July 5 to July 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Per Summer Recreation Program Director Maegan Harrington there are 119 registrations to date. Background checks where needed have been completed. Members reiterated the policy that attendees must be 5+ years old to attend and must be Delaware Township residents or grandchildren of Township residents. In light of the number of registrations to date, Judy moved to authorize Ms. Harrington to hire additional staff as needed for the Program, Jes seconded the motion, and members unanimously approved the motion.

### REPORTS

Teens – Tyler reported there will be a softball game this summer. No date has been set.

#### DTS Board of Education

Jes said there are signups to volunteer for the Learning Garden at Delaware Township School. The gym bleachers will be replaced with composite materials in August. They will try to salvage the wood for other purposes.

#### DTAA

Erin said the spring closing ceremony will be soon. The DTAA fundraiser with Cornhole Tournament will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup>, and it should be a fun event. There will be a field hockey clinic at the Dilts Park August 29-31.

#### Green Team

Jes said Heather completed the application for Bronze Certification.

#### Open Space

Steve said there are no new applications.

### RECREATION GRANT UPDATE

Charlie said there is no update.

### PARK PLANNER – UPDATE

Charlie said Deputy Clerk Tiffany Crivelli is speaking with one or two potential candidates for a Park Planner. The Township Committee is looking and hoping to get someone for the Director of Public Works position. No Request for Proposal will be sent out.

Charlie said DPW is looking for a less expensive solution for the tennis courts repairs. There is no solution for the bathroom toilets yet. The Township will arrange for more port-a-potties. Brian said there is no soap in the bathroom dispensers. Charlie said he will report that to DPW.

### RECREATION PLAN ELEMENT OF MASTER PLAN – REVIEW AND FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Steve said he will assemble notes and edits to the Recreation Element of the Master Plan received from members and send a final draft for review.

APPROVAL OF DILTS FARM PARK APPLICATIONS – There were no applications. Charlie asked about fees for an upcoming soccer clinic and family picnic with a softball field requested. The fee ordinance sets fees for \$50 for a soccer field use of 3.5 hours or less per day and \$35 for 3.5 hours or fewer for a softball field with pavilion use.

### COMMITTEES:

Somerset Patriots – Joe said 97 of 100 tickets were sold for the event on June 11<sup>th</sup>. There was positive feedback from the event. He has access to a box at the Somerset Patriots Ballpark that holds up to thirty people. He will send out dates for a future event with perhaps 75 tickets available.

### Fishing Derby

Tim said everything went well at the Fishing Derby on June 25<sup>th</sup>. There were lots of prizes donated by Skip's Outdoors. Shop Rite donated bagels, bananas and water. Members discussed whether the event should be held from 8 to 10 a.m. with advance online registration. Tim asked about a possible Fall Derby, and members thought that was a good idea.

Great Crate Race – July 4<sup>th</sup> - Steve said members of the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company will cook food donated by ShopRite. Brian Mario will provide the sound system. Help is needed to manage the event that day. The VFW and Scouts will participate in a pre-race parade. Janet Hrehowesik will face paint. Howard Strober will provide ice cream. Bradshaw Awards will provide the trophies. It is also making "thank you" plaques for Julie Luster and Tim Drew. Kyle Richardson from NJ Event Service is donating a port-a-potty. The Coopers are providing hay bales. Bob Hornby will inspect the crates. Scott Kingston and his two sons will help. Registration begins at 8 a.m. DPW will paint a line on Lower Ferry Road. The event is cancelled if it is raining.

Kite Day – August 20<sup>th</sup> Noon to 4 p.m.. at the Dilts Park – Jes said planning for this event is in the process. The Snack Shack will be open for the sale of food. Shop Rite is donating the food. There will be prizes from jaZams Toy Store for the most beautiful kite, the best constructed kite, and the longest flight time. There will be music and treats.

Sports Swap – September 10<sup>th</sup> – Jes said she already got the banner from Hunterdon Polytech. All is on track.

Fun Fall Fireworks – September 10<sup>th</sup> - Members agreed to a rain date of September 17<sup>th</sup>. Charlie said the Township Committee approved the Commission's request for BYOB and Park hours extension. Members agreed there should be a better job communicating with neighbors about this event. A courtesy notice will be mailed.

Meteor Shower Watch Party – November 18<sup>th</sup> 5 to 10 p.m. at the Dilts Park - The Commission requested an extension of Park hours for this event.

#### OLD BUSINESS –

Adults Recreation at DTS – Judy will request use of DTS for indoor adult basketball, soccer and volleyball beginning October 3<sup>rd</sup> and ending June 14<sup>th</sup>. She recommended changing the ending time to 9:45 p.m. instead of 10 to allow time for the custodians to reset the cafeteria, and members agreed. Teen play will only be allowed with volunteer chaperones or a paid supervisor.

Dilts Park – Jes said the Girl Scouts are talking with the Environmental Commission about its proposal to construct a Pollinator Garden at the Park. Charlie said the Township Committee agreed in principle with the project.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Jes said Hunterdon Economic Development is offering \$5,000 grants to encourage tourism. Some municipalities won awards in the first round for events like Community Day. She said the application must be submitted by the Township Committee. Steve said the Great Crate Race was not held in 2020 or 2021 due to Covid. This might be a good event to submit.

Joe said if there is interest in a Broadway show, he can offer a VIP experience.

Judy said the Commission had discussed purchase of a sandwich board to advertise events. She will look up prices if members are interested, and all agreed.

#### SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Members reviewed draft September newsletter articles. Members agreed to use the Commission's gmail address for teen activity suggestions.

#### MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments or questions from the public.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: August 1, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING 2022 ACTIVITIES

Sports Equipment Sway – September 10<sup>th</sup> at Dilts Park

Fall Fun Fireworks – September 10<sup>th</sup> (Rain Date September 17<sup>th</sup>) at Dilts Park

Yard Sale – September 17<sup>th</sup> (Rain Date September 18<sup>th</sup>)

Community Day/Block Party – October 1<sup>st</sup> at Sergeantsville Green

Plant Swap – October 15 at Dilts Park

Halloween Activity

Meteor Shower Watch Party – November 18<sup>th</sup> at Dilts Park

Holiday Lighting and Parade – December 3<sup>rd</sup> (Rain/Snow Date December 4<sup>th</sup>)

Holiday Decorating Contest Judging – December 12<sup>th</sup>