

# North Plainfield Parks and Recreation

## Monthly Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday, October 4, 2022

**Time:** 7:37 PM

**Location:** Vermeule Community Center

**Attendees:**

Dennis Jackson (Director)	Michelle Brown (Absent)	Mark Kelly (Absent)
Jenn DeJesso (Co-Director)	Nyja Canada	Mark Kruscynski
Joe Irovando (Assistant Director)	Van Dickerson	Larry LaRonde (Mayor)
Tom Allen (Chair)	Marie Glover	Joanne Pierre (Absent)
Nick Kisling (Vice-Chair)	Tammy Guevara	Wendy Sepulveda (Absent)
Lisa Crenshaw (Secretary)	Derek Haley (Absent)	

**I. Statement of Compliance read by Tom Allen**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Attendance taken. Quorum met and meeting proceeded.**

**IV. Public Comment**

- a. Joe Oliver, Marketing Manager at Texas Roadhouse presentation
- b. Handouts provided to committee members
- c. Goal is to develop a partnership with Rec through fundraising events for upcoming, 2023, and beyond
- d. Can offer contests, gift certificates, coupons, \$70 baskets, etc.
- e. Joe Oliver will follow-up with Dennis regarding upcoming events
- f. There is no limit to the number of fundraisers that can be planned with Texas Roadhouse
- g. Events through Texas Roadhouse held Monday – Thursday
- h. Discussed plans for possible October fest
  - i. Texas Roadhouse can sell peanuts, rolls, ribs, etc. Has to be items from their menu

**V. Review and acceptance of September minutes**

- a. September minutes approved with changes by the committee

**VI. Director' Report**

- a. Soccer
  - i. 285 registrations overall
  - ii. Games being played at the Passe field, Stonybrook, West End and the high school
  - iii. Instead of giving kids a night of practice at high school field, we put a game at the high school field
  - iv. Last Wednesday, kids were able to play with their uniforms on
- b. Fall Festival
  - i. Thank you to Tom, Nick, Derrick, JoAnn, Marie, Karen, Katie, Jersey Shades, and the members of the HOPE Club
  - ii. Great turn out and is getting better each year
  - iii. Stage was hard to see and should be put out in the open – no one knew about it.
  - iv. Next year, the Jersey Shades has volunteered to perform at the Fall Festival for free

- v. Brought in \$725
- c. Athletic Scholarships
  - i. Proceeds for Fall Festival put into separate trust for scholarships
  - ii. Sell things at our Rec Events and game to put towards the scholarship as well
  - iii. The goal is to help athletes with more competitive level of playing – it gets expensive
    - 1. Example: help get to tournaments,
  - iv. The goal is to keep the more talented kids in town for sports.
  - v. This is in addition to the current scholarships
  - vi. Dennis would like to put together a committee to determine who's eligible for the scholarship
    - 1. Van volunteered to assist
- d. Basketball Open Gym
  - i. Open gym open to everyone in Rec – any sport
  - ii. Runs every Wednesday night
  - iii. Trying to work with the High School coaches to get high school freshman players to play with the Rec kids
  - iv. We need more girls to participate – requested assistance from Tammy to recruit more girls
  - v. Dennis will reach out to gym teachers to help promote the program to more girls.
  - vi. Tammy to talk to Nick to see how Rec and NPYSA to work together
  - vii. Suggestion: schedule a couple of girl clinics to see what the interest is
    - 1. Will need another gym and someone to run it
- e. Newsletter
  - i. Sent out to everyone in town (school district newsletter)
    - 1. Includes activities, sign up deadlines, etc

## VII. Old Business

- a. Vermeule Playground Update
  - i. New equipment in ground but still need mulch underneath it
  - ii. Safety guy let the team know that the entire playground needs all mulch removed before proceeding
  - iii. Pull everything out and level ground / put new mulch in
  - iv. Jenn looking into prices / quotes
    - 1. 2 quotes have come in so far
  - v. Currently all mulch has been pulled back and caution tape has been put up

## VIII. New Business

- a. In-person signups for Winter sports
  - i. 10/19 & 10/20: 7:00 – 9:00 PM
    - 1. Volunteers:
  - ii. 10/22: 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM
    - 1. Volunteers:
  - iii. People can register on the site. They can still come in to check sizes for uniforms.
  - iv. Special requests for registration – Dennis is now able to pull into a report.
    - 1. All request cannot be honored but will be looked at.
    - 2. Parents should **not** call in to make special requests.
  - v. Current grade vs Rising Grade
    - 1. Winter and Spring – current grade is fine
  - vi. Rec is making a list of issues to review with Support – it's really difficult to get answers from them
- b. Halloween parade
  - i. October 23<sup>rd</sup> – 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM (no rain date)
    - 1. 12:30 PM registration starts
    - 2. Judges sits outside the stage / judge costumes

3. Refreshments: apple juice and donuts (for kids)
  - a. Individually wrapped
4. Ask Council to be judges this year
  - ii. New flyer has been posted online
  - iii. High School band may play – Joe to confirm
  - iv. No age limit for the parade/contest
  - v. Volunteers: Jenn will send a sign up sheet to everyone
- c. Hispanic Heritage
  - i. Cancelled / no rain date
  - ii. Next year: September 16, 2023 with a rain date of September 17, 2023
- d. Juneteenth
  - i. Mayor LaRonde requested date of next event so it can be put on schedule
- e. Santa Comes to Town
  - i. December 4<sup>th</sup> – will need all hands-on deck (inside and outside)
  - ii. Inside needs to be decorated
  - iii. Santa will be at the mansion
  - iv. Refreshments will be at the Vermeule Center
  - v. Already received a call regarding donating for the Santa event

**IX. Announcements**

- a. Next Committee Meeting is November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 PM at Vermeule

**X. Committee Comments**

- a. East end will allow us to put the mounds up
  - i. Need a wooden shed to store them in at East End field
  - ii. Need to have the shed built first
- b. Three businesses that Mayor visited also donated to the Mayor Special Events (\$1,500)
  - i. M&R Auto = \$500
  - ii. Pepe's = \$500
  - iii. Law firm = \$500

**XI. Adjournment**

- a. Tom made motion to adjourn meeting. No nays or abstentions. Motion passed.
  - i. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM.