

PERKASIE BOROUGH PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES OF THE MEETING, July 20, 2021
Perkasie Borough Hall, 7:00 p.m.

The monthly meeting of the Perkasie Parks and Recreation Board was called to order at 7:00 pm on July 20th by Lauren Moll. Members presents were Dave Broadbent, Kathy Rocchetti, Lynn Kallus Rainey, and Lisa Walters. Absent was Emily Greco, Robyn Rapp, and Bethany Schwendy. Staff Present: Lauren Moll, Director of Parks and Recreation.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Forum - none

3 Approval of June 2021 Meeting Minutes - will be approved in August meeting.

4 Old Business Updates

- The Lenape Quad Restrooms were installed June 29, 2021. They were touched up with paint and caulking as needed the following Thursday, July 1. However they are still will not be available for use until the ADA accessible walkways are done. These won't be completed until the Road Program is completed. Dave questioned how many of the restrooms would be ADA accessible and Lauren will reach out to Public Works to find out for next meeting.
- Our summer programs are underway. Outdoor basketball league have started playoffs this week at Kulp Park and are finishing up. Due to Mad Science minimum requirement the NASA science camp was canceled. Discussions were had about the possibility of trying to run it again at the end of the summer now that two space expeditions happened and could peak interest. Lauren will reach out to Mad Science. Dave also suggested that his wife previously worked for NASA and in the past has run food sustainability workshops and might be a future idea for programming. Our other science camp, Super Slimey Smokey, has good pre-registration numbers and will run mid-August as planned as well as our Creative Theater camps at Menlo Park Pavilion. Swim lesson sessions at Menlo have been running with good participation numbers in the 80s-90s each session.
- Summer Concert Series is underway Wednesdays at 7pm at Menlo Park Pavilion. An updated on volunteer responsibilities. Linda Reid handles most of the set up with the bands however moving forward they are dates Linda cannot. When Lauren is made aware she will reach out and ask the volunteers scheduled that concert to arriver earlier then 7pm. These new updated responsibilities include: picking up the electric key and check at Menlo Pool, alerting the band to set up on the concrete outside the pavilion facing up toward the park, using the key to turn on the lights and outlets as necessary, alerting Lauren of any problems, turning the lights off at the end of the event, and then dropping the key off later at Borough Hall drop box or to Lauren next day. Discussions were had regarding

the key itself and suggestions were given to use a Sign Up Genius as a way to relay information and sign up for concerts without an email chain. This would allow board members the options of doing the set up portion, the concert, or both as well as include important information such as phone numbers and set up information. It was also suggested to give the band that volunteer's information so that they know what time to officially expect them.

5 Reports

- May and June Parks and Recreation Report – no comments about actual report. Questions were brought forth regarding an Amphitheater updated. Lauren explained that although the Parks and Recreation Director was involved in previous years, Borough Manager Andrea Coaxum was now taking the lead on the Amphitheater. Lauren know that is it still moving forward but still without a date.

6 New Business

- Menlo Aquatics Center is struggling with staffing. Lauren explained that due to our recent economy and COVID-19 many similar business are struggling with staffing in recreation, particular pools. Certification classes were not held and therefore there were no new lifeguards and many certified guards did not or could not recertify therefore there is a lifeguard shortage. Menlo started out season with only 77 employee compared to the 85 in past years. Then over the course of time have lost an additional 15. Some employees left before the season started and some others left during for other opportunities or better pay. Currently Perkasio Borough Council has approved two pay incentives to try to retain the current staff: end of season pay bonuses and raises for management and supervisor level. Lauren explained that many of the employees lost were of management and supervisor level and though still short in lifeguards the Menlo Aquatic Center has been making do. However moving forward without proper oversight and management in terms of a Pool Manager or Assistant Manager our current staff is running into additional issues and concerns. Our current young managers need adult assistance with resolving issues with their own peers as well as issues that arise outside of the immediate pool related rules. Currently Menlo has been keeping the same programs and amenities but if additional help cannot be found will need to look to cancel these extra amenities to retain the integrity of safe open recreation swim. The Parks and Recreation Department is on the look for pool managers, though hard to find mid-season, as well as any adult manager to assist during busy open recreation time. If a pool manager could be found then the cancelling of some programs would not be necessary however if not, and general manager is found Menlo would not be able to open safely without someone with additional certifications to handle the pump room and emergency situations. Discussions started with explanation of certification courses and how the costs vary but most Lifeguarding with First Aid, CPR, and AED for the Professional Rescuer run \$200-\$300. Menlo could provide a cheaper

option for staff if they had a Lifeguard Instructor on staff to assist which is how certifications were handled in May. Lisa suggested a feeder program between the school system and Menlo. Lauren expressed the need and want to start a relationship where if the school system had a lifeguard course curriculum offered then Menlo would be interested in hiring those students after passing their course. Lisa said she would reach out to the school board to see if there was interest.

- Parks and Recreation is looking for ideas for upcoming fall programs. Some ideas discussed were a zombie survival course through Kathy. Lisa suggested any fall events could be market through the Farmer's Market since that runs into October.

7 Other Business and Discussion - None

8 Adjourn: There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm. Motioned by Lisa, seconded by Kathy, all in favor.

Next Meeting: August 17, 2021 – 7:00 PM at Perkasio Borough Hall.

“The mission of the Perkasio Park & Recreation Board is to preserve and enhance the park system while planning and supporting events for the benefit and enjoyment of our community.”

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Lauren Moll
Secretary, Perkasio Borough Parks & Recreation Board