

Demarest Recreation Commission Meeting  
March 17, 2021 8:00 pm Agenda  
Zoom Meeting Set by Marti Francis

Leigh Barker opened the meeting at 8:00 pm with the Disclaimer: "This meeting was advertised at least one week in advance in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of NJ."

#### Roll Call

Present: Alli Deutsch, Josh Lesser, Leigh Barker, Ana Yezekian, Sara Gatanas

Absent: John Bannan, Janice Kurys

The normal order of business was suspended while Mike Dipple and Mike Ference (both of the Demarest Athletic Association) came forward to speak about difficulties with the fields and changes they would like to make. The DPW Superintendent has money in the budget for some field repair but not grading. Leigh responded that the Recreation Commission does not have money in the budget for field repair and that perhaps the Wakelee Field Committee would be a more fruitful venue for this discussion. Mr. Ference and Mr. Dipple stated that they would pursue this there, but that they felt that the dugouts (which now have only one entrance/exit) needed attention now to be safe both physically and in terms of COVID. Josh Lesser will let them know about the next committee meeting> Leigh Barker remarked that there are improvements in the cleanliness of the bathrooms and that the keypads were fixed. Leigh asked about the safety of playing in the Wedge. Mike Dipple stated that there could be some concern about foul balls but only with the older, stronger players. There needs to be some dormant time to allow the grass to grow back. Leigh Barker moved that the DAA have permission to coordinate with the DPW to alter the dugouts for safety, almost immediately, second Josh Lesser. All in favor. Leigh asked if there could be any summer basketball. The DAA will not be participating in spring BTBL.

Leigh moved to accept the minutes from January, second Josh. All in favor. Carried.

#### Old Business

Alli Deutsch gave a Rec Camp Report: The camp will be five weeks (6/28-7/30). It will be 9:00-1:00 with snack but no lunch. The cost will remain \$475. The questionnaire will be filled out 6:30-8:00. Temperatures and masks will be required. Groups will max out at 13 with 1 CIT. Nish Gandhi was suggested as a resource for COVID questions.

Concert Update – John Bannan was absent; discussion tabled to April.

#### New Business

##### Permit package Approvals

Vikings Permit: The Vikings requested several fields for the spring. The small number of Demarest kids on Vikings is a concern, but they should still be able to use the fields. They pay Closter and Haworth about \$1,000. No one was opposed to their use of the field and felt that what they pay Demarest should match what they pay other places. Leigh moved to approve the Vikings request and charge them \$1,000, second Ana Yezekian. All in favor.

Question: where does the money go? Susan or the Mayor might know.

Avalone Summer Camp: NVBA and Avalone want three of the same weeks. They worked well together last year. Leigh moved to charge Avalone \$100 per week for 5 weeks, second Ana . All in favor. Carried.

NVBA Summer Camp: Leigh moved to charge NVBA \$25 per week in light of all the services they provide to Demarest and Tri-Town, second Ana. All in favor. Josh abstained.

Rebel 76 summer camp: Leigh moved to approve as long as it doesn't conflict with baseball, second Ana. They will pay \$125 per week. All in favor.

Demarest Rec Events & Pay: Community Pass is in the works.

The Fishing Event (if it happens) will be June 5<sup>th</sup> 10:00-12:00.

Meeting adjourned at 9:52.

This year's dates: 4/21, 5/19, 7/21, 8/18, 10/20, 11/17 (February is in Presidents' Week, June too close to graduation activities, September is Yom Kippur)