

Dunellen Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 26, @ 7:00 pm

Type of Meeting: Monthly Recreation Meeting @ the Recreation Office. (Makeup for snow out February 13th, 2024)

Meeting Facilitator: Jim Brennan

Commission Members: Jim Brennan (Facilitator), Chris Cashin, Kathy Wilson, Tim Howard, Melissa Paltjon, Grace Cordero, Elena Buccino, Alternates: BJ Johnson, Jessica Dunne and Laura Ruskuski,

Councilmember- Trina Rios (Council Liaison to the Recreation Department)

Recreation Director: Alex Miller

Recreation Program Coordinator: Kelly Seader

A. Call to Order:

B. Roll Call: Absent: Chris Cashin, Melissa Paltjon, Bj Johnson (covered Rec Basketball)

C. Public Session: None

D. Follow up from the last meeting:

E. Open Issues:

1. Senior Holiday Party: The annual senior holiday party was held on January 6th at St. John's. A great time was had by all. Turnout was a little lower than usual, with about 35 seniors attending. I believe the winter weather was a factor. **Weather was a factor. Do we move it back to Sunday next year since we will be located at the firehouse? How can we advertise and reach more seniors? More to go containers. Kathy did a phenomenal job with all of her baked goods. Many seniors took multiple baked goods home. Kylie, Gianna and Brinley Paltjon and Ben and Joe Howard helped out serving and cleaning up tables.**

2. Program Updates

a. Rec Basketball: Saturday sessions finished up this past week. We had 89 kids enrolled in the program. We still have two more Mondays for our 5th and 6th graders. The kids are split into teams and play full-court, four-quarter games. **Next year have the referees wear an official jersey. Do we open it up to 7th and 8th graders next year? 3 vs 3. Start in December next year. (December 7th or 14th)**

b. Winter Flag Football: We've been rained/snowed out a few times. We have 33 players enrolled. **We went from 90 minutes to 2 hours to make up for lost time. 2 hour sessions are better.**

F. New Issues:

1. Commission Election

A. Chair- **Jim Brennan, nominated by Tim Howard and 2nd by Kathy Wilson**

B. Vice Chair- **Kathy Wilson, nominated by Jim Brennan and 2nd by Tim Howard**

C. Minutes- Kelly Seader

2. **Easter Egg Hunt:** Scheduled for Sunday, March 24, at 1:00 PM. **Rain date:** Saturday, March 30
Keep staggered start times and break up the pre-k section into 3 sections: 3, 4, 5 year olds. Baseball field will be K&1, and 2&3rd grade

A. Set up at 11 AM

B. Who can help? **We will be stuffing eggs March 20th at 6:30**

3. Kelly attended the baseball/softball meeting in Somerville on Thursday 2/8/24 **Dunellen will be participating in the Somerville league for softball.**

3. **Meeting Schedule Dates** March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, September 9, October 15, November 12, December 9. (October and November's meetings are on Tuesdays because the borough is closed for Columbus Day and Veterans Day)

4. **Program Schedule Dates:** 3/24 (rain date 3/30) Easter Egg Hunt, 4/13 Rec Tennis begins, 4/18 Rec Track begins, 4/20 Baseball/Softball opening day 10 AM, 5/4 Tennis Tournament, 5/27 Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony 9 AM, 6/17 Summer camp begins, 6/20 Rec night at the ballpark, 8/6 National Night Out, 9/14 Soccer and Tennis begin, 10/26 Halloween Parade 1:00 PM, 12/6 Christmas tree lighting , 12/17-20 House decorating contest, 12/24 Santa around town

G. Next Meeting: March 11, 2024

Upcoming Events:

Adjourned: Grace at 8:09

Second: Elena