

Dunellen Recreation Commission
Meeting Agenda
April 13, @ 7:00 pm

Type of Meeting: Monthly Recreation Meeting @ the Senior Center.

Meeting Facilitator: Jim Brennan

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

Councilmember- Crisol-Iris Lantz (Council Liaison to the Recreation Department)

Recreation Director: Kelly Seader

A. Call to Order: 7:08

B. Roll Call: Jim Brennan, Kathy Wilson, Chris Cashin, BJ Johnson, Tim Howard, Elena Buccino

C. Absent: Grace Cordero, Jessica Dunne

D. Follow-up from the last meeting: Kelly to add Crisol to meeting minutes email First- Tim, Second- BJ

E. Open Issues:

1. **Spring Break Camp:** Spring break ran from March 30 to April 3. We had 28 kids throughout the week. Kids participated in various spring time activities. **Full financial report will be provided for next meeting.**
2. **Easter Egg Hunt:** Took place March 29 at 1:00 PM. All four hunts took place on the football field. **Thank you to the Fire Department for escorting the bunny in. Also thanks to PD, Rescue , OEM and CERT for their support and presence. Grace and Elena did a great job on the field instructing the high school students. Next year we can consider having the pre-k do a format in a square, so kids line up around the whole perimeter in a square instead of a straight line. Line them up ahead of time by groups; separate groups by cones, and put horses around the gate to push back parents. Possibly to bring back golden tickets- free slice of pizza, or free ice cream- donations from businesses.**
3. **Opening Day:** Took place this past weekend on Saturday April 11. The parade left Washington Park a little after 10:00 AM. Each team's coach announced their players. Before the first pitch, we had a moment of silence for longtime Dunellen Resident, Jerry Sella. **Real good turnout. More parents with the kids marching in the parade. High School baseball team was there, and the middle school girls softball team was present. Next year we should announce their coaches who were present. Mulch had been put down, Kelly put up bunting, balloons were hung up to give it a festive flair. Two banners were hung by the bleachers for team and player pictures. All teams played on opening day at McCoy. Hotdogs, chips, bounce house added to it making it a celebration. Mike Sovak volunteered his entire day there and at easter egg hunt. He spent the day carrying supplies and working/monitoring the bounce house.**
4. **Scholarships:** Jim Brennan

F. New Issues:

1. **Financial Disclosure: Must be done by the end of the month, 4/30.**

2. **Open Soccer:** Waiting on volunteer coaches for grades prek-k, 3-5 and 6-8. An additional email went out today. Would like to start the program next week. **Research- NJ Youth Soccer Soccer subcommittee: Tim, BJ. This will be a good supplement for middle school soccer. 12 to 15 kids will be needed for grades 6-7. Plan to start it for next spring 2027.**
3. **Recreation Track:** we would like to bring it back for 2027.

Other Discussion: Ask the school to put out park rules in parent email blast/ parentsquare to help alleviate behavior in the park.

Adjournment: First- BJ, Second- Elena 8:08

Upcoming Events: Next Meeting: Monday, May 11, 2026, 7:00 PM at the Senior Center