

**LEONIA RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2022**

Vice Chairwoman Dennyse Hernandez called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m, duly publicized, and in accordance with the Sunshine Law in the Leonia Recreation Meeting Room.

**PRESENT:**

Commissioner Andrew Choi, Commissioner Anthony Vassallo, Commissioner Dennyse Hernandez, Commissioner Ken Fernandez, Superintendent Sean Krakower, Program Director Torres.

**Absent:** Commissioner Marilyn Mulato, Commissioner Vito Mazza, Commissioner Ken Fernandez, Commission Alternate Jason Klein, Chairman Jon Abouaf, Council Liaison Louis Grandelis.

**MINUTES:**

Approval of Minutes, March 15, 2022

The minutes of March 15, 2022 were tabled due to not having a quorum to vote or discuss them.

**FINANCIALS**

**Activities** - Superintendent Krakower explained that the Activities account is over \$200,000 right now due to the Summer Camp registration fees. He explained that once Summer Camp salaries start to be paid the number will normalize. Commissioner Vassallo asked if the soccer line item was the program that is run by Gyu Ho Cho. Superintendent stated yes. He also explained that the way we pay instructors is on an 80%/20% basis. Instructors get 80% and the department gets 20%. With this system in place we should never go negative on programs. Commissioner Vassallo asked if there were any line items that would go negative. Superintendent Krakower said yes, we have expense line items only. Commissioner Vassallo then asked why our utility line item has not been drawn out yet. Program Director Torres stated that the finance department has taken on all utility bills of the borough therefore we do not have those bills coming out of our account anymore.

**Operating** - No questions were brought up about operating.

**Swim Club** - Superintendent Krakower explained that you will see little movement on the Swim Club budget because we have not started opening the pool yet. He explained at the next financials meeting that you will see a lot more activity from those financial reports.

Motion to approve the January to March financials was made by Commissioner Vassallo. Second by Commissioner Choi. All in favor. Approved.

## **PUBLIC PORTION**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Chairperson:** none.

**Programs and Fees:** none.

**Swim Club:** none.

**Program Director-** none.

**Councilman Report -** none.

**Sports Boosters Report:** none.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Spring Celebration:** Superintendent Krakower updated the Commission how well the Spring Celebration event went. The weather held off just enough to get it in.

**Baseball/Softball/Tee Ball Update:** Program Director Torres informed the Commission that our baseball and softball clinics are low in numbers and not doing very well. He explained that our Tee ball numbers are normal and it will start this weekend. Commissioner Vassallo asked who is coaching this year. Program Director Torres explained he is running the first week but then Coach John Taylor will take over for the rest of the time.

**Office Manager Position:** Superintendent Krakower informed the Commission that the Mayor and Council approved our recommendation for Office Manager at the April 18th meeting and that she will be starting May 2nd.

**Swim Club Assistant Manager:** Superintendent Krakower has no update on the Assistant Manager. We still have no resumes and no interested candidates. Commissioner Hernandez stated that she may have a nephew that has lifeguard experience and could potentially be interested in the position. She said she would reach out and get back to the Superintendent.

### **New Business:**

**Fires/Grills in the Parks:** Superintendent Krakower explained to the Commission that the Laws and Ordinance Committee of the Mayor and Council is putting together an ordinance that umbrellas over our park/facilities permit policy. The Committee would like to know if the Commission is OK with allowing Food Trucks for permitted events in the park. The Commission agrees.

**Summer Camp/Swim Club Pay Scales:** Superintendent Krakower presented the pay

scales to the Commission. He stated that summer camps and swim clubs are exempt from the minimum wage requirement. Superintendent Krakower said that we do not need to worry about losing applicants because of the low wages because we are still turning applicants away.

**2022 Swim Club Salaries:** Superintendent Krakower explained to the Commission that each year they need to approve the Swim Club Salaries to go to the Mayor and Council for approval so they can get paid. There was a motion to approve the salaries by Commissioner Vassallo and a second by Commissioner Fernandez. All were in favor. Approved.

**Senior Annual town Meeting:** Superintendent Krakower reminded the Commission that Senior Coordinator Maggie Browne has invited everyone to the Senior Annual Town Meeting on May 18th at 1pm in Wood Park. He said that the Fire Department will be grilling and Senior Coordinator Browne will have games set up. The Superintendent explained that this meeting is great for the Seniors to get to know the town officials and department heads.

**2022 Open Space Grant - Tennis Courts:** Superintendent Krakower explained that we have submitted a letter of intent to resurface the tennis courts in wood park and add pickleball lines to the courts. He explained that this is a one to one matching grant and the Borough is willing to put up \$90,000 for the project therefore we can propose a project that is \$180,000. The tennis court resurfacing quote we got was for \$350,000 and Superintendent Krakower is trying to get that down to \$180,000. He will also look into a new company to see if we can get the pricing down.

**FY23 Congressional Appropriations:** Superintendent Krakower explained that our Grant Writers from Millennium Strategies brought forth this opportunity. He said the Police Department was awarded this grant last year therefore the grant writer would like to use a different department to increase our chances of being awarded this grant again. A perfect fit for this grant would be submitting for an electric senior bus. The electric senior bus would cost around \$250,000 and the grant would cover the entire cost.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **PUBLIC PORTION**

At 8:12 P.M, a motion was made by Commissioner Vassallo to adjourn, second by Commissioner Fernandez. Approved.