

**LEONIA RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 17, 2022**

Chairman Jon Abouaf called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, duly publicized, and in accordance with the Sunshine Law in the Leonia Recreation Meeting Room.

PRESENT

Chairman Jon Abouaf, Commissioner Andrew Choi, Commissioner Anthony Vassallo, Commissioner Ken Fernandez, Superintendent Sean Krakower, Program Director David Torres and Office Manager Destiney Sampson

ABSENT

Commission Alternate Jason Klein, Commissioner Vito Mazza, Commissioner Dennyse Hernandez, Commissioner Marilyn Mulato and 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.

Approval of Minutes April 19, 2022

The minutes of April 19, 2022 were tabled due to not having a quorum to vote or discuss them

FINANCIALS

Superintendent Krakower announced that the full-time bus driver and pool salaries were approved at the Mayor & Council Meeting on May 16, 2022. A contract was negotiated for \$13,000 for the next 5 years to help pay for the full-time senior bus salary. This was spoken about at the Mayor and Council meeting on May 16, 2022 and a resolution will be drawn up.

PUBLIC PORTION

CORRESPONDENCE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson: none

Programs and Fees: none

Swim Club: Superintendent Krakower announced that pre-season has begun for the pool and is in the process of getting everything ready for opening day on May 28th. Commissioner Vassallo inquired about the need for more games and programming for the kids at the pool. Superintendent Krakower and Program Director Torres both think it is necessary to have more to do for the kids at the pool and will review the pool budget.

Program Director- Program Director Torres mentioned the idea of a Father's Day Basketball game that a parent suggested. He shared that he doesn't feel it would be feasible for the Recreation Department to host this as a large event at the moment but if the parents were open to running the program, a smaller event could work.

Councilman Report - Commissioner Abouaf announced that Leonia Day was very successful and moving forward the Recreation Department will be taking over Leonia Day.

Sports Boosters Report: none

OLD BUSINESS

Senior town luncheon is tomorrow May 17, 2022.

Full-Time Bus Driver Update: Jaime Cardenas was appointed as a full-time bus driver by the Mayor and Council as per Resoltuion 2022-130 .

Tennis Courts: Superintendent Krakower is talking to various vendors to help with the grant that's needed for the open space tennis courts project

Grants: Congressional Congregation Grant – head administrators met regarding this grant and they are looking to purchase an electric senior bus with this grant. Superintendent Krakower announced that the Recreation Department won the Roid Grant again to help with the special needs programs that we offer.

Park Permits: Superintendent Krakower mentioned that the Recreation Department is having a problem with big scale private permits requests and it is starting to get in the way of recreational activities. Program Director Torres mentioned that residents who profit from these large events are essentially paying pennies for the park spaces but if this is done consistently, it takes away from the Recreation being able to do their job. Commissioner Fernandez suggested that people who request permits should be charged based on the size of their event as well as the resources needed for their events. Superintendent Krakower thinks town events should come first and that there should be a part of blackout dates for park permits. Everyone is in agreement for a possible tiered pricing budget for park permits. Commissioner Abouaf mentioned that there should be a meeting with the Borough Administrator regarding this matter.

Run for Fun: Program Director Torres mentioned that the Recreation Department has been reaching out to vendors for the event. More will be discussed at the next commission meeting.

Summer Camp Salaries: All were in favor of this decision

RESOLUTIONS

PUBLIC PORTION

At 8:12 PM, a motion was made by Commissioner Abouaf to adjourn, second by Commissioner Vassallo. - Approved.