

**LEONIA RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 16, 2023**

1. Chairman Jon Abouaf called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM, duly publicized, and in accordance with the Sunshine Law in the Leonia Recreation Meeting Room.

PRESENT

Chairman Jon Abouaf, Commissioner Andrew Choi, Commissioner Ken Fernandez, Commissioner Dennyse Hernandez, Superintendent Sean Krakower, Program Director Destiney Sampson, and Administrative Assistant Jayjoon Sin

ABSENT

Commissioner Vito Mazza, Commissioner Anthony Vassallo, Commissioner Marilyn Mulato, Commission Alternate Jason Klein and Council Liaison Louis Grandelis,

2. MINUTES

The March 21, 2023 meeting minutes were tabled due to not having a quorum to vote on them.

The April 18, 2023 meeting minutes were tabled due to not having a quorum to vote on them.

3. FINANCIAL REPORTS-

NONE

4. PUBLIC PORTION-

NONE

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Chairperson NONE

Program and Fees- NONE

Program Director - Program Director Sampson presented the Commission with the 2023 Summer Camp Salary resolution that will go to the Mayor and Council for approval. She had stated that our pay scale starts at the seasonal minimum wage as first year summer camp counselors will make \$12.93. Each year after there will be a increase based on the amount of years the employee has been a counselor. Program Director Sampson went on to inform the Commission that we have 278 campers registered for both Wood Park and ACS. This is our highest total for camp ever. Since we have so many campers we will need three more counselors to offset the ratio, but we would need at least 10 more counselors to add more campers therefore we will be ending our Summer Camp registration. Commissioner Choi asked that if the budget

allows it then why not have three or four more counselors? Program Director Sampson replied that we are having trouble finding more counselors as we have be marketing for the position everywhere we can.

Program Director Sampson continued by informing the Commission that tee-ball started off great, but in the last two weeks there were some issues with PS2 Athletics, so we are parting ways with them. This is due to the disagreements with the parents and the coaching staff. However, we have a parent that has volunteered to coach for the remainder of the program. Commissioner Fernandez asked for more details regarding this situational event. Chairman Abouf and Superintendent Krakower said the coaches were just lecturing and did not incorporate enough playing time. Superintendent Krakower and Program Director Sampson had a discussion with PS2 athletics after the first complaint by parents regarding this issue. During week two they disregarded all conversations and lectured the next week. After several conversations, the instructor will not be moving forward.

Pool Report- Superintendent Krakaower said we are starting the pre-season and getting our staff ready. Commissioner Fernandez asked if we are moving forward without an assistant manager. Superintendent Krakower replied that we are still looking for one. Commissioner Hernandez asked what we are looking for in that position? Superintendent Krakaower described an individual who can run a staff and the pool when Pool Manager Tim and himself are not present. Overall, a qualified candidate is someone who is able to manage a young staff, is available for “late shifts” from 1pm to 8pm, and weekends as well.

Sports Booster Report- Superintendent Krakower said the annual Sports Boosters Party is taking place on June 3rd at the pool. We are going to advertise for them and they have asked for a donation of 10 guest passes to be raffled at their party. Superintendent Krakower said that at our last meeting Councilman Grandelis mentioned we do not know if we can donate tax funded money. However, the Swim Club is not funded by tax payer money therefore we are able to donated passes.

Councilman Report - None. He was not present at the meeting.

6. OLD BUSINESS

Senior Name- Superintendent Krakower said we are still working on the data.

Adopt A Park- Commissioner Fernandez will take Upper Sylvan Park.

Leonia Day- Superintendent Krakower updated the Commission about what will be happening during Leonia Day this year. He has reached out to Recreation instructors to do demonstrations. In addition, one of our food trucks backed out because of a rain date for a different event. We will have a DJ to play music and this will be taking place this Sunday 12:00pm-4:00pm at Wood Park.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Historical Preservation Committee Request - Superintendent Krakower has asked the Commission through the Leonia Historical Preservation Commission if they can use the Senior Bus for a bus tour around Leonia. This same type of request came in October 2019 for the 125th anniversary of Leonia. Superintendent Krakower had reached out to our Joint Insurance Fund and the bus will be insured as long as a Leonia employee is driving it. The Recreation Commission agreed to let the Leonia Historical Preservation Committee use the bus in October for their event.

Pool Rental- Pool Manager Tim Ryan has spoken to Jersey flyer Aquatic Club about renting out our Swim Club for the summer. The rental price would be \$100 per hour. These pool rental events will occur early in the morning, to which this is extra revenue and it will not interfere with pool public hours, teams, or lessons. Superintendent Krakower had a contract drawn up by the Borough's attorneys to make the contract official. The Recreation Commission has agreed to rent out the pool for the 2023 season.

8. CORRESPONDENTS

NONE

9. RESOLUTION

NONE

10. PUBLIC PORTION

NONE

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Choi to adjourn the meeting. A second motion was made by Commissioner Hernandez. All Commissioner were in favor and Chairperson Abouaf adjourned the meeting at 8:02pm.