Borough of Wildwood Crest Recreation Commission

Wednesday, October 12, 2022

Crest Pier Recreation Center

Meeting called to order by Brian Cunniff at 5:05 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of the Sunshine Ordinance – In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 231 175, the notice requirements have been classified as to the time, place and date of holding said meeting by posting notice of the same on the bulletin board in borough hall and by mailing the same to the Gazette Leader and the Herald.

Roll Call: Don Cabrera, Mayor/Commissioner present

Toni Fuscellaro present
Bryan Vasti present
Salvatore Volpe not present
Frank Basile, Recreation Supervisor present
Brian Cunniff, Asst. Rec Supervisor present

A quorum is present.

Brian Cunniff stated that the recreation department is working with the finance office on lease specifications for Wildwood Catholic's usage of the Von Savage pool for the upcoming season. Lower Cape May will also be leasing the facility for three or four home meets only.

Brian Cunniff asked the members present about possibly moving Recreation Commission meeting times to 4 pm instead of 5 pm for 2023. Toni Fuscellaro said she'd be fine either way but Bryan Vasti said a 4 pm meeting time would be difficult for him due to work.

Frank Basile reported that the summer basketball leagues were filled quickly prior to the season. All leagues were filled before Memorial Day, which has never happened before. Looking to push deadline to prior to Memorial Day weekend next year. We'll do our best to remind locals of registration as usual. Frank added that all sponsors were sent thank you letters and mentioned on social media. Brian Cunniff added that the recreation department is considering making an early-registration window for Crest residents only for next year.

Frank Basile stated that Pier Playmates Day Camp was again a success. Returning closer to normal with less COVID restrictions. Camp was maxed out. All residents who inquired got into the camp. Kindergarten group was brought back. Still no Pre-K and may not be brought back in going forward. Camp is too active for the younger kids. Frank added that we had a good staff this summer, one of the best we've had.

Frank Basile stated that the Crest Pier Recreation Center was open for much of September for the first time in years. Building was closed to public in late August after camp as all tile floors were cleaned and waxed. Then building opened Monday-Friday from the day after Labor Day through Sept. 23. Building closed Sept. 24 through Oct. 2 due to gymnasium floor refurbishment. Frank added that the recreation department kept track of usage. Only 47 people in the building for the entire month, and most came in on rainy days. Building is open regularly but visitors to the building are limited due to the nice weather. That will change once the weather gets colder.

Frank Basile stated that the South Shore Basketball League held its first meeting already. League may start earlier this year. Islanders program for boys held mostly out of Crest Pier will have boys teams for grades 3-4, grades 5-6 and grades 7-8. Girls on the island play for the Sharks out of North Wildwood Recreation Department. Schedule is expected to be larger this year. Scoop Taylor Tip-Off Classic grammar school tournament will be held Dec. 9-17 at the Crest Pier.

Frank Basile stated that the Crest Pier currently has one portable pickleball court available for indoor use. As of now, at least one Crest resident must be present in a group to use. Looking to possibly add a second court. Most days pickleball can be played 11 am-3 pm. Brian Cunnif added that some people have used the court already but that it's very sporadic since most are still playing outside.

Frank Basile stated that grammar school dances will return to Crest Pier this winter. May also do a pool party or two.

Frank Basile stated that the Crest Pier has many condo meeting rentals in the building this month on the weekend. Brings in some revenue.

Bryan Vasti stated that he thought the summer went very well. Was nice to see all the programs being run, both from recreation and tourism side. Bryan asked about the food truck events possibly being moved to Wednesdays. Frank Basile said, yes, this will happen. Will meet with event organizer at some point soon to discuss.

Mayor Cabrera asked if there were plans for anything other than trick or treat for the Halloween season. Frank Basile stated that the trunk or treat event in Wildwood has become very large. We provide support there if needed.

Mayor Cabrera asked about the holiday tree lighting ceremony. Brian Cunniff said the decision was made last year to always hold the event on Dec. 1, no matter which day of the week it falls. Brian Cunniff added that the holiday lights walk hosted by staff member Laura Farrall is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 19.

Mayor Cabrera announced that the 5K run for the T.J. Hunt Memorial Foundation will be staged from the Crest Pier on Thanksgiving morning. Brian Cunniff said recreation staff will have the building open approximately 7-11 am for the event.

Bryan Vasti asked about the status of the new arts pavilion. Mayor Cabrera responded that the borough is still waiting for the electrical panel to be installed. Should be in very soon. He added t hat the parking lot is being remediated because of an old oil tank that was discovered in the ground. Mayor Cabrera believes the building will be mostly ready by January in anticipation of opening in the spring. Lots of entertainment, arts, crafts, activites for all.

Mayor Cabrera stated that the borough is looking to get the roof repaired at the Von Savage Pool in 2023. Will also drain the pool and get it resurfaced, along with new decking.

Meeting adjourned 5:50 pm.