

# **Borough of Wildwood Crest Recreation Commission**

**Wednesday, September 13, 2023**

**Crest Pier Recreation Center**

Meeting called to order by Brian Cunniff at 5:10 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.

Frank Basile gave a video presentation on the maintenance work that gets done inside the Crest Pier during the month of September.

Frank Basile stated that the summer basketball leagues were a success. There was an issue that came up regarding the T-shirt policy toward the end of the season. That policy will be tweaked going forward.

Frank Basile stated that the Pier Playmates Day Camp was the most successful in 10 years. Very limited behavioral issues with the kids. Seeing an influx of kids with more mental and behavioral disabilities, which is tough for us because we're not a special ed program but we manage the best we can. Plans are to keep the camp at grades K-5. Don't want to bring back the pre-K.

Toni Fuscellaro asked if we had enough counselors for the camp. Frank stated that we hired more counselors than usual and increased salaries a bit. Trying to keep camp rates the same for 2023.

Frank Basile stated that the Crest Arts Pavilion has done well in its first year and is taking off. Crest merchandise sales in the building did well. Sales of more than \$26K at last report and we didn't open the store there until around July 1. Getting artists in and some speakers may run events in the offseason. Also planning some events around the holidays. The place is evolving and will be even better with the parking and landscaping improvements still to come.

Frank Basile stated that the 5K Beach Race in late July had a little more than 200 participants. Number seems to be about the same each year.

Frank Basile stated that the outdoor exercise classes this summer did not do as well as in past years. All classes are now at Centennial Park, no more on the Beach Pier. Was very hot in the mornings this summer. Zumba still doing well. Will make some adjustments for next summer.

Frank Basile said the new pickleball courts have done very well this summer.

Frank Basile stated that the Crest Arts Pavilion is now open until 3:30 each day during the week and will be open weekends through the end of the month. Requests for rentals have been coming in. An art class for children ages 8-11 is scheduled to begin Sept. 27 and run each Wednesday for four weeks. Limiting it to 12 children.

Frank added that artists can rent space monthly in the building to display their art. Artists can then make arrangements on their own to sell. Three artists currently in the building, with two more coming in October. There has been some interest in possibly holding an art show there.

Frank Basile stated that the Firefighters Craft show is scheduled for this Friday and Saturday at sunrise Park. About 30 vendors already registered.

Frank Basile stated that the Soroptimist group led by Robin Quinn will be holding its annual pickleball tournament this Saturday at the new pickleball courts. Seems to be growing each year.

Frank Basile stated that the Crest Pier is currently open through Sept. 22. Then building will be closed as gym floors get redone. Reopen Monday, Oct. 2, for fall hours and programs. Frank Basile added that the game room is getting redone. Walls will be painted and Pantalone dedication will be changed to a plaque.

Brian Cunniff announced that the Seafarers Celebration is set for Saturday, Sept. 23. Same setup as usual – 9am-5pm on Sunset Lake with the street festival, then music at Centennial Park at 7 pm followed by fireworks. Frank Basile stated that we will have a lot of food vendors at this year's event.

Mayor Cabrera stated that the Cape May County Open Space program will be awarding \$1.043 million to the borough for work on the exterior of the Crest Arts Pavilion. Hoping to go out to bid in October, with construction beginning toward the end of this calendar year. Should be finished in time for next season. Parking, EV charging stations, bike racks, small outdoor pavilion, major landscaping improvements among the work.

Mayor Cabrera added that a shade structure is due to be installed in November at the pickleball/tennis court facility and that the current rundown building there may be replaced before next summer as well. There is some money in the budget to replace the restrooms there.

Mayor Cabrera said the spray pad at Sunrise Park will be resurfaced at no cost to the borough in October.

Mayor Cabrera stated that the Von Savage Pool has been closed since mid August for major renovation work. New roof, new windows, pool resurfacing, new decking and new hardware in restrooms. Hoping to be complete by the end of October. Doing as much in-house maintenance work there as possible while the building is closed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.