

**Meeting of Mendham Township Recreation Committee
July 29, 2020, 7:45 pm, Brookside Beach**

Attendees:

David Guida (Rec Director)	Trish O'Brien
Amalia Duarte (MTC liaison)	Martin Slayne
Terry Gogerty	Rochelle Abraham
Adam Dubeck	Damon Finaldi
Diane Tolley	Kimberly Gavagan

New Township resolutions:

- The Mendham Twp Committee recently approved two resolutions applying to Recreation:
 - Mandatory criminal background checks for all volunteers or employees with access to youth enrolled in programs using Twp facilities.
 - No nonprofit organizations will be charged for use of the fields. For-profits based in Mendham will be charged \$10 or 10% of whatever fees they are charging for their event. If based outside of Mendham, \$20 or 20%.

Brookside Beach:

- Shut down for two days due to high bacteria counts (the result of high temps and heavy rainfall):
- Retested yesterday (7/28) and levels were down:
 - 320 is allowed level; rose to 1,200 on Fri (7/24). Today, 306.
- Contract through end of summer with Hudson Valley Wild Goose (geese removal). Will come every day through the end of summer to keep geese away.
- Can reopen tomorrow (7/30).
- Unintended consequence of the dredging last year – discovered a collapsed pipe. In process of replacing pipe.

Financials:

- To date, 80 Mendham Twp families have signed up for the Beach; 40 non-Mendham families joined, and 1,030 day passes purchased.
- Have taken in \$22K in revenue to date. Grossed \$9K last year. Had to increase expenditures this year (needed additional lifeguard). Estimating possible additional \$8K in revenue this season.
- Paying \$1,000 for geese removal and \$1,000 for water treatment. Estimating end of summer profit of about \$5.9K.
- May consider purchasing bubblers for next season (about \$6K) depending on profits.

Group discussion:

- Bring back the swim team next summer
- Consider light concession sales (pre-packaged chips, popsicles, candy, beverages).

Buttermilk Falls/India Brook update:

- Buttermilk Falls to remain closed on weekends through Labor Day.
- Issues with overcrowding and trash being left there three weekends in a row. Police signs/warnings did not improve the situation.
- “No swimming” sign to be posted (liability concerns with swimming, jumping off rocks, etc.)

Field Use Requests:

- Future requests need to include specifics on when each group is on the field. Need specific dates/times of use – not general.
- Will help identify groups that are leaving trash behind or other issues.

July Park Audit:

- In July, David visited parks in the Township (details/photos included in the packet):
 - India Brook – ongoing irrigation issues. Recreation exploring.
 - Ralston Park: 1. Baseball outfield fencing needs repair. Recreation contacting fencing contractor for quotes. Full replacement recommended. To be explored in future Capital Budgets. 2. Hole in area between fields. DPW to get new riser with a cover to resolve. 3. Installation of new electricity (to be done by Twp) for added infield irrigation. DPW to dig trenches. 4. Installation of scoreboard to be done by Mendham/Chester Little League. 5. Irrigation issue from below ground sprinklers. DPW ordered parts and will fix.
 - Wysesong Park: 1. Water fountain constantly running. DPW to fix. 2. Infield not part of existing contract with landscaper. Decision by Twp Comm needed to buy equipment for DPW to maintain (old equipment sold), or increase budget for contractor to handle. 3. No sign at park entrance. David to explore.
 - Meadowood Park: 1. No sign at entry. David to explore. Graffiti on firepit. DPW to remove.
 - Brookside Field: 1. Backstop fencing curling up. Recreation contacting fencing contractor for quotes. 2. Infield is not part of existing contract with landscaper. (Same resolution as above).
 - Brookside Beach: 1. New fence along dock area needed. DPW to explore options. 2. Added goose chaser. Covered in self-sustaining funds. 3. New septic system needed by MTES parking lot (\$50K). Explored in future capital budgets. 4. Increase water circulation. DPW to pump water to increase movement.
 - Mosle: Not included in this report.

Events:

- 8/4, National Night Out, 8/4 at Brookside Beach
- 8/15, Group sunset hike/bonfire at Meadowood. Tickets include Mendham blanket and ingredients for s'mores. Capped at 30 families.
- 8/19, Yoga Under the Stars, Brookside
- 8/28, playground reopening (music by Shortly Long & the Jersey Horns). 7 pm. (New equipment to be installed 8/10).
- 9/12, Doggie Dip, Brookside Beach

Next meeting: September 9, 7:45 pm, Town Hall