In attendance: Ned Panfile, Dianne Ackerman, Stephanie Fourie & Bruce DiBisceglie (dept chair).

Meeting Location: Garabrant Center

1. **Communications**
   1. June 2019 Mendham Borough Recreation Committee (MBRC) meeting minutes were approved with the correction on Item 1,b,ii,2 and 4,a,ii… the Borough Clerk’s name Robin *Clark* is incorrect, correction: Robin *Kline*.
      1. Minutes and agendas will be posted to the Mendham Borough website as approved.
   2. Communications:
      1. Robin Kline updated Bruce. Dylan Byrne, Matt Kornick & Matt Cantale will be making their Public Project Proposal at the July 22 meeting of Mendham Mayor & Council.
         1. Proposal is to begin construction of a gaga pit adjacent to the basketball courts.
         2. Funding has yet to be determined.
         3. Construction to begin August 3rd
      2. Jeff Cooper updated Bruce on Park/Orchard Tennis Courts.
         1. In April 2019, Borough Council approved complete reconstruction of the two courts.
         2. In May, the Council funded the courts at approximately $180,000
         3. Currently Borough Engineer Paul Ferriero is finalizing Bid Specs.
            1. Test pits have been completed.
            2. Once Bid Specs completed, bids will be opening to the public.
         4. 14” of old court fill must be removed
      3. Bruce communicated with WMSC Eric Inglis about the new turf courts
         1. WMSC will be posting usage and safety signage
         2. WMSC proposed “Firehouse Soccer Courts” as the name for the new facility, Bruce said this would be considered by the MBRC as a facility naming process has been established.
         3. There has been daily use since the Turf Courts opened on Saturday, June 30th
      4. Councilman Steve Andrew proposed a new Fourth of July Firework event at Borough Park
   3. Meetings:
      * 1. Steve & Bruce attended the Meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council on June 24th

Councilman Brennan Reilly proposed improvements to the playground area of Borough Park. It is very early in the process. No projects have been identified and no costs have been estimated.

Councilman Reilly added that the new turf courts are looking good. The possibility of landscaping the berm on the north side of the courts would be a good Eagle Scout project. John Andrews agreed.

Clarification was requested around the maintenance of the Cosma Tract. The land was deeded to the Borough at the cost of $1 for 99 years (per the Borough Master plan)

Councilman Andrew reported that:

The Food Truck & Music Festival was a success

The Turf Field will open this week (June 30)

Day Camp began successfully on June 24

The Walk of Fame will be installed by DPW in July.

The Gaga Pit presentation was not submitted by the June 20 deadline. Projected for July 22.

Mayor Glassner reports that the Park/Orchard tennis courts needed to be closed for safety reason per JIF, signage will be posted and reconstruction should be complete sometime between Fall 2019 – Spring 2020

* + - * 1. Bruce attended the Department Staff Meeting on July 17

Joyce Bushman reported that the individual and shared drives are functional and should be used by all Departments through Office 365. Bruce posted the Parade information on the shared drive.

Robin Kline reported on the Gaga Pit presentation

Jeff Cooper reported on the Park/Orchard bid spec status

Bruce reported that Day Camp attendance is up 16% while same demographic is down I the Boro/Twp by 6% per the NJDOE.

Bruce & Jeff will investigate the issue of soccer players climbing on the EMT/FD roof to retrieve balls.

1. **Labor Day Parade Updates**
   1. Ned confirmed that the High School Football Team, Marching Band and Cheerleaders will be participating in the Parade. The Football team and Band will launch from the HS parking lot, Cheerleaders will launch from Tempe Wick.
   2. Bruce asked Stephanie & Dianne to assist the Knights of Columbus with marcher placement on Tempe Wick on the day of the parade and to pay close attention to marchers throwing candy in the Post Office mail boxes (problem in 2017).
2. **Concert & Movie Updates**
   1. June 30, Carnaby Street Concert:
      * 1. Weather clear, 72o. Attendance: 7:00=125, 7:30=210, 8:00=245, 8:30=240. Retention (end/peak) 98%
   2. July 10, Willy Wonka Movie:
      * 1. Weather clear, 75o. Attendance: 8:30=70
   3. July 14, Kimon & the Prophets:
      * 1. Weather clear, 80o. Attendance: 7:00=45, 7:30=110, 8:00=110, 8:30=90. Retention (end/peak) 82%
   4. Upcoming: July 28-FabForward, July 31-Coco (drive-in), Aug 4-Larry Stevens
      1. All hands on-deck for Drive-in. It may sell out. Contacted Bud Murphy about selling Ice Cream pre-show.
3. **Park Facility Updates.**
   * 1. Turf Field opened June 30. Has been in use every day. Successful debut.
        1. Issue of balls on FD/EMT building:
           1. Courts closed until extended fencing installed on east side.

Bruce, Jeff & Eric are exploring all possibilities.

135’x25’ (LxH) mesh ball fencing available from [Net World Sports](https://www.networldsports.com/ball-stop-netting-multi-sport-16ft.html?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI-pye_-e84wIVSj0MCh1n6gv7EAQYAiABEgJBN_D_BwE) on sale for $607.50 (plus tax & shipping).

135’ Wire Tension Cable needed to mount from the three existing light poles. 165’ (minimum size available) with hardware $80-$130 (plus tax & shipping). (approx. $840 total with expected shipping of $102)

Jeff & Bruce looking at ways to mount wire & mesh. Jeff is meeting with Chief Bruin on July 22 for ideas.

Payment: Jeff is recommending that WMSC pay for the netting. The MBRC consensus is to support paying from Recreation budget, either through line items (Teen Events, Youth Sport Continency and/or Lightning Safety Equipment) or through the Day Camp (a major user of the courts). Bruce will discuss at July 22 Borough Council meeting. Note: the Mendham Borough PBA offered financial support of new park project(s).

* + 1. The Playground upgrade raised by Councilman Reilly was discussed.
       1. The MBRC felt that the sandy-area playground (aka: “Sandy Park”) is not in disrepair or dilapidated. The consensus was that this could be a future project for 5-10 years out.

1. **Prior Business:** 
   1. Gaga Pit project:
      1. Bruce communicated to DPW/Jeff Cooper the suggestion of adding a gateway opening to the south side of the playground to ease access to the Field Turf area.
   2. Bruce & Jeff spoke about the correction of inclined benches at Westfield. The projected will be timed with the introduction of a new pavilion at Westfield. Benches will be reinstalled with a new concrete base. Costs could equal $375/bench.
   3. The possibility of an ice rink was discussed. An idea was to flood the t-ball field and to coincide an event with either the January Tree Burning or the Holly Trail
   4. Bruce opened a discussion about the impact of the NJ increase of the Minimum Wage on the Day Camp. NJ scale:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Increase Date** | **7/1/19** | **1/1/20** | **1/1/21** | **1/1/22** | **1/1/23** | **1/1/24** | **1/1/25** | **1/1/26** |
| **Typical** | $10.00 | $11.00 | $12.00 | $13.00 | $14.00 | $15.00 | TBD | TBD |
| **Summer** | no change | $10.30 | $11.10 | $11.90 | $12.70 | $13.50 | $14.30 | $15.00 |

* + 1. The committee felt that the rise in wages, and the subsequent proportional pass-through to camper fees, will have little effect on the Day Camp enrollment. Noted that rates were raised for 2018-19, yet enrollment increased by 16%.

1. **New Business:** 
   * 1. Councilman Andrew proposed a Fourth of July Firework show. Bruce shared the Councilman’s vision and the approximate costs of $18,000 - $21,000 for fireworks and $12,000 for entertainment (note: the total Recreation budget for Labor Day, Park Events, Senior Event, Fishing Derby, etc. is $30,300)
        1. Ned noted that Mendham Borough should remain “The Labor Day town” and not try to compete with the other local Independence Day options (Mendham Township, Randolph, Chester, Denville, Parsippany, Hanover, Dover, Hopatcong, etc.). Stephanie agreed.
        2. Dianne commented that if there were $20,000 funds available, that money could be better spent elsewhere.
        3. The vote to recommend was 3-0 against a firework show in the Borough,
     2. Naming of turf field:
        1. WMSC proposed to name the new turf facility “Firehouse Soccer Courts”
           1. Even though the turf was lined for soccer by the WMSC donation, the MBRC wishes to avoid the perception that the courts are primarily for soccer. These are multi-use courts.
           2. The MBRC also wants to emphasize that these are turf fields and as such proposes that the name be the “Firehouse Turf Courts”. The MBRC unanimously agreed.

***Next Meeting: 7:30pm, Thursday, August 15th, 2019 at the Garabrant Center***