In attendance: Dianne Ackerman, Stephanie Fourie, Melissa Wojcik, Tim McChesney & Bruce DiBisceglie (dept chair). Steve Andrews (Councilman). Jennifer McManus (student representative)

Meeting Location: Garabrant Center

1. **Communications**
   1. The August 2019 Mendham Borough Recreation Committee (MBRC) meeting minutes were approved as submitted. Minutes and agendas will be posted to the Mendham Borough website as approved.
   2. Communications:
      * 1. Bruce received an email from Tom Burtnett of the Denville String Band.
           1. Burtnett is requesting partial payment for the Labor Day parade ($675 for rented bus and $95 for the band’s sandwiches)
           2. The Denville String Band did not perform. Due to weather, they arrived and chose to leave without informing Bruce that the DSB had come and gone.
           3. Burtnett is claiming that in 2003, the same situation occurred, and the past Recreation Director did partially pay the DSB.
   3. Meetings:
      * 1. On August 26th Steve & Bruce attended the Meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council
           1. The Tennis Court bids began on August 29th

The Borough needed an addendum for soil conservation (MCSCD) which causes a one-week delay in the bid process

* + - * 1. Steve reported for Recreation:

The gaga pit project is now being considered as a potential Boy Scout Eagle project due to inactivity from the IB group of Dylan Byrne, Matt Cantale & Matt Kornick

Forty-eight parade groups confirmed as participants for Labor Day.

The MBRC is undertaking a feasibility study for a dog park in Borough Park.

The Mendham Day Camp may be rebranding

“Mendham Morning Adventures” is being considered as the new name

An info letter will go out to all 2019 Day Camp families

Kristel Gallagher will be replacing Amanda Sherwin as Camp Director. Amanda resigned on August 2nd. Kristel has been working at the Day Camp for ten years and has four years experience as Assistant Camp Director.

Brennan Reilly congratulated the Day Camp for a great summer and experience for campers.

* + - 1. On September 11th Steve & Bruce attended the Meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council
         1. The Tennis Court project will be contracted. Bidding has closed and been awarded.

Resolution #132-2019 rejecting all bids for the Orchard Park tennis courts was withdrawn

* + - * 1. The Westfield pavilion project has gone out to bid
        2. Steve reported for Recreation:

The Labor Day Parade was successful

Mayor Glassner publicly thanked the Recreation Committee and volunteers

* + - 1. On October 1st Melissa represented the MBRC at the Morris County Municipal Alliance meeting.
         1. Items discussed were:

The 7/1/20-6/30/21 Regular budget & 1/1/20-12/31/20 Supplemental budget

Under the Regular Budget

Mendham Boro School $3,135

Mendham Boro Library $2,500

Under the Supplemental Budget

Mendham Boro Recr. $2,000

New Grants

Focus Group on underage substance abuse, risks and protective factors

Program Updates

1. **Labor Day Parade Review**
   1. Bruce reported that despite the weather (light rain prior to 10 am kickoff, drizzle & clearing during parade) the parade was considered successful.
      1. Of the sixty-seven expected participants, fifty-seven did take part in the parade. The ten no-shows were: Morris County Clerk - Ann Grossi, Mendham Township Mayor – Warren Gisser, St. Mark’s, Rotary Club, The America Car, Chester Unity Float, The Club at Mendham, the Fast Attack car & Big Dog Rescue.
      2. The Denville String Band arrived but chose to leave due to weather. The DSB did not tell anyone they had arrived and left. On 9/5/19, Bruce received an email from the DSB requesting partial payment for expenses incurred. ($675 for a bus and $95 for food that they bought on the way home). The DSB provided receipts and noted that in 2003, a similar occurrence took place and they were paid by the past Recreation Director. Bruce told the DSB that he would consult with the MBRC. It is noted that there is no provision in the DSB/Mendham Borough contract that stipulates anything about weather and/or non-performance. The simple contract is for $1275 in exchange for a performance.
         1. The MBRC advised Bruce to reply that the Borough cannot pay any amount due to non-performance, non-stipulation in the contract and due to the fact that Bruce was not notified by the DSB that they had come and gone until the 9/5/19 email, Bruce will inform the DSB that we cannot pay for their bus and sandwiches.
2. **Municipal Alliance Discussion**
   1. Melissa reported on the Municipal Alliance Meeting Needs Assessment from the October 1 meeting.
      1. Melissa reported that the overall grant budgets may be smaller and will involve more paperwork (by Bruce). We are prepared to take advantage of these grants.
      2. Melissa shared the documents on the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse (gcada.nj.gov).
      3. A round-table discussion took place regarding underage substance abuse, including vaping.
         1. Jennifer McManus offered unique perspectives as a high school student on the subject.
            1. Vaping, et al, may be a result of a bigger issue facing the youth of Mendham today, including pressures to perform at school. Vaping is a gateway drug and, in some circles, recreational, but it also can be a coping strategy to deal with stresses of school/family expectations.
         2. Possible action items include having informal discussions at the Day Camp with the rising 6th grade group, with counselors that are currently in high school and college. The focus would not solely be on vaping, but on any questions that rising 6th graders would have about entering middle school and eventually high school. The 2020 Day Camp Senior Staff will discuss this as a possible inclusion to the summer program.
3. **Prior Business:** 
   1. Bruce has discussed the digital key-lock proposal with Jeff Cooper (DPW) and Margie Matrisciano (Peggnet Computers).
      1. At this point the project looks feasible
      2. Bruce will continue to move forward with this.
      3. Initial findings estimate the costs of materials at approximately $300 for a digital key fob door entry system with individualized key codes for security and tracking.
   2. Bruce & Jeff Cooper have been investigating the dog park proposal for the area currently housing the old batting cages. Findings:
      1. That wooded area bordered by the turf field, Lenape Field and the t-ball field (#5 East Main Street) is not owned by the Borough. It is property of the Mendham Methodist Church.
      2. DPW had three main areas of concern
         1. liability of dogs fighting
         2. related bite liabilities
         3. keeping the Dog Park clean from feces and the potential health hazards
            1. DPW will not assume the responsibility/liability of these items
4. **Prior Business (continued)**
   * 1. Jeff researched with our Risk Control Management team.
        1. It was determined that there would be no associated insurance up-charges for a dog park, but it could increase some local property values.
        2. We were also provided with “Guideline for the Establishment and Maintenance of a Successful Off-Leash Dog Exercise Area” from the Program in Veterinary Behavioral Medicine, Center for Animal in Society (Davis, CA). Guidelines advised in areas of Safety, Noise, Sanitation, Location, Maintenance and Substrate. Bruce & Jeff have copies of these guidelines.
     2. The first consideration, if this project is to move forward, is location, now that #5 East Main is not an option.
   1. T-Ball field flooding for an Ice Rink. Bruce & Jeff discussed:
      1. In other communities that attempted this, the result was unsuccessful as the water was absorbed into the ground before it could freeze and remain frozen
      2. In shallow rinks with sufficient clay surfaces, debris such as leaves/sticks/etc. froze into the surface making skating unsafe.
   2. The WMSC signage item was tabled for the November MBRC meeting.
5. **New Business:** 
   1. 2020 Concert Series
      1. Bruce has found two new groups and has contracted with them for the 2020 Gazebo Summer Concert Series
         1. Band #1) “The Harrisons”:
            1. Bruce saw this band in Hackettstown during their Oktoberfest. A four-piece band doing modern popular covers, great stage presence and within our budget. They fill a void in the concert series genres.
            2. Bruce has worked out a contract with The Harrisons and they will be playing on August 2, 2020.
         2. Band #2) “The White Wedding Band”:
            1. This band is an extension of the bands that Kerri Parrott plays in. Kerri has performed for Mendham the past three years in the Beatles Tribute (2017, 2019) and FabFoward80s (2018).
            2. The contracts have been worked out with this band as well. Date: June 28, 2020 (7/19/20 rain date)
         3. Diane suggested the Atlanta Café Band (modern country). We could investigate, but country bands have not drawn well in the past (at Mendham in the late 2000s).
         4. It was restated that 2020 concerts will begin at 6:30 nightly as opposed to 7:00 pm as in the past.

***Next Meeting: 7:30 pm, Thursday, November 21, 2019 at the Garabrant Center***