

Ardsley Parks & Recreation
November 14, 2023

The November 14th Parks & Recreation meeting began at 5 PM. In attendance were Trish Lacy, Andy DiJusto, Abe Falek, Lorraine Kuhn, and Mona Swanson.

Minutes from the June 13, 2023 meeting were approved.

Thank you to Trustee Andy DiJusto for serving as our Recreation Commission liaison.

Old Business:

Tennis Tournament:

Our Annual Tennis Tournament was a big success. We had 64 participants, and we were able to complete all scheduled matches. Thank you to Mona Swanson and Ayo Obi for running a great event.

Halloween Movie-in-the- Park:

We had at least 50 children attending our screening of “Hocus Pocus” at Pascone Park on October 20th. We have a professional service that brings in a convenient blowup screen and video equipment at a very reasonable cost.

Trunk or Treat:

Our 5th Annual Trunk or Treat was a huge success this year. There were 22 decorated cars plus Police, ASVAC and Fire Trucks. Special thanks to Highway, Police, Fire, Ambulance Corps and everyone who volunteered.

Arbor Day:

Arbor Day was held at Pascone Park on October 21st. There were several Girl Scout troops who helped out with planting the trees. Thank you to all, especially DPW Foreman DiGregorio for making this day possible. Thank you to Carol Sommerfield/Pollinator Pathway and Linda Kiel/Garden Club for their help as well.

Diwali:

The Annual Diwali Event was celebrated on November 4th at the Ardsley Middle School. It was a huge success with over 300 people attending. A Food Truck provided Soul Food for the event. Big thank you to everyone who helped out.

Fall Programs:

Fall Programs are coming to an end. There were over 200 registrations this season.

Upcoming Programs:

Winter Programs:

Parks & Rec is offering many programs this winter: 3 Chess Classes, Zumba, Zumba & Toning, Coding With “Scratch”& Video Game Design, Lego Robotics & Engineering, Inter-Village Youth Basketball, Pre K Basketball, Grades 7 & 8 Developmental Basketball, 2 Adult Open Gym Sessions, Drama Classes and more.

Adult Open Gym:

Open Gym will take place at the AHS Small Gym on Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 PM starting Dec 7, and Saturday mornings from 7 to 9 AM starting on Nov 18.

Youth Basketball:

Youth Basketball starts the week of November 27th. Deadline for registration is November 14th. We currently have 50 girls and boys signed up.

The Coaches meeting & draft will be held on Tuesday Nov 21st at 6:30 PM at the Community Center. We need a few more volunteer coaches at this time.

Seniors:

The Seniors have a busy month with jewelry making, wreath making and musical pizza bingo. Some suggestions for other trips were to restaurants. Lombardo's is a favorite, and Saw Mill Tavern would also be a good choice. The Hastings Senior Bus could be available for these trips.

Thanksgiving Placemat Decorating:

A new Thanksgiving activity sponsored by Ardsley Parks & Rec and APD will be held at the Community Center on Friday November 17th from 5 to 7 PM. Kids of all ages are invited to decorate washable placemats for the holiday. Ten children have already signed up, and registration is limited to 40 participants.

Christmas Tree Lighting:

Our Annual Christmas Tree Lighting is scheduled for Saturday December 2nd at 6 PM. We will meet at the tree in Legion Park and then march up to the Firehouse for refreshments. There will be gifts for the children and music.

Chanukah Menorah Lighting:

The Menorah Lighting will take place on Monday December 11th at 7 PM at Legion Park. There will be a celebration at the Community Center following, and doughnuts will be served.

New Business:**Community Center Update:**

Bruni & Campisi installed a new Heating & A/C rooftop last month. There are also separate Heat & A/C units for the Offices so that they can have separate controls, and the entire Community Center need not be set at the same temperature. This saves on energy costs.

New appliances have been installed in the kitchen – new stove & cooktop, new microwave & new refrigerator. Renters must leave the appliances spotless after use or they will lose their \$250 deposit.

Recreation Program Financial Assistance:

A Rec Comm member mentioned that some Ardsley residents have financial hardships and some children are missing out on Rec programs due to inability to afford registration. The possibility of Rec “scholarships” was proposed. This would be an idea to present to the Village Manager and Village Board. It might be proposed as a new Rec budget item. Eligibility might be based on financial need such as requiring the free lunch program at school. It was mentioned that an event, such as the Tennis Tournament, might be used as a fund raiser for this new program.

Next Meeting: Tuesday December 12 at 5 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Lorraine Kuhn