



RECREATION, ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AGENDA/ MINUTES

Thursday, November 3, 2022 – 8:30 AM
Virtual WebEx Meeting

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. **Call meeting to Order** 8:30 AM
2. **Roll Call**
Bobby Brown, Committee Chair
Trustee Hartshorn Hilton
Trustee Jones
Peter Travers, Director of Recreation & Cultural Affairs
Sara Keffer, Recreation Leader/ Recording Secretary
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** 8:35 AM
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** 8:35 AM
5. **REPORTS** 8:50 AM
 1. **Recreation** - Director Travers
 - A. **Program Update**
 - a. **Active Older Adult Programming** - The program is currently underway and going well. The winter schedule is still shifting around based on SOPAC availability.
 - b. **Fall Programming** - The fall cougar soccer partnership went well with good feedback. One coach had an issue with the league's flighting. The Athletic Director at the high school and the Recreation Dept have been working well together when it comes to field availability. The last week of programs will be November 20.
 - c. **Winter Programming** - So far we have indoor soccer and basketball open for registration. There is a new co-ed volleyball program in the works in partnership with the Gym Maplewood and the coach for the high school. We have been trying to get staff for the ski trip with little luck. The bus fees have increased significantly and might not be within the range of the fee ordinance.



2. **Cultural Arts and Events Update** – Director Travers
 - a. **Food Truck Festival** 10/15 - The festival was well attended and everyone had a lot of fun. Director Travers suggested shortening the program from 3pm - 8pm.
 - b. **Cornhole Tournament** 10/30 - The program was well attended and everyone had great feedback. Director Travers may want to make two different brackets for competitive players vs non-competitive players.
 - c. **Veterans Day** 11/11 - President Collum and Trustee Jones successfully reached out to the families involved in the memorial for the event. The set up will be similar to Memorial Day. The speakers will be set up with a podium by the rock.
3. **Facilities & Capital Projects**
 - A. **Baird Update** – KDP is the new site subcontractor for the Baird with 15 on average workers each day. The site is getting ready to get the transformer installed. The conduit is planned to be run next week and PSE&G will send an inspector to get it approved. Trustee Hilton will reach out to the Pierro Foundation to discuss the future of the art gallery.
 - B. **Carter Park Update** - The sculpture is still in progress with the new vendor.
 - C. **Cameron Recreation Area** - Dresdner Robin came back with the proposal for the construction documents and construction management. It came back higher than expected due to the scope of the project and inflation. Another option to look into is to go out to bid to see if the prices decrease. Director Travers and Ellen Malgeri will work together on what the timeline looks like for this process.
6. **OLD BUSINESS** 9:30 AM
 1. **Parks Administration** – This topic will be discussed at the next meeting.
 2. **Arts and Cultural Events Committee**- Trustee and Trustee Haskins are planning a meeting with Director Travers to further discuss.
 3. **Baird Membership Pricing and Program Pricing** - This item is part of the documents Director Travers sent to the Trustees. Director Travers plans to get this added to the agenda for the November 28th Trustee meeting. There may be a change in the fee for the Summer Baseball Travel program due to uniform costs increasing after Director Travers meets with the Baseball Committee next week. After discussions the Committee voted unanimously to approve increases to the fees. The schedule of fees are attached to these minutes. This item will now move to the Village Board of Trustees for a vote.
 4. **Program Scholarships** - Director Travers found two sources for finding income thresholds in the attached document and recommends using NJ Region 2 with the Low option as the appropriate threshold for our programs.



Director Travers and Clyde will work together to get that policy updated by the November 28th trustee meeting. The cap increased to \$400 per South Orange resident per year. The cap is set for \$150 per Maplewood resident per year.

7. NEW BUSINESS

9:40 AM

1. **Capital Budget 2022** – The document is attached to the minutes. Director Travers is working with FSG to see if the Village is eligible for energy rebates to decrease the cost of updating the athletic lighting. If we do not get the rebates then the cost will be higher. Director Travers received two quotes from two different furniture companies for the Baird and is requesting \$350,000 in Capital. Trustee Hilton requested to move the Baird outfitting item to number one on the priority list as shown in the document attached.
2. **Operating Budget 2022** - The document is attached to the minutes. There are some fee increases to adjust for inflation, staffing and supplies. The cost of utilities and cleaning services are expected to increase at the Baird once it is open.
3. **Signage** - Assistant Business Administrator Julie Doran and Director Travers met with the company and the company will send some options next week which will then be discussed with President Collum. The sign in front of the new building was voted on unanimously by the Committee to call the building "South Orange Community Center at the Baird".

8. NEXT MEETING DATE:

Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

10:00 AM