

**BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes – Quick Notes**  
Minutes for September 20, 2022 at 7:30 PM - Zoom

**1. Call to Order**

A monthly meeting of Borough of Mountain Lakes Recreation Commission was held on September 20, 2022 on Zoom teleconference. It began at 7:30 PM and was presided over by chairperson David Keyt, with Derek Jackson as secretary.

**2. Attendees**

Voting Members in attendance: Phyllis Deering, Derek Jackson, David Keyt, Shaun Lehrer, Mark Odenwelder, Heather Prince-Hornby, Ina Rose

Non-voting Members in attendance: Karen Brennfleck (Recreation Director), Meghan Leininger (Board of Education Liaison), Thomas Menard (Council Liaison)

Guests in attendance: None

Members not in attendance: Gary Reznik, Tish Scarola

**3. Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on June 21, 2022 was made by David and seconded by Derek.

**4. Report of the Recreation Director**

The report was presented by Karen Brennfleck.

- July 4th Swim Races
  - The races were successful and enjoyed. There are pool swim races and boat and swim races from the ML Club to Island Beach.
  - The event is almost exclusively attended by Mountain Lakes Club members. There was discussion about if we want to change the venue from the ML Club to Birchwood, or another venue, to attract more non-club members. No conclusion was reached.
- Mountain Lakes Day
  - Mountain Lakes day was over July 4 weekend. It was well attended and very successful. The event singlehandedly organized by Margaret Ng.
  - The combination of Fireworks and Mountain Lakes Day overly stretched the town workers. We will need to target another weekend in the future. Historically Mountain Lakes Day was on Memorial Day. However, Mountain Lakes Day was moved out of respect for holiday. There have been talks about having Mountain Lakes Day align with the Borough Hall reopening, which is targeted for summer of 2023.
- Swim Test for Teen and Surf Camp
  - The beach swim test is a prerequisite for teen and surf camp, regardless of the age of the camper.
    - Surf campers who do not pass are refunded money

- Teen campers who do not pass do not attend the canoe trip and visits to Jenkinson's boardwalk
  - Some people are not comfortable getting in the lake for health or psychological reasons and therefore never pass the test.
  - Residents request the Recreation Commission consider whether we need a different or any swim requirement to support these camps. There was a discussion. No policy change was decided upon. There will need to be conversations with insurance before any decision can be made.
- Track Coach
  - Ranjan Bose is still the youth track coach. He no longer has any family members in the program. There was discussion about potentially honoring and thanking Coach Bose for his years of service, and creating a transition plan for a new volunteer and/or hiring a coach.

## 5. Old Business

- Mayor Menard shared an update on the Pickle Courts.
  - a. There have been a variety of conversations about the growth of the support and need in town. Several proposals have been discussed including:
    - i. Painting courts on the parking lot at Esplanade.
    - ii. Adding lines on the high school tennis courts. This would not create a regulation court due to the difference between tennis and pickle nets.
    - iii. Build new courts next to the tennis courts
  - b. There is a plan to resurface the high school tennis courts next summer. That work would probably be a logical time to add lines and/or build a court.
  - c. There is concern about the cost of building new courts (\$150K). Several community members are discussing fund raising.

## 6. New Business

- Sail Boat Storage
  - Recreation Commission member Derek Jackson shared that there are insufficient facilities to support sailboats in our community. Multiple families have approached him asking how they can conveniently store and use their sailboats on the lake.
  - There are a few ways for people to access the water with a sailboat.
    - Docks - There is very limited space and equipment tends to be more prone to damage and vandalism.
    - Racks - Are awkward for the sailboats due to their size and weight.
    - Beach - There are about 35 rings which are exclusive to the sailing association and its summer camp boats. These rings are not available to the general public.
    - Moorings – There is no ordinance that allows or forbids moorings. However, they are not explicitly advertised as an option to community members. However, there are a limited number that are put there by youth in sailing camp.
    - Private homes on the lake
    - Trailer the boat and make use of the boat ramps

- ML Club
  - To expand access to the general public who would like to use sailboats we could:
    - Officially offer moorings
    - Allow non-camp beach rings to be distributed to the general public
    - Allow rings to be added to the southern (dock side) wall of Island Beach
    - Build or buy low profile docks near Island Beach, Midvale launch or the dam that allow boats to be stored on or attached to them.  
Example <https://www.shocomarine.com/floating-docks-lifts/ez-boatport/>
    - We could allow "construction horses" to be built or placed in the water on the southern area along the island beach walls  
Example <https://img1.wsimg.com/isteam/ip/c25660df-8255-4706-8aa3-5938d13cae04/c6e1ee59294e3ed6cd2c2f3dd63eefe9.jpg>
  - Concerns were expressed about the ability to execute any of these options and/or enforce that a space be used for sailboats only. No final recommendation was made.
- Fees for Bathrooms
  - The beach bathroom keys are given to people for special events. Unfortunately, people do not always return the keys. We have found the bathrooms are vandalized and sometimes accessed when nobody should have access.
  - There was a discussion about the need for a key deposit to encourage its return. For the immediate term, we will require a \$50 deposit check that will be destroyed upon the key being returned.
  - Tom Menard will speak to Mitchell Stern about getting WIFI to support Smart Locks and cameras for the bathroom doors.

## **7. Announcements**

Next meeting October 18, 2022

## **8. Adjournment**

David Keyt moved that the meeting be adjourned. Derek Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed at 8:45 PM.