

**February 26, 2025**

**Matawan Borough Recreation Commission Minutes**

**Attendance:** Ryan Michelson, Cathy Zavorskas, Arlan Feiles, Susanne Reynolds, Eddie Holland, Megan Taraszkiwicz, Jay Lobosco, Melanie Wang, Melaina Conroy

**Start:** 6:02 pm

**The Love, Matawan Project**

Cathy went over Celebration logistics for Saturday, 3/1/2025.

There are 10 final kits to be sold. If sold, that would be 225 kits total sold. Many Borough employees participated in the event, which was great to see.

It was discussed to have representatives from both food pantries at the Celebration on 3/1 to accept check.

Cathy went over Sponsors to date. All sponsors were offered to have an information table at the Celebration. KP Edgestone Realty & Matawan-Aberdeen Public Library accepted and will be present. Cub Scout Pack #66 will also have a table for their "Scouting for Food" drive and will be accepting non-perishable foods at their table.

There are 7 high school students coming to volunteer at the event. Megan, Eddie, Arlan & Jay will be at the event as well. Suzanne also stated that Charlie Ross has contact information for Saint John Vianney High School's Volunteer Program and could be a resource for additional volunteers in the future.

The Recreation Department reached out to the MARSD Reach Program. This program is for 18-21 special education students who are in a job preparedness program. They assisted with packaging the s'mores kits (250) for this event. They were happy to assist and asked that we call on them again in the future.

**Senior Programs**

The Recreation Department will be holding an Information Session to discuss new programs and the new registration process. It will be held on Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. New clubs & groups such as Book Club, Rummikub, Choral Group and more to be launched in 2025. Cathy mentioned the "Tea Talks" Series to be started, she will be reaching out to a representative from Stay NJ to come and discuss program.

The Gym at Borough Hall is painted, electrical is in. Bids for new flooring have been received. The Recreation Department is waiting on bids for doors to go outside.

Cathy discussed that Chief Falco would like to hold a Community Night for officers to interact with kids at Borough Hall.

Questions from the Commission regarding pricing of games for Senior Programs. Cathy explained that games were budgeted for 2025 to launch these clubs & programs.

**Summer Recreation Camp**

Cathy explained that the Summer Recreation Camp did not have enough structure. This year we are revamping the program to create modules throughout the day to keep campers more engaged. There will be special water days, 2 Assembly days and 2 trips to date. The Department is also working on scheduling special weeks or days for campers to participate in activities such as Snapology and Comic Book Making.

Pricing on camp was discussed and will be increased due to additional costs. Pricing has not been finalized. This year there will be an Assistant Director, Arts & Crafts Teacher & Nurse added to the staff. Maszarine Richardson has been approved by the Council to return as Camp Director in 2025.

### **Bunny Hop & Egg Hunt**

The event will be held on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm at Hourihan Field. The Rain Date is Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

4,000 pre-filled Easter eggs have been ordered and received. It was discussed limiting the number of eggs children can collect to make sure all participants receive eggs. Egg cartons will be collected from the public or ordered to be given to kids keeping the number of eggs to 12 per child.

The Easter Bunny Throne & Inflatable has been ordered along with reserving a balloon artist.

### **Townwide Yard Sale**

The Townwide Yard Sale is going to be held this year on the same weekend as “Made in Monmouth” and “Weekend in Old Monmouth”. It is due to these other events that the time of the yard sale will be from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. There will be a Rain Date of Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> available for anyone interested. The registration fee will once again be \$5 per family. We will be offering to have Matawan residents that do not live in high traffic areas the opportunity to set up at Borough Hall in the parking lot as well. These participants will be able to leave any unsold items if they wish and the Matawan Historical Society will pick them up and use them for the Rummage Sale the following week. Tax deductible receipts will be available as well. The Shade Tree Commission is holding their Arbor Day Celebration at Borough Hall the same day so it is hoped that this will increase their foot traffic as well.

It was discussed utilizing the Google Maps option as it was previously used for the Holiday Lights Contest and creating an interactive map for people to travel to shop the sales.

### **Movie Nights**

Two movie nights will be held in July. It was determined that Fridays are the best days, and the last two Fridays 7/18 & 7/25 were discussed. Options for these nights include having tables and chairs for residents to bring or have dinner delivered and discussed having a possible food truck on site.

Cathy requested all Commission members to please email with movie recommendations.

### **Edmunds Update**

A brief update was given on the Edmunds conversion. The Recreation Department is currently uploading all the information needed and having ongoing training to go live with the new site. Summer Camp Registration will take place on the new website. Commission members were instructed to visit Aberdeen’s Recreation website as they recently launched their new site and ours will look similar.

**Meeting End:** 7:42 pm

Respectfully submitted,

 2/28/05  
Melaina Conroy  
Recreation Assistant