

The recreation board was held on July 12, 2022, at 6:30pm at our recreational complex located at Surrey & Balfour Avenues.

Present; Diane Birkbeck, Mike Cahill, Klaudia Advena, Joe Iannuzzelli, Jeff Moore, Tina Prickett.

Motion was made to approve June 2022 minutes by Mike Cahill and second by Klaudia Advena. All were in favor.

In attendance:

Pat Harrigan & Joe Tosh present to give update on the VPAC- Ventnor pickleball organization. They had their event in June. it was a great turn out, over 300 people participated.

Joe Tosh VPAC member spoke, he questioned Alex Greer, (the organizer) of the Funky Ball Tournament that was for July, was it appropriate that they hold their event causing short number of courts to be available to the public on a prime time, summer weekend? Alex said that he thought about it and the best date and decided that summer was the best for his event. July 30, 2022 was chosen. Also stated by Alex was that some areas would need to be closed off to other activities and the public.

Donna Peterson from the City special events department and Brenda owner of Makt Arts and chairman of the Ventnor Business Association was there in support of the Funky Pickleball event.

Donna Peterson said that the previous rec director, Jerry Thomas stated that this is too big of event for the rec board to make an approval, so some rec board members were confused why it was back to this board for an approval?

Brought up was the issue that it went from being just a one-day pickleball event to now joining with a music venue for concert, food trucks etc.

Alex Greer was here to discuss having a weekend event combo beginning on a Friday night, into a Saturday. The Rec board was not happy about since the board held that we the rec board would not allow any rec board approved events during the summer months due to boardwalk and complexes are being used by the public/residents.

Donna Peterson also noted that the last Saturday in July there is no concert in town due to it being the Police Check Point. Therefore, her reasoning to give special consideration for the tournament to have live music.

There was a lot of discussion with board members over their concern for this event taking over a weekend in the middle of the summer. While the board said they certainly support having an event what they don't like is it is on a summer weekend.

When Mr. Greer came in front of the rec board for his first event, he was told unanimously by the rec board that it could not be in the summer, September was what was mentioned to Mr. Greer. Then came in front of the special events committee, end of last year (November 4, 2021) for an approval from special events for July 30, 2022 date. Events coordinator, Donna Peterson stated that there was a time frame, needed it approved at this special event meeting and could not wait for the Rec board to meet, which would have been on November 9, 2021, 5 days later. Mr. Greer needed the approvals now at special events meeting for advertising and sponsors details to happen.

Meeting was adjourned by Joe Iannuzzelli and seconded by Jeff Moore. All were in favor.