

The recreation board of commissioners held their meeting on Tuesday, June 8, 2026, at our recreational complex located at Surrey & Balfour Avenues.

Present: Diane Birkbeck, Heather Tracy, Mike Cahill, Jeff Moore (arrives at 6:35pm), Klaudia Advena (arrives at 6:34pm).

Motion was made to approve May 2026 minutes by Heather Tracy and seconded by Mike Cahill. Motion carried.

Applications:

Heart of Surfing- is a group that provides surfing lessons to people with autism. Looking to doing it on Sat, August 15th at Richards Ave beach, 9am to noon. About 50 kids. They have requested that the \$250 fee is waived since they are a 501C-3. They will be assisted by Shaun Magill's Ventnor Surf School. They will be told to wear wristbands so beach checkers know they do not need beach badges.

Motion was made to approve application and waive the \$250 fee by Jeff Moore and seconded by Diane Birkbeck. All were in favor.

The Absecon Island Surfing Contest is an event sponsored by the city no fees are required. The paperwork will be submitted for July's meeting. Mentioned was beginning date of Sat, August 15 but since the Heart of Surfing organization presented and was approved for their date of August 15th the board recommended that the Absecon Island Surfing use a start date of Sunday, August 16th. Past organizer, Frank Sarno, was agreeable with that. Their application will be presented at next month's meeting (July) . Will also be told to have wristbands so beach checkers know they do not need beach badges.

Nick Puschak- Pickleball for Life- Previously submitted application for his event in the summer but denied that way courts were not closed during Prime time. He now requests to change his dates to now being Sept 25-27 for a pickleball tournament. Rec leader went over last year and said its pretty low key and had a good turnout. She does not see an issue having it in the offseason.

Motion was made by Klaudia Advena to accept the new dates and seconded by Diane Birkbeck. All were in favor.

Softball Camp- Scheduled to start on June 22 but with local schools ending later due to snow days the week changed. Two children that signed up are not affected by snow days and cannot attend the new dates. Board agreed to refund them.

Flag football Camp- 1 child signed up for flag football before lifeguard camp dates came out. They are now asking for a refund due to the VCBP Lifeguard camp is on the same week. Board agreed it's ok to refund.

City's camp orientation is the week of June 22 for staff, from 9am to noon and then the camp will open on June 29th for kids to attend. Camp is held at the VECC.

Reminder that Pickleball is 7 days a week beginning June 29. Board also discussed free play and open play again after some questions about it. Open Play sessions are from 8am-12:30pm and 4pm-8pm. Board discussed again how free play was utilized in the past and not serving its intended purpose. If a non-member wants to play, they pay \$15 for the open play just on the weekends. Free play is only Mon through Friday from 1-4pm. Rec Leader's received feedback that the new fences do not go all the way across the entire length of the courts and players are moving trash cans and benches that were placed by the City to block these. The players were told not to continue doing this. Not sure if additional fences will be added but Rec Leader is meeting with City engineer and PW Superintendent. Recreation purchased portable barriers in the meantime for approximately \$1500. New windscreens also put up now over \$2200. The Board will meet with members of Pickleball community and Administration at the end of the season to evaluate the overall pickleball operations as this is the first season with additional courts and more work being done in the Fall.

Ventnor Mile Run will be on Friday July 3, 2026. Check in for pre-registration will begin at 5pm at the community building. People that want to walk up to register will begin at 5:30pm at the Community Room. There will be a tent set up at New Haven for a water bottle filling station. Race route is the same as years past, starting line begins on the boardwalk at New Haven, go to Fredericksburg, turn around and back to finish line at New Haven Boardwalk.

Board member Tracy will provide a cash box to be used for any day of registration. Finance has been notified some \$\$ is required.

PW will set up the water filling station.

Table will be set up by the stage for Mayor to present medals to the runners.

Rec Leader will have shirts and bibs organized prior to Race day and set up on tables in Community Room to help with clearing the room quicker. Remaining shirts will be put with the non pre-registered and walk ups table to handout. T shirts are not guaranteed. It was also put online as a reminder that this race does not allow bikes to be ridden or running while pushing a stroller due to safety.

Camp supervisors will be asked to work at the event. Motion was made by Heather Tracy to approve and seconded by Mike Cahill. Motion carried.

Rec leader needs to speak to an employee at the pickleball courts in reference to while there working at the courts speaking out in a negative manner

Motin was made by Klaudia Advena to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Jeff Moore. Motion carries.