

WASHINGTON BOROUGH RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes December 22, 2004

Call to Order

The meeting on December 22nd of the Washington Borough Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Terry Finnegan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attending the meeting were : Joe Kresser, Candy DeFillippis, Rick Feldman, Terry Finnegan, Jamie Prendergast, Pete Jacobson and Dawn Higgins. Absent were Erin Czarnecki and Angela Wallace.

Review of Past Minutes

A correction was made in the title of Jim Sheldon, who is Director, not President, of the Business Improvement District. The minutes from December 08 were approved by a motion made by Jamie Prendergast and seconded by Joe Kresser.

Holiday House Decorating Awards

Dawn Higgins, assisted by Mayor Maryanne Van Deursen and Councilman Alex Bouie, presented gift basket awards to the winners of the annual Holiday House Decorating Contest.

Audience Participation

A motion to open the meeting to the public was made by Jamie Prendergast, seconded by Dawn Higgins. Since no members of the public were in attendance at the meeting, a motion was made to close the meeting by Joe Kresser, seconded by Jamie Prendergast.

New Business

Mayor Maryanne Van Deursen and Councilman Alex Bouie introduced the new borough Manager, Richard Sheola.

Unfinished Business

Proposals for the Borough Park Swimming Pool Renovation

The Commissioners feel that none of the proposals address one of the main concerns of any renovation or redesign of the pool: the aging filtration system. Terry Finnegan feels that even the lowest bid on renovations would be an exorbitant amount to spend without a filtration system upgrade. Jamie Prendergast and Joe Kresser immediately agreed. The least expensive renovation plan was from Wade and Associates, who were under the impression that they still had a contract for any design work. However, there is some question of that plan being outdated. Pete Jacobson suggested that a diving pool would attract more teenagers, who need a reason to come to the park. However, it was pointed

Recreation Commission
Minutes December 22, 2004

out that insurance liability costs would be very high and most design firms discourage interest in diving pools.

The park area needs better use of the land. If part of the hill was flattened, it would allow more usable room. The Borough Engineer will be asked to review a change in grading. Meanwhile, Terry Finnegan will discuss with Wade and Associates about the requirements of any renovations to the pool, including a separate wading facility and a new filtration system. Zero entry and interactive water features will remain in the plan, plus a larger slide.

Concession Stand

New Borough Manager Richard Sheola suggested that the Recreation commissioners consider outsourcing the Concession Stand next summer. It would make for better quality and variety of food, give a guaranteed sum, and eliminate bank deposit problems from the young summer employees. Mr. Sheola discussed his experience with Springfield and other towns where contracting had worked out well. His advice was to approach local deli's and sub shops, and use a flat fee, not percentage of sales. A new grill might be needed. Joe Kresser will find out what the Belvidere Pool does for their food concession.

There had been an inquiry by Mrs. Shelley Pavone, owner/operator of Creative Basics Child Care in Glen Gardner, if a group of 25 to 30 children, ages 3 years to 7, would be able to use the Borough Swimming Pool on Mondays and Thursdays from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon from June 27th to August 26, 2005. It was decided that a rate of \$150/hr would be charged for 30 children or less. This would include a half hour lesson and free swim, and the time would be from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM two days per week during the season.

Executive Session

A motion was made to go into Executive Session by Dawn Higgins, seconded by Pete Jacobson. A legal matter was discussed. A motion was made to come out of Executive Session was made by Pete Jacobson, seconded by Joe Kresser.

Correspondence

There was a notice from the NJDOT to the Borough, as well as to other communities, asking for volunteers to join a committee to explore land use and transportation issues along the Route 57 corridor. There was no interest from the Recreation Commissioners.

Treasurer's Report

Rick Feldman stated that there have been recent purchases of tools and equipment for the park, as well as cabinets for the Concession Stand. A new slide to replace the broken slide will run somewhere around \$2,300. Another costly expense will be repairs to the bathhouses from a broken pipe.

A motion was made to adjourn the 22nd meeting at 9:26 PM by Dawn Higgins, seconded by Joe Kresser.

Recreation Commission
Minutes December 22, 2004

The next scheduled meeting of the Recreation Commission will be on Wednesday, January 5th at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Noonan