

WASHINGTON BOROUGH RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes July 20, 2005

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Washington Borough Recreation Commission was called to order on Wednesday, July 20th by Terry Finnegan, Chairman, at 7:40 PM.

Roll Call

In attendance were Candy DeFillippis, Rick Feldman, Terry Finnegan and Jamie Prendergast. Arriving within the next five minutes were Dawn Higgins and Angela Wallace. Absent were Erin Czarnecki and Joe Kresser. Also in attendance was Adam Payne, Park Director.

Review of Past Minutes

After a clarification regarding Session 1 Swimming Lessons for 2006, a motion was made to accept the minutes from the July 6th meeting by Candy DeFillippis, seconded by Jamie Prendergast.

Correspondence/Communication

1. A letter was received by Terry Finnegan from parents of a Swim Team member asking for a refund of Swim Team fees, as their son could not participate on the Swim Team this season because of a medical condition.
2. Adam Payne received a letter from Rich Sheola, Borough Manager, notifying Adam about the "Right to Know" and "Chemicals and Blood Born Pathogen" training that is a state requirement. Adam has scheduled the training for those employees to whom it applies next Tuesday, July 26th. This is a state funded program. Several Commissioners recommended that in the future, since other Boro departments also must have this training, perhaps the Recreation Commission can combine their employee training sessions with the other departments.

Park Director's Report

Adam Payne gave a rundown on activities at the park and pool.

There have been many compliments on the improved appearance of the park and its upkeep.

Adam has designed a checklist for monitoring bathroom cleanliness. However, the girl's bathroom needs constant monitoring.

The first of the Movies in the Park was held on July 15th; four people are now capable of helping out in setting up and taking down the equipment. Movies will now be set up in the pool area, and signage will be posted warning of "no swimming". Dawn Higgins has

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purchased a DVD player for showing the movies, which will be more effective than using a laptop computer.

Pool personnel have been instructed not to eat in the pool office or the hallway of the bathhouse.

The checklist from the July 6th meeting was reviewed with the Commissioners.

Problems:

Maintenance workers are hard to find and hard to keep. Right now there is one full time and one part time worker.

The summer camp has had many problems; however, the current Director is doing a great job. Some of the campers have been undisciplined and very difficult to handle. Adam has documented their behavior. In the future, the Commissioners have directed the Park Director to call the parent and have the parent pick up the unruly child.

Water Aerobics

While the water aerobics program is a good one, the water aerobics instructor should get certification from the YMCA to run the program.

Audience Participation

A motion was made to open the meeting to the public by Jamie Prendergast, seconded by Angela Wallace.

Jonathan Feldman was in attendance and asked to speak about the Swim-A-Thon in memory of Dustin Merunka to be held on Friday, July 22nd at Boro Pool. The hours of the Swim-A-Thon will be from 4:30 to 8:30 PM, and will lead into the Friday night movie. All proceeds from the Swim-A-Thon fundraiser will be donated to the Big Brothers, Big Sisters program of Warren County. Jonathan requested a donation of \$150 on a Shoprite card from the Recreation Commission for refreshments during the event. Any remaining food will be given over to the refreshment stand at the pool.

A motion to approve the donation of \$150 on a Shop Rite card was made by Terry Finnegan, seconded by Dawn Higgins. In favor were Dawn Higgins, Terry Finnegan, Jamie Prendergast, Candy DeFillippis and Angela Wallace. Abstaining was Rick Feldman. Motion approved.

A motion was made to close the meeting to the public by Jamie Prendergast, seconded by Angela Wallace.

Treasurer's Report

The Park Director's overtime is high, but that will be adjusted to a more moderate rate during the remaining weeks of the summer season. The Commission secretary is at 80% of the budgeted annual salary, but the workload has been increased.

The Swim Team Coach has not yet handed in his W-4 and I-9 employment forms, so his wages have not be included in the budget to this date.

Seasonal employees must fill out their own time sheets, and sign them and have supervisors sign also in a timely fashion.

The concession stand is doing remarkably well so far this season, and July numbers are excellent. The front gate is also doing a robust business.

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A new scoreboard must be purchased for the Basketball Court, which will be expensive. The Swim Lesson co-ordinators want to know what the Recreation Commissioners want in their report. The Recreation Commission had these suggestions:

- The number of kids in each level per session
- The number of instructors with each group
- The average achievement grades in each swimming level
- Any major problems that have occurred, or difficulties with the program
- Recommendations

Unfinished Business

The Pavilion continues in an unfinished state.

Pool Renovation

Re-doing of the filtration system is needed, and should accommodate the projected Pool Renovation Plan.

An engineering study of the pool structure should be done by the Boro Engineer. Terry Finnegan's sense is that Boro Council will not be readily forthcoming with financial help for the Pool Renovation beyond the original Green Acres loan of \$283,000.

Rick Feldman has looked into the cost of a feasibility study to determine community interest in, and use of, a renovated pool. The study would cost between \$3,000 and \$15,000.

The Recreation Commission will ask Borough Council for a decision on pool financing at Council's August 2nd meeting.

Soccer

The same fields will be used as were used last year. The fields need to be prepared by early August. Jamie Prendergast will set up the rosters and coaches for the Soccer program, but will not do the field work.

Three Groups

Jamie Prendergast suggested that a future idea for the Recreation Commission to consider would be dividing into three separate groups for more effective focus. These groups

would be: Parks
 Pool
 Activities

Dawn Higgins found the original book of 1931 Minutes for the Recreation Commission.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 PM by Rick Feldman, seconded by Angela Wallace.