

WASHINGTON BOROUGH RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes September 21, 2005

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Commission was called to order on Wednesday, September 21st by Terry Finnegan, Chairman, at 7:35 PM. In attendance were Commissioners Jamie Prendergast, Angela Wallace, Rick Feldman, Terry Finnegan and Park Director Adam Payne. Candy DeFillippis arrived at 8:18. Absent were Erin Czarnecki, Joe Kresser, and Dawn Higgins.

Review of Past Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 7th meeting was made by Jamie Prendergast, seconded by Terry Finnegan. Motion passed.

Audience Participation

There were no members of the public in attendance at this time.

Correspondence

A memo from the Borough Manager, Richard Sheola, responding to an earlier memo from Chairman Terry Finnegan, was read. The points Commissioner Finnegan had made in his original memo expressed concerns of the Recreation Commission regarding:

1. the condition of the light stanchions at Boro Park, which present a safety hazard
2. the condition of the pumphouse to be evaluated by Boro Engineer Robert Miller
3. the lack of satisfactory fingerprinting at the police desk for volunteer coaches
4. the need for improved condition of the new Meadows fields as agreed to by Centex
5. change from Exit to Entrance/Exit to Boro Park at Broad Street as discussed with the Boro Engineer Robert Miller

The response memo from the Boro Manager did not offer any definite answers to these questions.

Park Director's Report

Adam Payne, Park Director, has two part time employees scheduled to work Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 3:00 to 6:00 PM, with work schedules assigned for fall cleanup. Estimates for winterizing the pool by commercial services are in process. The hole in the fence on the hill at Boro Park will be repaired with a piece of fencing from Rudl's Fencing. The large rock at Vara field has been removed and trash cans placed at that field. There is still a leak inside the pool area, which is wasting water. The Road Department has been contacted twice about fixing this problem, but they have not yet been able to work on it. Adam has been working on a book of information on the various work responsibilities necessary around park and pool, and how to perform them. This will be a manual for employees, spelling out the various tasks they will be expected to perform, and how to do them.

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The pavilion is almost completed; an access road constructed by the Road Department is needed and seeding needs to be done around the building.

The Commission wants locks be put on at the grandstand. Terry recommended that Adam contact Great Meadows Locksmith, who will use the same lock key as are on all the other outside locks at the park. Therefore only one master key is needed for access to any lock. The Commissioners also reminded the Park Director that the railroad embankment is still unsightly and needs to be cut down and cleared.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Rick Feldman went over preliminary figures of revenues and expenses for the various recreation activities for the year 2005. Rick strongly urged the Commissioners to consider what the needs of their various activities will be for next year, as he is already working on the projected budget for 2006.

The cost of advertising the pool memberships for next year was introduced. Val Pak and a commercial sign by the park need to be included in the advertising section of the budget. Also, advertising in the Hunterdon newspaper will be planned.

Commissioner's Reports

Concert in the Park

Commissioner Candy DeFillippis discussed the arrangements for a band concert to take place at Borough Park on Saturday, September 24th from 6 to 10 PM. The stage needs to be borrowed from St. Joseph's. Terry Finnegan will look in to this. Police coverage is needed from 6:00 to at least 10:00 pm that evening. The Kiwanis Club will sell food and snacks at the concert.

New Business

The secretary of the Recreation Commission has given notice of resignation, and an employment ad must be placed in the Star Gazette and Express times for a new hire. Applications will be available at Boro Hall and on the Boro website.

In regard to the matter of hiring a full time Park Director and having the Recreation Commission act as an advisory board, Terry Finnegan feels the Recreation Commission as it presently exists has great value because it represents nine Boro citizens actually looking after Boro taxpayer funds. Removing citizen involvement will remove this oversight of local tax funds.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:35 by Rick Feldman, seconded by Angela Wallace.

Respectfully submitted by Judith M. Noonan