

WASHINGTON BOROUGH RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes November 2, 2005

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Commission was called to order on Wednesday, November 2nd by Terry Finnegan, Chairman, at 7:37 PM. In attendance were Commissioners Dawn Higgins, Candy DeFillippis, Terry Finnegan, Rick Feldman, and Park Director Adam Payne. Absent were Erin Czarnecki, Angela Wallace, Jamie Prendergast and Joe Kresser.

Review of Past Minutes

After a correction, a motion was made by Dawn Higgins to approve the minutes from the October 19th meeting, seconded by Candy deFillippis. Motion passed.

Correspondence

Terry has received communication from T&M Consultants regarding the plan for Railroad Avenue Park. T&M will provide the first phase of the plan, at no charge, for the Commission to apply for \$500,000 in Green Acres loans. T&M will also be present the first Tuesday in February at the Boro Council meeting.

Open Public Session

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Treasurer's Report

There was no Treasurer's Report at this time. However, Commissioner Feldman is working on the budget and urged each Commissioner to have their part of the budget completed and given to him as soon as possible.

Park Director's Report

Adam Payne, Park Director, reported that there had been a conflict in use of one of the practice fields at Boro Park this week. The Redskins football team and one of the soccer teams both were set to practice on the same field. However, the conflict was reasonably settled by the teams themselves and resulted in sharing the field.

All fields, the swale and the pool area have been aerated. The Road Department has fixed the broken pipe inside the pool area. The locks on the grandstand have been changed to locks that can be opened by the coaches, who must be responsible for locking up the gates.

Winterizing the pool will be done as soon as the contractor is decided upon. Two contractors have given quite different estimates: Schybals was \$800 and Link and Sons was for \$1700. The difference seems to be the use of antifreeze by Link, which is quite expensive. Adam will use his best judgment in deciding on the contractor.

Mulch has been brought to the Boro Park area by an unknown contractor. Commissioner Terry Finnegan explained that the trees being cut down and mulched along Carlton

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Avenue are the source of the mulch, and it can be spread along the railroad embankment to cover the unsightly weeds and poison ivy.

New Business

Commissioner Dawn Higgins reported again on the latest activity of the committee to which she participates with the Mayor, Boro Manager, and Councilwoman Christine Woykowski. The visit to the Hackettstown Park Director was very informative in answering questions about the chain of command, pool filtrations system replacement, etc.. Hackettstown actually has a complex of four pools, and although the pools represent an ongoing headache as far as maintenance, they are a big moneymaker, and have funded other projects. Membership for 2005 came to \$92,000. The concession stand is contracted out, and the town receives a percentage of the profits. The salary of the Hackettstown Park Director is \$75,000 per year.

The committee met with Dick Cushing, the Washington Boro attorney, who will draw up the ordinance defining the new roles of the full time Park Director and Recreation Commission. Members of the Boro Council will come to the Recreation Commission's regular meeting on December 7th and present their plan.

Unfinished Business

The bid on repairing the light stanchions at Boro Park went out and only one contractor responded. The estimate was very expensive – much more than anticipated. The bids will have to be sent out again.

Executive Session

A motion was made to go in to Executive Session was made by Rick Feldman, seconded by Dawn Higgins. A personal matter was discussed.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:50 PM by Rick Feldman, seconded by Candy Defillippis.

Respectfully submitted by Judith M. Noonan