

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission
Minutes
May 10, 2006

Call to Order

The re-scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Commission was called to order on Wednesday, May 10th, by Terry Finnegan, Chairperson, at 7:35 p.m. Also in attendance were Commissioners Candy DeFillippis, Rick Feldman, Dawn Higgins, Joe Kresser, and Park Director Adam Payne. Absent was Commissioner Angela Wallace.

Review of Past Minutes

A motion was made by Candy DeFillippis to approve the minutes from the April 19th meeting after a few changes, seconded by Dawn Higgins. Motion passed.

Correspondence

A letter from Cathy Miller of The Battle of the Bands was discussed with Kathy Halpin during the Open Public Session.

A letter was received from Big Brothers/Big Sisters requesting use of the pool for an event. We will invite them to one of our meetings.

Open Public Session

A motion was made to open the Public Session of the meeting at 7:40 p.m. by Rick Feldman, seconded by Dawn Higgins. Motion passed.

George Jacob, Nicole Tiger and Donna Adams were in attendance to discuss Kid Care's use of the pool and park during their summer session. Pool passes and use of the basketball court were discussed.

Joseph Kresefsky of the Beit Brachot Messianic Home Fellowship would like to use Boro Park for a Christian Concert on August 19th from 3-10 p.m. for approximately 1,000 people. Dawn Higgins directed him to Jim Sheldon to find out about using the old Acme parking lot, as parking seems to be the biggest concern. Mr. Kresefsky will get back to the Commission regarding the performers, estimated number of those attending, parking decision and who, if any, the food vendors will be. Adam Payne will hold the date for the concert.

Patrick Jacobson is looking to have a temporary concession stand at Steinhart Field to raise money for a school trip to Quebec in June. All Commissioners thought it would be a good idea. The Commission will get back to Patrick as to whether or not a grill could be used.

Caren Hric and Esther Hamill were in attendance to discuss the Swim Team. Caren provided the Commission with the financial records from 2005. Swim Team parents previously voted to hold the championships at the Raritan Valley Community College for a fee of \$500, but they then found out it was actually \$125 per hour. Space was the reason for not having it in the Borough. Terry Finnegan asked Caren to find out the exact insurance coverage. Adam Payne will e-mail Caren when a Swim Team Coach is hired. Adam stated that two starting blocks need to be repaired and one needs to be replaced. Rick Feldman will check with the Boro Manager on the liability if we fix them ourselves.

Minutes May 10, 2006

Bill Gleba, Bill Harrison and Bill Smith were in attendance to discuss Little League. Bill Gleba feels the pitcher's mound at Steinhardt Field needs to be redone and the infield needs to be reseeded. Bill Harrison stated the grounds are being well maintained with the exception of some trimming that needs to be done, particularly around the pitcher's mound. Bill Gleba sees no problem attending a few meetings per year as specified in the prepared proposal. He reported that no money has been collected this year for the signs and they are being returned to the sponsors at the end of the season. Dawn Higgins asked Bill for a list of Little League's officers and phone numbers and Adam Payne asked that someone e-mail him if there are any concerns with the field. Adam also needs a master schedule of home games. Bill Gleba will provide the Commission with one year of Little League's financial records. Dawn Higgins mentioned the possibility of charging Little League for use of the field. Bill Gleba would need to have the dollar amount so he could discuss it with the Little League Board. Little League is currently lining the fields and supplying the port-a-john. Bill Gleba doesn't feel the scoreboard will be used in the near future as electricity is needed, but he would like to see a concession stand at the field.

Kathy Halpin of the Battle of the Bands wanted to be sure we had no questions regarding the letter we received from Cathy Miller. Rudy Bescherer will have some people at the event to help with security as well as a dedicated officer being present. Candy DeFillippis will supply Cathy with colored T-shirts for those parents who are designated as security for the event although Dawn Higgins is concerned with safety and feels more than four parents are needed for this. The Boy Scouts can sell concessions; however, they need to obtain a temporary permit. Kathy Halpin will get back to us regarding parking. The Commissioners will discuss whether or not the pool will be open on July 4th.

Pete Jacobson wanted to see if the Commissioners were interested in a summer basketball league for 7th and 8th grade boys. All thought it was a good idea. Every participating town needs to have their own insurance and we would need to schedule a weekend for sign-ups. Pete also reported that basketball season went well with the 5th/6th grade boys winning the championship. Pete will work with Rick Feldman to get all players complete uniforms for next year.

A motion to close the Public Session at 9:10 p.m. was made by Dawn Higgins, seconded by Rick Feldman. Motion passed.

Park Director's Report

Adam is still waiting to order the tables and mulch for Boro Park. He is also waiting for estimates on the plexiglass for the kiosk. Candy DeFillippis suggested he go to Washington One Stop which he will do. Candy also noted that the drains need to be cleaned out or the backyards of nearby houses will flood when it rains. Candy and Terry Finnegan have heard a few complaints about the park, specifically the overflowing garbage, mulch that needs to be spread out, and the grass being cut too low. The front hill needs to be cleaned up and the bush needs to be trimmed. Adam is currently understaffed. The Road Department needs to remove the old playground structure by the pavilion as it is unsafe. Adam will remove the graffiti from the playground equipment. Doors at the park have been left open and bases have been left out after softball practice/games. Ann Kilduff will ask Angela Wallace to contact Beth Uporsky about this.

Minutes May 10, 2006

Treasurer's Report

There is no report available at this time.

Commissioner Reports

Swim Lesson Sign-Ups

There are currently 267 children signed up for Swim Lessons. Level 1 in all three sessions and Level 2 in Session 2 have waiting lists.

Pool Memberships

There are currently 20 families who have registered for pool memberships this year.

New Business

Vara Field

Centex will seed the field. This will cause soccer scheduling problems and we may need to have Level 5 play at Boro Park rather than cancel the season. Terry Finnegan feels our best option is to fit Whistle, Level 5 and Field Hockey at the park.

Storm Water Project

Bob Miller is currently designing.

Unfinished Business

Pool Project Status

Wayne Wade will need approximately two weeks to get the Boro Manager what he needs to get the project out to bid.

Pavilion Dedication Update

We are currently waiting to order the tables. Outlet covers have been ripped off. Rick Feldman will check to see if the electricity is on all the time. Terry Finnegan will inquire about a key for the electric box.

Executive Session

A motion to enter Executive Session at 10:24 for the purpose of discussing personnel, real estate, and/or legal matters was made by Rick Feldman, seconded by Dawn Higgins. Motion passed.

A motion was made to close the Executive Session at 10:45 by Candy DeFillippis, seconded by Rick Feldman. Motion passed.

Terry Finnegan resigned as Chairperson effective after this meeting. Dawn Higgins, Vice-Chairperson, will serve as active Chairperson.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 11:05 p.m. by Candy DeFillippis, seconded by Dawn Higgins. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Kilduff