

**Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey**  
**Recreation Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**March 1, 2006**

**Call to Order**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Commission was called to order on Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, by Rick Feldman, Treasurer, at 7:35 p.m. Also in attendance were Commissioners Erin Czarnecki, Candy DeFillippis, Joe Kresser and Angela Wallace. Dawn Higgins arrived at 7:40 and Terry Finnegan arrived at 8:35. Absent was Park Director Adam Payne.

**Review of Past Minutes**

A motion was made by Joe Kresser to approve the minutes from the February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, seconded by Rick Feldman. Motion passed.

**Correspondence**

A resignation letter from Commissioner James Prendergast was discussed. Although sad to see Jamie go, everyone agreed the letter was very well written.

**Open Public Session**

A motion was made to enter the Open Public Session of the meeting by Angela Wallace, seconded by Dawn Higgins. Motion passed.

Bill Gleba and Buddy Carbone were in attendance representing the Little League Association. Bill and Buddy said they did not have enough volunteers last year so they had to do most of the maintenance work themselves. They don't have time to do the maintenance this year, but they are willing to pay a fee to use the fields. They were surprised to receive a bill for a port-a-john last year. Bill was indicating that there was a miscommunication as to who ordered and should pay for it. We need to discuss whose responsibility this is. Little League is willing to hand over the management of the signs to the Recreation Commission.

The fields need to be ready for Opening Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Steinhardt Field needs infield mix and the third baseline needs better drainage. Memorial School field cannot be used because there is a paved driveway going thru right field. Borough Park's infield is too sandy and needs to be worked on. The pitcher's mound is too big and is a safety issue. Bill Gleba feels that the insurance will not cover a portable mound if it's not regulation size. It currently takes up part of the infield. Bill Gleba will give us the specs of a pitcher mound that is needed for Little League.

Buddy has a scoreboard that can be used. We need to determine whether we have electrical capabilities or if we need to get bids. We need to discuss the best place to put the scoreboard. Little League would like a key to the shed at Steinhardt Field to store equipment.

The Recreation Commission would like a financial statement from people using our field to show fiscal responsibilities. Dawn Higgins stated that this is required from all outside organizations. Bill and Buddy don't feel this is necessary. No one else asks them for this. We need a liaison between Little League and the Recreation Commission. Bill Gleba will be in touch with Joe Kresser regarding what was discussed tonight.

## Minutes March 1, 2006

### **Grant Writing**

Dave Gurkins was unable to attend but will reschedule. Mr. Gurkins also works with the BID. We would like to have a Council representative here at the rescheduled meeting.

A motion to close the Open Public Session was made by Rick Feldman, seconded by Dawn Higgins. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Terry Finnegan, Rick Feldman and Dawn Higgins met with Borough Council over the weekend to discuss the budget. Terry presented history of 6 year revenues, expenses and borough contributions which show we are making steady progress in the pool deficit.

Our big expenses last year were the Park Director's wages and the bathhouse. We have a little less money than last year, so any major problems will be an issue. We were approved up to \$80,000 to replace the lights in the park and will begin sending out bids to complete this.

We need to have timely, updated information as to how much we've spent so far.

### **Park Director's Report**

Adam Payne was not present, but he prepared a report for this meeting. Infield dirt has been ordered for the softball field. Grass seed and fertilizer will be ordered soon for the pool area. Adam is waiting on a third estimate for the cement enclosure for the dumpster in the park.

### **Commissioner Reports**

#### **Girls Softball**

We currently have two teams. As of now, we will not be able to have a 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade team. Only 2 girls in this age group signed up.

#### **Men's Basketball**

Sign-Ups will be sometime in May. We need someone to run the program.

#### **Swim Team**

Approximately 40 people have registered so far. Sign-ups will be held again on Saturday. We would like Caren Hric to come to a meeting.

### **New Business**

#### **Sign-Ups**

March 4<sup>th</sup> – Swim Team – Ann Kilduff will work

March 10<sup>th</sup> – Karate – Candy DeFillippis will work

March 11<sup>th</sup> – Karate – Ann Kilduff will work

#### **Pool Programs**

We will continue with the Summer Recreation Program and Water Aerobics again this year. We need to find a responsible person to run the Recreation Program as well as a qualified person for the Water Aerobics.

## Minutes March 1, 2006

### **Advertising**

Everyone agreed the Money Mailer would be the best way to advertise the summer programs. Candy suggested a way to track how people heard about the pool to see which forms of advertising are most effective. Ann will update the pool membership form to track this information.

### **Street Hockey**

Terry has had requests for a street hockey team for those in high school. Everyone thought this was worth looking into.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Park Director Ordinance**

It will be hard to find a Park Director who has experience and grand writing abilities at the allocated salary. As previously mentioned, the ordinance needs to be simplified in order to be understood by Council Members and Commissioners in the future. Terry will advise Council of the changes we would like to see in the ordinance, most importantly that the Recreation Commission Secretary is not hired by the Park Director and does not report to the Park Director.

#### **Park Director Job Description**

Terry will edit the job description and send it to the other commissioners for their input.

### **Executive Session**

An Executive Session was not necessary at this meeting.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made at 10:30 p.m. by Rick Feldman, seconded by Angela Wallace.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Kilduff