

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission
Minutes
April 18, 2007

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Commission was called to order on Wednesday, April 18th, by Dawn Higgins, Chairperson, at 7:39 p.m. Also in attendance were Commissioners Rick Feldman, Cheryl Turnbull, Angela Wallace and Park Director Adam Payne. Candy DeFillippis arrived at 7:53 and Angela Frye arrived at 8:17. Commissioner Terry Finnegan was absent.

Review of Past Minutes

After a minor change, a motion was made by Rick Feldman, seconded by Angela Wallace, to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2007 meeting. Motion carried.

Communications

The Commission discussed correspondence Dawn Higgins received regarding a mini grant seminar to be held on May 18th in Mercerville.

Open Public Session

A motion was made by Rick Feldman, seconded by Angela Wallace, to open the public session of the meeting at 7:46. Motion carried.

Charlie Ginex was in attendance to discuss his interest in being the Swim Team Coach this year. Charlie has been the coach in the past and is interested in running a clinic at the pool prior to the season. He stated he has received positive feedback from the Parent's Association. The clinic would be a refinement of strokes. Dawn Higgins asked Charlie how many clinics he would like to run to which he responded it is up for discussion. Rick Feldman stated there may be an issue if Charlie is both the coach and a vendor holding a clinic, but feels the Commission is in favor of the clinic. Rick asked how children are selected to attend the clinic. Charlie stated that last year it was on a first-come first-serve basis. Children who were found to not be ready for the clinic were given a refund. Charlie provided the Commissioners with a draft of the clinic handout. Dawn Higgins stated she would like the public to be aware the clinic is more than advanced swim lessons. Charlie stated he will work on the wording of the handout. Rick asked if anyone was turned away from the clinic last year. Charlie said he believed there were people turned away.

A motion was made by Candy DeFillippis, seconded by Cheryl Turnbull, to close the public session of the meeting at 8:05. Motion carried.

Park Director's Report

Adam Payne reported the pool and pool filter have been emptied by the pool staff and the Road Department. The pool and filtration system have been cleared of debris and the sand is being removed from the filter. The fields at both parks have been seeded and fertilized. Adam is looking into having the area around the pool and the tiles in both pools repaired. Adam reported the power washer has been stolen from the park. Adam contacted the sewer plant regarding the clogged pipes. Adam is in the process of following up with companies regarding the filtration system.

The recap of the April 4th meeting was discussed.

Treasurer's Report

Rick Feldman provided the Commissioners with an Appropriation Account Summary report and reviewed the Boro Treasurer's Report. Rick stated the Commission has enough money to cover what is needed right now. Per the Boro Manager, the budget is expected to be completed in mid-May.

Rick discussed a place for Little League to keep their field tools at Steinhardt Field. Rather than dividing the current shed, he suggested getting another shed solely for Little League. All Commissioners were in favor and Adam will look into this.

As stated in the Park Director's report, the power washer has been stolen from the park. Rick reported a new one will cost approximately \$600 to \$800. All Commissioners agreed on purchasing a new power washer.

Rick received a quote to purchase shorts for Youth Basketball. He is waiting until the budget is passed before ordering them.

Commissioner Reports

Girls Softball

Angela Wallace reported she picked up the new uniforms for the girls and has inventoried them.

Street Hockey

Angela Frye reported the hockey season is over. There was an issue with one of the teams placing a team picture in the paper and incorrectly stating the team was undefeated. This upset some of the other teams. Dawn stated she would like a policy set that anything going into the paper should have to be reviewed by the Recreation Commission and would like to continue the discussion at a future meeting. Angela Frye stated she will be looking into training for the referees.

Budget

Rick and Dawn met with the Boro Manager to discuss the budget. Nothing has changed since last reported.

Water Hog

T&M recommended a supplier for a machine to water the fields. Rick will meet with them at the field so they know exactly what is needed. The price will be approximately \$11,000 to \$14,000.

New Business

Swim Lesson Sign-Ups

A discussion took place as to which Commissioners will be able to assist at swim lesson sign-ups to be held this weekend.

Unfinished Business

Sign-Up and Fee Schedule

The Commissioners discussed raising the fees for Street Hockey. All other fees were raised earlier this year. All Commissioners were in favor of the price increase.

Playground Equipment

The playground equipment installation has been completed.

Park Bricks

Bricks from the streetscape project are being recycled at Boro Park. Jerry Philkill provided Dawn with a drawing of patios for near the swing set, lifeguard area and pavilion. Dawn forwarded these plans to the Boro Manager for him to provide to John Burd. John Burd will provide Dawn with the cost to complete the projects.

Pool Renovation Project Status Update

The Commissioners met with Jeff Bottger at the park on April 13th. Rick Feldman and Ann Kilduff are in the process of getting information together for the feasibility study. Jeff will be at the May 2nd meeting to update the Commission.

Pavilion Status Update

Jerry Philkill informed Dawn Higgins that a retention wall at the pavilion will not solve the run-off problem. The hill and erosion need to be addressed and the area needs to be heavily re-seeded.

Washington Meadows Soccer Field Status Update

The Commission is waiting for the sod and waters issue to be resolved. Rick Feldman spoke at last night's Council meeting to update Council on the situation and reported that Council was unaware the problem hasn't been taken care of. The Boro Manager will talk to Jerry Philkill and the water company. Sod will most likely be delivered mid-May.

Communications

An e-mail was received from Bill Smith regarding Little League. Bill provided the Commission with the team sponsors and asked that their signs be installed on the fence at Steinhardt Field as soon as possible. Bill also provided Adam with a field schedule. The Commission addressed questions Bill had regarding dirt, lyme, storage of tools, and miscellaneous things that need to be done at Steinhardt Field. Ann will e-mail the Commission's responses to Bill.

Executive Session

A motion to enter Executive Session at 10:24 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, real estate, and/or legal matters was made by Angela Frye, seconded by Angela Wallace. Motion carried.

A motion was made to close the Executive Session at 11:49 p.m. by Angela Wallace, seconded by Angela Frye. Motion carried.

Commission Remarks

Rick Feldman encouraged the Commissioners to attend a Council meeting every once in a while.

Dawn Higgins stated she will begin providing Council with a monthly report on a regular basis.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 11:50 p.m. by Candy DeFillippis, seconded by Angela Wallace.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Kilduff