

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission
Minutes
January 2, 2008

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Commission was called to order on Wednesday, January 2nd, by Dawn Higgins, Chairperson, at 7:36 p.m. Also in attendance were Commissioners Rick Feldman, Angela Wallace and Adam Zimmer. Park Director Adam Payne was excused from this meeting. Candy DeFillippis and Angela Frye were absent.

Review of Past Minutes

A motion was made by Angela Wallace, seconded by Adam Zimmer, to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2007 meeting. Motion carried.

Open Public Session

A motion was made by Angela Wallace, seconded by Adam Zimmer, to open the public session of the meeting at 7:37 p.m. Motion carried.

Rich Thompson was in attendance to discuss the Fire Department's 125th Anniversary Parade. He asked the Commission for permission to use the bathrooms in the grandstand for parade events in addition to port-a-johns they will be renting. Dawn stated this will not be a problem and the bathrooms will be open to the public. Mr. Thompson stated he will keep the Commission updated as the date gets closer. Dawn asked if the Fire Department will be using the pool that day. Mr. Thompson will check with the parade committee and get back to Dawn.

Mr. Thompson also questioned the required equipment for Street Hockey and stated the referees do not check for equipment at the start of the game. Dawn stated she will follow up with Angela Frye and give Mr. Thompson a call within a week. He is welcome to come back to a meeting if his questions are not answered to his satisfaction. Dawn thanked him for his concern.

A motion was made by Rick Feldman, seconded by Adam Zimmer, to close the public session of the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Motion carried.

Executive Session

A motion to enter Executive Session at 7:54 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, real estate, and/or legal matters was made by Adam Zimmer, seconded by Angela Wallace. Motion carried.

A motion was made to close the Executive Session at 9:15 p.m. by Angela Wallace, seconded by Adam Zimmer. Motion carried.

New Business

Reorganization

A motion was made by Angela Wallace, seconded by Adam Zimmer, that all officers remain the same as in 2007. Motion carried. Dawn Higgins will continue as Chairperson, Angela Wallace as Vice-Chairperson, Rick Feldman as Treasurer and Angela Frye as Secretary.

Meeting Schedule

The 2008 meeting schedule was discussed and approved for the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

Communications

There were no communications at this meeting.

Park Director's Report

There was no Park Director Report at this meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Rick reported he and Dawn met with the Boro Manager to discuss the budget. Per the Boro Treasurer, there is no money available to the Commission and therefore, purchases the Commission wished to encumber for 2007 have not been encumbered.

Dawn questioned a copy of a letter from the Boro Treasurer to Rick dated October 5th stating that all of the Commission's accounts look good with the exception of three highlighted items. Dawn feels this doesn't make sense if Rick is now being told there is no money available. Dawn thanked Rick for being the Commission's treasurer and for his time and commitment to the Commission.

Rick stated the Commission needs to look into a summer camp and the baseball field for additional revenue. Dawn stated she spoke to the Township's DPW and they are willing to look into shared services with the Commission.

Commissioner Reports

Ski Trip

Dawn stated she spoke to the Boro Manager regarding the February ski trip. No one under the age of eighteen will be allowed unsupervised and all participants will need to sign a Hold Harmless Agreement.

Baseball

Adam Zimmer stated he had a League Commissioner look at the field at Boro Park. We need to get nets for the outfield, re-do the infield and repair the outfield.

Miscellaneous Park Issues

Dawn stated John Corica had suggested having a chain at the park to curtail access during the winter months. Adam Zimmer suggested painting the chains florescent orange. Dawn discussed with the Commission the possibility of closing the park during the winter months when there is no staff available or just closing the park at sundown. It was decided the park will remain open due to police patrol.

Dawn reported the park signs will be going up shortly.

Dawn stated Link & Sons found and fixed the leaks in the concession stand pipes and found some aging pipes in the process. A letter from Link recapping the winterization process and pipe damage was discussed. Dawn stated the Boro Manager advised her he will find the money for the repairs.

Unfinished Business

Pool Renovation Project Status Update

Dawn asked Angela Wallace to head the pool slide sub-committee and have a decision on the pool slide by the next meeting.

Pavilion Status Update / Park Bricks

There is nothing new to report. Rick stated the pavilion needs to be sealed sometime soon.

Washington Meadows Soccer Field Status Update

Dawn stated the sod will be installed in the Spring. Rick feels we need to find out the quality of sod being used. Dawn will call the Boro Manager regarding this.

Executive Session

A motion to enter Executive Session at 10:15 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, real estate, and/or legal matters was made by Adam Zimmer, seconded by Rick Feldman. Motion carried.

A motion was made to close the Executive Session at 10:30 p.m. by Adam Zimmer, seconded by Rick Feldman. Motion carried.

Commission Remarks

Street Hockey

Rick reminded the commissioners that mouth guards were discussed last year. Dawn stated she received phone calls last year that not everyone was wearing the proper equipment. The commissioners discussed what the proper equipment should be and concluded it should be a helmet with a facemask, mouth guard, hockey gloves and shin guards. Ann Kilduff will draft a letter to the parents that the coaches can hand out advising parents that the proper equipment needs to be purchased. The child will not be allowed to play if they do not have the proper equipment. The referee needs to check the children for proper equipment.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 10:53 p.m. by Rick Feldman, seconded by Angela Wallace.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Kilduff