

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission
Minutes
January 16, 2008

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Commission was called to order on Wednesday, January 16th, by Dawn Higgins, Chairperson, at 7:40 p.m. Also in attendance were Commissioners Candy DeFillippis, Rick Feldman, Angela Frye, Angela Wallace and Adam Zimmer.

Review of Past Minutes

After a small change, a motion was made by Adam Zimmer, seconded by Angela Wallace, to approve the minutes from the January 2, 2008 meeting. Candy DeFillippis abstained. Motion carried.

Open Public Session

A motion was made by Rick Feldman, seconded by Angela Wallace, to open the public session of the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Motion carried.

Bill Smith was in attendance to discuss Little League and Youth Basketball. Bill stated he will be the representative for Little League in the Borough again this season. The league officials met and sign-up dates were scheduled to coincide with softball sign-ups plus a few extra dates. The fees will remain the same. Rick asked what the fees are for the other towns. Bill replied Mansfield charges \$65.00 for the first child. The Borough charges \$45.00 with a shirt deposit for older players. Dawn asked Bill if Little League is OK with their funds. Bill replied they are. They have replaced the helmets and catcher gear for the Majors and Minors last year and will buy more equipment this year for the lower levels. Dawn stated the Commission is willing to help if Little League needs assistance getting equipment.

Bill asked if Little League can fall under the Commission's insurance. Dawn will check with the Borough Manager on this while Bill looks into the fees paid to other towns. A discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of Little League going under the Commission's insurance.

Dawn asked if there are officers in place yet. Bill replied that decisions will be made as a group which includes himself, Mike Dante, Bill Gleba and Rick Albanese. Dawn would like the whole committee to come to a Recreation Commission meeting to discuss the insurance possibility.

A purchase requisition has been prepared for the dirt needed at Steinhardt Field. Bill stated Little League will spread the dirt but that it needs to go down in late February or early March. Rick asked Bill to look at the field and e-mail Ann as to what needs to be done to get ready. Bill stated home plate, first base and the pitchers mound need to be replaced. Adam will take care of that.

Bill stated the league currently has eight teams. An option was offered to the sponsors to have a sign hung on the fence. This will be a separate charge. Little League will take care of the port-a-john. They will be using the field at Memorial School again for the Majors and Minors. They have been putting dirt on that field. Bill stated they are looking into holding an event at Borough Park for Opening Day and will get back to the Commission when he has more details.

Bill also stated the Youth Basketball uniforms will be in next week. A letter should be given to the parents when the uniforms are distributed holding them accountable for the \$50.00 due if the uniforms needs to be replaced. Pictures will be scheduled after the uniforms are received. The season is going well.

The commissioners thanked Bill for his time and information.

A motion was made by Angela Frye, seconded by Angela Wallace, to close the public session of the meeting at 8:37 p.m. Motion carried.

Communications

Information on the NJRPA Conference was provided to the Commission.

Park Director's Report

There was no Park Director Report at this meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Rick stated the Commission overspent in 2007. He has presented the budget with revisions to the Borough Manager. There is a 3½ % increase in requested money from the Borough. Capital expense requests include basketball court renovations, baseball field renovations at Borough Park, grandstand renovations and renovations at Steinhart and Vara fields. Rick and Dawn are to meet with Council on January 26th to discuss the budget and encouraged other commissioners to attend. Rick and Dawn will meet with the Finance Committee to discuss the current money situation.

Commissioner Reports

Street Hockey

Angela Frye stated she has received some equipment and books. She has a tentative meeting set for Monday with referees. She currently has six tentative referees. A letter to the parents regarding proper equipment will be distributed.

Youth Basketball

Angela Wallace reported the season is going well. There are no issues.

Baseball

Adam has been discussing fundraising to curtail out of pocket expenses. He has eight players to date and his holding a managers meeting next week. Practices may be held at Borough Park but no games will be held there in the 2008 season. Adam stated Little League can play on a men's baseball field but not softball. A discussion took place as to the different uses and specifications for softball, baseball and men's softball.

Easter Egg Hunt

Candy stated she will be purchasing eggs for the March 15th egg hunt. She will split the prize tables for age appropriate prizes. She may need to change the locations of some of the age groups due to the pool construction.

New Business

Green Acres

Dawn stated she has received correspondence from Jeff Bottger that our information is with Green Acres but there is no list yet. The 2008 deadline is in April. Dawn briefly discussed this with the Borough Manager and will bring it up that the budget meeting with council in regards to Railroad Avenue. T&M and Green Acres will help with the application if Council gives the Commission permission.

Candy feels that with the new development in the Borough children need more fields and things to do and also a place for people to meet. People should be able to shop, play and socialize where they live. Dawn feels recreation facilities are needed as well as new businesses.

Ice Hockey

Dawn suggested the possibility of a portable ice skating rink. Candy suggested holding a fundraiser to purchase the rink and will look into sponsors.

Executive Session

A motion to enter Executive Session at 9:43 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, real estate, and/or legal matters was made by Adam Zimmer, seconded by Angela Frye. Motion carried.

A motion was made to close the Executive Session at 10:47 p.m. by Angela Wallace, seconded by Adam Zimmer. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Pool Renovation Project Status Update

Dawn stated she would like a decision on the pool slide at the next meeting. The Commission is still waiting for quotes from CFM for potential projects at the pool.

Pavilion Status Update / Park Bricks

There is nothing new to report.

Washington Meadows Soccer Field Status Update

Dawn reported the new Borough Engineer will look at the types of sod and will give his recommendation. Dawn is waiting to hear back from him.

Commission Remarks

There were no Commission remarks at this meeting.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 11:01 p.m. by Adam Zimmer, seconded by Angela Frye.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Kilduff