

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Committee Minutes
June 10, 2009

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Committee was called to order on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, by Recreation Director Gary Masenior at 7:30 p.m. Also in attendance were committee members Candy DeFillippis, Erica Kilkinney, Beth Uporsky and Council liaison Patrick Boyle. Paula Aron, Rick Feldman and Adam Zimmer were absent.

Communications

A letter was sent to Big Brothers/Big Sisters approving their request to hold their annual Dustin Merunka Swim-a-Thon on Friday, July 17th from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Review of Past Minutes

A motion was made by Candy DeFillippis, seconded by Beth Uporsky, to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2009 regular meeting as submitted. Motion carried.

Audience Participation

Kim Tigue, Junior Girls Softball coach, was in attendance to discuss the softball season. Kim stated they had a great season and took second place in the junior tournament. No supplies are needed for next year except for a hitting stick for the girls to practice with that Beth will provide. Beth would like to budget for three teams next year as well as a portable backstop. Gary asked what could be done to generate more interest in softball. Beth and Kim will hold clinics in both the summer and fall. Beth feels having sign-ups in the fall may also help. Kim stated the fields looked very good this year. Gary told Kim the team was very efficiently run and appreciates her efforts.

Recreation Director Report

Finances

Gary stated that approximately \$14,000 has been encumbered to date in salaries and approximately \$17,000 has been encumbered for operating expenses.

Non-Park Related Activities

The vending machines have been delivered; however, we received five instead of four. One is temporarily in the entry way and two are on the pool deck. Two machines are in the hallway and Gary is waiting to verify electrical capacity of the hallway before moving those from the pool deck. The hallway will be left open during men's basketball so they can utilize the machines. Gary stated he has been having a lot of difficulty with the vending machines. The machines have been taking money without giving product. Other times patrons are getting two or three items for the price of one. It is not consistent. During the first two weekends, the machines only took \$1.00 bills, not \$5.00 bills or coins. The company will provide Gary with a "bank" to provide refunds so the money doesn't have to come from Gary. The company was at the park today to repair the machines. Gary has been receiving many complaints from patrons who are disappointed the snack bar is not open. Gary will establish a pattern as to when the concession stand will be open. Patrons will be made aware of the schedule. Candy questioned if the town is saving money with the electric being used to run the machines and lights being left on all night.

Gary stated there have been leaks in the new chlorine injection system. CFM will be here Friday to repair this. Gary has been self-chlorinating the pool until the problem is fixed. The fountains at the wading pool at the

zero-entry are shooting water out of the pool which drains the pool over time. CFM has been made aware. Gary has been adding 1 to 1½ inches of water into the pool daily.

Park Related Activities

Gary recommended LED lighting be used in the pavilion to deter vandals. Candy also suggested motion lights. Gary is in the process of getting quotes for the recycling containers. We will be joining the NJ Parks and Recreation Association.

Gary stated he will be purchasing soccer nets for Vara Field. Brian Hammond of Belvidere Avenue stated that although soccer will be played mainly at Vara Field and the Steinhardt outfield, he would like to schedule some night games under the lights at Borough Park.

The Girls All-Star game was held Sunday. There were approximately 275 people at the first game and approximately 350 at the second game. All went well. Gary stated the event was well run and organized. He would like to see them come back every year.

Secretary Report

Ann gave the total number of participants in karate, field hockey, soccer, swim team, swim lessons, elite basketball and pool memberships. The summer events flyer was discussed. The flyer includes the 4th of July celebration and Movies in the Park and will be distributed to borough schools this week. The committee discussed other ways to advertise the events.

Program Liaison Reports

Beth stated the junior softball tournament was this weekend. She will collect the uniforms and submit a budget for next season.

New Business

Street Hockey Practice at Vo-Tech

Gary stated he has had a verbal request for street hockey to practice at Vo-Tech beginning in December. Gary explained he would like to begin receiving all requests in writing to put structure into the request process. He has not yet received a written request from street hockey.

4th of July Parade – June 27th

Councilman Boyle stated the PA system is needed June 20th and June 27th for qualifying and soap box derby. Gary approved the use of the system. Both Councilman Boyle will look into flat bed truck options for the parade. Gary will look into the donation of a tractor.

Finances

Gary stated both he and Ann met with the Borough Manager. The department has two separate accounts. There is an operating account which is money from the town as well as a trust account which includes revenue. Gary explained the trust account will be re-established as a dedicated recreation account where only recreation will utilize it. Candy asked if Green Acres grant money would go into the trust account. Gary replied it would not because grants need to be earmarked for certain items. Gary mentioned the Gail Payne account and feels something should be done in the park in her memory with the money that was donated.

Gary will be holding a three-on-three basketball tournament either the third and fourth week in July. There will be four age groups of boys and girls for half-hour long games. Gary stated he has been made aware of interest from groups of kids interested in a skate park. Gary will discuss this at a future meeting. The kids would be involved with the design and upkeep of the park. Right now the only place they can skateboard is in the park.

Unfinished Business

Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act

Gary stated the Department of Health has done their inspection and we passed for the grates and anti-suppression devise. The pool has been approved.

Railroad Avenue

Gary has nothing new to report.

5-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Gary has nothing new to report.

Frequently Asked Questions

The committee discussed getting the questions posted on the website.

Elite Basketball

Gary stated there is a 5th grade boys' team in the Forks Township program which was created as a Washington Borough recreation sponsored activity. This has been approved by the Borough Manager. The fee was established to cover the cost of the league fee and uniforms. It is the same fee as our youth basketball program. This program will be self-sustaining and be used as a model for other programs.

Field Usage Request Form

This has been tabled until the next meeting.

Vending Machine Input

Gary would like to see a variety of more healthy snacks in the vending machines.

Committee Comments

There were no committee comments at this meeting.

Recreation Director Comments

Gary had no further comments.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:25 p.m. by Beth Uporsky, seconded by Erica Kilkinney.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Kilduff