

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Committee Minutes
July 22, 2009

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Committee was called to order on Wednesday, July 22, 2009, by Recreation Director Gary Masenior at 7:30 p.m. Also in attendance were committee members Rick Feldman, Erica Kilkinney, Beth Uporsky, Paula Aaron, Adam Zimmer, Borough Clerk, Kristine Blanchard and Council liaison Patrick Boyle. Candy DeFillippis arrived at 7:40.

Communications

No Communications

Review of Past Minutes

A motion was made by Rick Feldman, seconded by Beth Uporsky, to approve the minutes from the July 8, 2009 regular meeting as submitted. Adam Zimmer abstained. Motion carried.

A change was noted and corrected.

Audience Participation

There was no audience participation at this meeting.

Recreation Director Report

Finances

Director Masenior was unable to provide a finance report due to a computer problem in the borough offices. Director Masenior also reported that soccer went well and the swim team is done.

Secretary Report

Kristine Blanchard provided the following information on behalf of the Recreation Secretary. She reported the total number of participants for karate, field hockey, soccer, swim team, swim lessons, basketball and pool memberships. The session 3 swim lessons started this week. Rosters are being updated and letters are being sent to people who owe money. Movies in the Park have been going well.

Program Liaison Reports

Rick Feldman reported the swim team FAQ's should be completed Monday. Adam Zimmer reported baseball will be back at the Borough Park in two weeks. Director Masenior stated there was an issue with the lights at the park; however it was a computer problem and seems to be fixed now. He also stated that they have decided to wet the field before games in order to slow the field down. Director Masenior indicated that parts of the grandstands are being replaced as well due to the wood rotting away.

Adam Zimmer stated there had been a request from a participant of baseball if the concession stand could be open during the games. The baseball teams would supply the Gatorade to sell during games. He also requested that the proceeds be used to offset league fees for next year. Director Masenior stated he doesn't see a problem with that; however he will use existing personnel to open the concession stand.

Rick Feldman requested the statute number for Green Acres that relates to not being able to sell food during a swim meet.

New Business

CDC Sun Safety Program

Director Masenior reported that the Center for Disease Control will be holding a program at the Borough Pool. New Jersey has the second highest rate of skin cancer. They will be providing patrons at the pool with UV ratings for that day.

Pool Repair

Director Masenior informed the committee of an electrical problem with the baby pool. It seems that someone had broken in and hit the emergency shut off. He is also checking into seeing if the Borough needs a safety switch for the main pool. Right now the switch only operates the baby pool. Rick Feldman asked if the deck repairs would begin at the end of the season. Director Masenior stated he has written several letters to CFM regarding the repairs they need to make. He also checked the maintenance period and the Borough is well within that period. Rick Feldman also noted that CFM broke the sidewalk at the top of the pool and there may be a picture of that on the website. Rick Feldman asked if the pump in the well was fixed. Director Masenior stated he is still working on it.

3 on 3 Basketball

Director Masenior reported there will be a tournament the second weekend in August.

Basketball Clinic

The basketball clinic will begin the first Saturday in August.

Unfinished Business

Vara Field Dedication

Beth Uporsky has made several phone calls regarding this and is waiting to hear back.

Gail Payne Account

Rick Feldman stated he is still working on getting some information. Beth Uporsky noted that Marianne Van Deursen would like to be a part of the discussion regarding this money. She is still very close to the family.

Winning Mood Soccer Camp

Director Masenior stated he has had no contact from the soccer camp yet.

Railroad Avenue

Director Masenior discussed with the committee the receipt of a Green Acres loan in the amount of \$500,000 for Railroad Avenue Park. This loan is contingent upon legislative appropriation.

Five Year Capital Improvement Plan

This item is tabled. Director Masenior stated he will be presenting an outline of a capital plan to the committee once the swim season is complete.

Frequently Asked Questions

Beth Uporsky stated that most of the FAQ's are up on the website. The pool FAQ's are still needed. She stated she would like to propose a different layout for the recreation section of the website in conjunction with the website committee. Website will be added as unfinished business at the next meeting.

Street Hockey Practice at Vo-Tech

Director Masenior has not heard anything on this yet.

Field Usage Request Form

This was tabled.

Vending Machines

Director Masenior and Mayor McDonald will be scheduling a meeting with the vendor to discuss the issues with the vending machines. Director Masenior reported that the concession stand looks like it is making a profit. In order to be profitable, the stand must make \$90.00 a day. There has been no analysis on the vending machines yet.

Committee Comments

Beth Uporsky commented that she has had some complaints regarding referee payments being paid very late to the referees. She would like to discuss alternatives to the payments of referees. Director Masenior will discuss this with the Borough Manager. She also stated that the Recreation Secretary is very busy and she would like to discuss with the committee what kind of things the committee can help her with. This will be discussed when she returns from vacation.

Rick Feldman asked Councilman Boyle about the letter from the Borough Manager. He asked if the Manager's answers were included. Councilman Boyle stated that these were his answers.

Dawn Higgins, audience member, stated she would like to comment on the Manager's response to question number 1 regarding the revenues generated by the recreational sponsored programs being used to pay down or offset other municipal expenses. The Manager's response in his letter is no, he stopped that practice. Ms. Higgins informed the committee that she was chair of the Recreation Commission at that time. She stated this proves that the Recreation Commission did not mismanage their funds. She stated that the commission had asked council not to disband us. She stated the recreation committee is owed an apology and someone needs to be accountable for this. Beth Uporsky commented that the road to repair has begun. Ms. Higgins stated that the commission's integrity was attacked at a budget meeting; we are owed an apology.

Councilman Boyle noted that he believes Mr. Phelan's comments were directed towards previous Borough Manager's administration of the Recreation money.

Dawn Higgins stated she still believes that the previous commission is owed an apology. The commission was wrongfully attacked at a budget meeting.

Rick Feldman noted that regarding Railroad Avenue Grant Award, it is reflected in the 5/27/09 minutes that the Recreation Committee can not move forward with this due to the fact that it will effect the Borough's extraordinary aid application. Director Masenior will discuss this with the Borough Manager. *(Rick requested to change the wording to read as follows: Rick Feldman noted that the Railroad Avenue loan had been discussed on several occasions and noted that the minutes of 5/27/09 included a statement that the borough manager had stated that we could not go forward with the project loan because the town did not have the money. To say that council/borough manager was unaware of this loan opportunity was false and misleading.)*

Recreation Director Comments

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:20 p.m. by Rick Feldman, seconded by Adam Zimmer.

Respectfully submitted by Kristine Blanchard