

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Committee Minutes
October 14, 2009

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Committee was called to order on Wednesday, October 14, 2009, by Recreation Director Gary Masenior at 7:30 p.m. Also in attendance were committee members Paula Aron, Rick Feldman, Adam Zimmer and Council liaison Patrick Boyle. Candy DeFillippis, Erica Kilkinney and Beth Uporsky were absent.

Review of Past Minutes

A motion was made by Adam Zimmer, seconded by Paula Aron, to approve the minutes from the September 23, 2009 regular meeting as submitted. Rick Feldman abstained. Motion carried.

Communications

There were no communications at this meeting.

Audience Participation

Jim Chrisafis and Rich Thompson were present to discuss the street hockey program. Adam Zimmer stated he will be the program liaison and will be attending most of the games. Rich stated that most of the equipment will be donated by the New Jersey Devils. Jim questioned where the registration money is going since the main cost to run the program is provided by the Devils. He wanted to give the players a pizza party and trophies last year but was told he could not. The party is attended by the Devils management, player and mascot. Gary replied that decision had been made that all sports are to be treated equally. Recreation funds can be used to help fund sports with fewer participants. Fees would have to be raised \$10 per player for each sport in order to have the pizza and trophies for everyone. He does not want to do that at this time. Gary would like to provide an outdoor hockey facility in the future. He suggested street hockey form a Parent's Association to help raise funds. Rich stated they will not be using VoTech as the request had to be submitted by August. Gary will look into this. Jim asked if street hockey sign-ups were advertised in other towns. Ann replied that they were. Jim noted that the street hockey program has been around for approximately ten years. In the beginning, the referees were not paid; they volunteered their time and Jim feels this should be considered. Adam would like a copy of the game schedule once one is created. Gary would like to attend the first hockey meeting. Gary thanked Jim and Rich for attending the meeting.

Recreation Director Report

Finances

Gary stated that everything is in the process of being transferred. He met with the finance department today to determine the dollar amounts for the proper line items.

Non-Park Related

Gary stated repairs to the wading pool have begun. CFM agrees the pool either has settled or was installed improperly. The pool will be retiled, building up one side of the pool at no cost to us. They will also be repairing cracks in the pool and extending the warranty another year. Gary is getting quotes to replace the stall in the men's room and replace the urinal in the grandstand men's room and toilet in the grandstand ladies room. Gary is also getting quotes for a hot water heater in the pool house and for winterizing the park. Cracks in the concrete around the main pool are being repaired. Rick questioned why the concrete wasn't replaced. Gary stated the decision was made by CFM and the Borough Manager. Gary stated there will be volunteers at the

park on October 21st and 22nd. They will be raking leaves, turning over mulch on the playground and possibly repainting the grandstand bathrooms and pool house floor.

Park Related

Adam stated the baseball nets blew down in the wind onto power lines on Route 31. The town electrician took them down. Adam will speak to the Fire Department in regards to getting the nets down either Monday or Tuesday of next week.

Secretary Report

Currently there are 22 players registered for youth basketball and another 22 registered for street hockey. There is another sign-up session scheduled for Saturday. Ann gave information from different agencies regarding the fingerprinting process for volunteer coaches and assistant coaches. She will work with Gary on this.

Program Liaison Reports

Paula stated she told Terry Finnegan there will be no pizza or trophies provided by the Recreation Department for soccer.

Adam stated there are two men's baseball games left and a possibility of the team making the play-offs. He will be holding tryouts the first and second weekends in March for the summer league.

New Business

5-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Gary had asked the committee members to think of capital improvements they would like to see implemented. Paula suggested completing the Railroad Avenue Park, a dog park and renovations to the grandstand. Adam would also like to see Railroad Avenue completed. Gary will look into the Green Acres funding. Adam also noted the baseball infield needs to be cut out further. Renovations to the field are needed in order to host league events such as All Star Games. Rick would like to see a concession stand at Vara and Steinhardt fields as well as electric and water on the pad where the concession stand would be. Renovations, including electrical and plumbing, are needed in the bath house including the concession stand and bathrooms. Rick noted that if baseball will be at Borough Park, we need to ensure softball has a place to play. Gary will look into the ruling regarding selling food on Green Acres property.

Tree Lighting Ceremony

Gary recommended purchasing lights and asking the Fire Department to put them on the tree. Local schools could make ornaments. Adam will check with the Fire Department regarding the installation of the lights.

Unfinished Business

Gail Payne Account

Gary has nothing new to report.

Railroad Avenue

Gary has not received any new information.

Street Hockey Practice at Vo-Tech

As discussed earlier, Gary will look into this.

Field Usage Request Form

This has been tabled until a future meeting.

Parking at Vara Field

Councilman Boyle stated this can be addressed by ordinance. Rick asked if the Borough Engineer can get involved. Councilman Boyle will ask the Borough Manager.

New Program Proposals

5K Run – Paula stated she contacted On Your Mark Productions and is waiting for a packet which will include the fee schedule. Gary will look into other options as well.

Peeps Are People Too – Gary contacted the company and is waiting for information to see if funding is available.

Flag Football – Gary is looking to implement this next summer. NFL funding is not applicable to our area.

Senior Programs – Tabled

Disc Golf – Adam stated he is waiting for information.

Bus Trip – Tabled

Dance – Adam will speak to the Fire Department regarding the use of the Hall.

Historical Walking Tour – Tabled

Other Suggestions – Adam suggested a waffle ball tournament and will put a presentation together. Rick suggested volleyball. Gary stated a South Jersey construction school could possibly do the groundwork at Railroad Avenue as one of their school projects. A motion was made by Adam Zimmer, seconded by Paula Aron, to look into the possibility of a South Jersey school doing the groundwork at Railroad Avenue Park. Motion Carried.

Committee Comments

Adam thanked the committee and Council for working with the baseball team. They had a very successful season.

Rick asked if the Borough Manager will be addressing his questions since the manager wasn't at the last committee meeting. Gary suggested Rick stop by during business hours and speak to the manager. Rick stated he would accept a written response to his questions.

Recreation Director Comments

Gary had no further comments.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:28 p.m. by Adam Zimmer, seconded by Rick Feldman.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Kilduff