

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Committee Minutes
March 10, 2010

Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Borough Recreation Committee was called to order on Wednesday, March 10, 2010, by Recreation Director Gary Masenior at 7:35 p.m. Also in attendance were committee members Candy DeFillippis, Rick Feldman, Erica Kilkinney and Adam Zimmer. Paula Aron, Beth Uporsky and council liaison Scott McDonald were absent.

Review of Past Minutes

A motion was made by Adam Zimmer, seconded by Erica Kilkinney, to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2010 regular meeting as submitted. Motion carried.

Communications

There were no communications at this meeting.

Audience Participation

There was no audience present at this meeting.

Recreation Director Report

Finances

Gary stated there is no report available at this meeting for current expenses because the Borough Manager and CFO are meeting tomorrow to put money in the proper line items. As of today, there is \$77,484 in the trust account. Gary gave the committee a breakdown of what is in each control line. Gary stressed that every program must be self-funding this year or we will not be able to provide it. Gary also stressed that money brought in for a program can now only be used for that particular program or to costs associated to that program. Salaries will be funded from the trust account. Candy stated she feels that since Council doesn't come to a committee meeting or a Recreation sponsored event, it's unfair for them to decide how much money is needed to run community programs. Rick asked how much money was in the trust account at the end of 2009. Gary replied approximately \$9,000. Rick asked where the money in the trust account came from. Gary suggested Rick speak to the CFO for this and any other questions.

Secretary Report

Ann stated there are 6 participants in karate for Session 2 and there is one more sign-up scheduled for Saturday. The session starts on March 19th. Street Hockey is looking to have their end of season party on March 29th at Memorial School. Youth Basketball is almost finished for the season. There are 37 girls registered for softball, which is 9 more than last year. Ann will begin advertising for the Easter Egg Hunt and Swim Team sign-ups which will be held later this month.

Program Liaison Reports

Gary read an e-mail from Beth Uporsky updating everyone on girls' softball. There will be four teams this year including a new level for 2nd graders. League fees will be \$600.00. Beth will have the program expenses shortly. Practices will begin soon, weather permitting.

New Business

Member Listing

An updated member listing was received.

2010 Meeting Schedule

The 2010 meeting schedule was received.

New Youth Baseball Program

Gary reported the "Off The Bench" baseball program will use the field in conjunction with Men's Baseball. It is a 6th grade travel team organized by Franklin coaches and open to all children in the area. A portable outfield fence was purchased by them and available for our use. Because of this, it is possible for us to host the Little League All Star Game.

Men's Baseball

Adam reported the first game will be the 2nd week in April. The team is still the Washington Grave Diggers, but they have moved leagues and are now part of the Lehigh Valley Men's Senior Baseball League based out of Easton. Adam reminded Gary the infield needs to be cut and stated the fire department will be installing the netting. Gary stated the entire netting must be in place before any batting can take place on the field. Adam noted the timing of the installation is subject to the weather. In regards to the banners, Gary stated that per the Borough Manager, banners are considered advertisements and need Green Acres approval. Adam stated his plan was to put the banners up and take them down for each game. Gary will look into this.

Easter Egg Hunt

Candy stated the Easter Egg Hunt has been moved to March 27th with a rain date of April 3rd. She needs a bullhorn and eight volunteers. Gary suggested using the sound system at the park and will look into encumbering monies for additional purchases.

Unfinished Business

Gail Payne Account

Gary stated there is nothing new to report.

Railroad Avenue

In regards to Rick's previous question, Gary stated that, per the Borough Manager, there was not a motion made to refuse the funds. The decision was made based on the manager's recommendation. Candy asked who owns the land. Rick replied the Recreation Commission owned it and believes the Borough does now. Gary will look into this.

Field Usage Request Form

This has been tabled until a future meeting.

Fingerprint Process

Gary stated per the Mayor's recommendation he looked into having the township police to do a background check on our coaches. The Borough Manager advised Gary not to pursue this because there would be no appeal process in place, which opens the borough up for liability. A permanent plan needs to be in place. Gary asked the committee to review the Freehold information he previously provided before the next meeting.

5-Year Capital Improvement Plan

This has been tabled until a future meeting.

New Program Proposals

5K Run – Tabled

Peeps Are People Too – Gary has no new information.

Flag Football – Gary will be meeting with the township before the next meeting with the hopes of doing a joint program in the summer. Gary will also look into NFL sponsorship.

Senior Programs – Tabled

Disc Golf – Tabled

Bus Trip – Nothing New

Dance – Nothing New

Historical Walking Tour – There is already one in the area.

Bowling – Adam stated Rob Plenge has a feeder program at Oakwood Lanes from Mansfield, Oxford and Washington Township. They are also looking to include the borough in their fall league. Rob Plenge will be at our next meeting to discuss this in more detail.

Park Related Activities

Rick questioned the electrical upgrades Gary mentioned at the last meeting. Gary replied he is still working on this. Nothing has been done to date. Candy asked where the water is leaking from. Gary feels the water is leaking between the bottom of the metal and concrete of the pool. She asked if there is a warranty on this since the gutters were taken off and replaced when the new decking was installed. Gary will look into this.

2010 Fee Schedule

Gary stated the fee schedule was submitted as a range. Gary made the decision to maintain the fees because all programs need to be self-funding. If fees were reduced, he would have had to ask council for more money in order to pay for the programs. This would have been reflected in the borough taxes. Rick feels fees could be lowered and council asked for more money. This leaves the burden on those playing the sports. He feels the range system leaves the community out of giving input towards fees. Gary recommended no fee for the senior patrons of the pool for boro residents and a nominal fee for out of boro seniors. Candy feels the fee should be kept low to help seniors who gave years to their community. A motion was made by Rick, seconded by Adam to recommend Gary set the minimum at \$5.00 less than last year's fee. All committee members were in favor. Motion carried.

Committee Comments

Adam stated some of his adult players are helping with the Little League clinic.

Erica questioned the funding of the Arts & Crafts program. Gary stated the current fund or possibly the swim program could fund it.

Rick questioned why we are not charging Little League for Steinhardt Field when we are charging Men's Baseball and the new baseball program for Boro Park. Gary will look into this.

Recreation Director Comments

In response to Rick's previous question, Gary stated the 2009 receipts from the vending machines totaled \$299.65 for May and June and \$124.50 for July and August. The boro receives 15% of the total amount taken in.

Gary reported plans for the 15' x 14' batting cage at Steinhardt Field have been approved and passed around a copy of the plans. The batting cage is to be purchased by Little League.

Gary provided the committee with a memo from the Borough Manager answering questions Rick had.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:37 p.m. by Rick Feldman, seconded by Adam Zimmer.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Kilduff