

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
<May 18, 2011>
7:00 PM

Roll Call

- Present: Victor Cioni, Beth Uporsky, Adam Zimmer, Rec Director Des Fitzgerald
- Absent: Penny Shaul, April Tull, Mike Nachbaur, Erica Kilkenny

Minutes of prior meeting

- Minutes from the April 20th meeting need to be re-approved, Committee members present deferred approval of minutes from April 20th, May 4th and May 18th to the June 1st meeting .
- Changes: April 20th - to be distributed for re-approval on June 1st; May 4th - to be discussed at June 1 meeting,

Audience Participation

- Dave Hackney attended the meeting to discuss a new tournament team that he is running this summer for 11 and 12 year olds. This program is for players who have the commitment and passion to be learn the higher skills needed by competitive baseball players. Dave asked that the field be dragged, but he will line the field himself and take care of getting the bases placed and then put away. He will close up the grandstands and bathrooms. (See Committee Chair's comments below.) This is a 10-week program and he will pay \$300 to accommodate the field usage fee and also pay the usual light usage fee when needed. Beth will work out the schedule between the travel softball and this program. Dave is closing signups on May 30th and will pay the fee shortly thereafter. Travel softball begins May 22nd, this program plans to begin June 9th.
- On another topic, Dave noted that WB Little League is using their chalk to line the fields for Recreation Softball at Memorial.

Communications

- NTR

REPORTS

- Rec Director Report
 - Floors are stripped and ready to be painted; paint is in and pool is sready to be painted. Pumps are working; grass is very high as mowing has a lower priority than pool prep right now; food concession choices expanded to grilling. Looking for a deep fryer, grill patio to be built. Looking for a fire extinguisher, Adam to check with the fire department.
- Report From Council Meeting
 - Victor read a prepared statement (attached) at the May 17th Council Meeting, but the Council will continue to support their straw vote from prior meeting relevant to the hiring and reporting hierarchy of the Recreation Director (to the Commission) in the final version of the Recreation Commission Ordinance.

Old Business

- Park and Pool improvement ideas
 - 10 pack fast pass to the pool. Have to work out pricing and restrictions. Any change to fees will need to be approved by Council.
 - Weekly teen pool party: Victor is finalizing the music and other details to get this program up and running.
 - Water aerobics: Victor will meet with the instructor before the next meeting and provide details.
- Recreation Ordinance and Bylaws
 - Update on content: Beth continues to work on the bylaws to support the new ordinance, but regardless of whether or not an ordinance is passed, the bylaws will become the structure of the Recreation Committee/Commission and Recreation Department.
- Trench: Des, Dave Hackney and RJ will discuss how to get the trench completed in early July.

New Business

- Zumba: April contacted a licensed Zumba instructor to discuss a water zumba program. Des met with the instructor and obtained details. He will discuss with April and provide more information at the next meeting.
- A travel softball team (Warren County Warriors 12U) is renting the Boro Park field to practice and/or play games twice weekly from Sunday, May 22nd through the end of July. Mike Pukowski is the contact. Beth has been speaking with him. Mike was quoted the usage fee for non-residents. Lights are not expected to be put to use, but if they do plan a night game, the additional light usage fee will apply.

SPORTS PROGRAMS: Reports

- Adult Basketball - Signups are minimal. Victor reaching out to past participants.
- Youth Basketball - NTR
- Youth Street Hockey - NTR
- Youth Softball
 - Mid-season report - season underway.
- Swim Team -
 - Parents meeting report (see notes attached)
 - 50 people have signed up for swim team
 - Des has been in touch with the applicant for swim coach
- Youth Soccer
 - Pre-season report
 - Signups scheduled for online til June 15 and also in person on May 14th and 21st
 - Meeting with Washington Borough Youth Soccer Association president Terry Finnegan (notes to be distributed at next meeting.)
 - Product / cost details for soccer equipment/uniforms (Morris County Co-op) were provided to Des.
- Field Hockey
 - Pre-season report
 - Signups scheduled for online til June 15th
 - Potential coach details emailed to Mike Nachbaur last week.

OTHER PROGRAMS: Reports

- Game Day - NTR
- 3 on 3: Target for August. Beth has the plan for marketing, organizing and running the tournament, including sponsor letters, forms and scoring details. Tournament may include a dunking and foul shot contest.
- 5K Run: Adam needs to gather information about a timekeeping company, the route needs to be determined, and police/first aid and volunteer staff planned. Target this activity for this spring.
- Volunteer Day at the Park:
 - Who will volunteer from the Committee? Adam, Victor, Mike
 - Flower donations for the Park: Lisa Gooley arranged for donations from local florist and a \$25 gift certificate from Washington One Stop.

Website

- Changes Needed: Victor will post Little League baseball information from Dave Hackney. Recreation's Facebook now has 80 friends!

Comments

- Committee Comments:
 - Other than noted above, none.
- Recreation Chairman Comments
 - Beth asked Des to resolve the key and lock problems at the park that have been ongoing since last year. Coaches need reliable access to the sport closet throughout the season. The keypad does not work on warm, sunny days. Coaches do not have keys to access the closet. They need to move the bases in and out of the closet, lock the bathrooms and grandstand. The bathroom and grandstand keys can be kept in the sport closet, and the coaches would only need one key to access the closet, get their equipment and then secure the park before leaving.

Adjourn: **9:30**

Notes from Swim Team Parents Meeting May 5th, 2011

MINUTES:

Board needs a treasurer and secretary

Volunteer needs:

- Stroke and Turn
- Ribbons
- Food
- Timing
- Marshals
- Scoring
- Runners

Every family must sign up for four meets. Older children (teens) and other family members (grandparents, aunts, uncles) can contribute to the volunteer hours. Christine provided a brief description of each position, and gave information about training for those positions that require training (Timing, Scorekeeping)

Fundraising:

- Hospitality Table: The Borough will close its concession stand during swim meets and allow Swim Team Parents to run this concession. Profits from the first meet will be donated to fund the swim coach's salary.
- Bowl A Thon: June 4th
- Swim A Long: July 18th
- Other fundraising ideas needed to raise money for Championships in 2013

Need more signups as soon as possible. Late fee after May 13th. Last sign up June 3rd.

Contact Recreation Department: 908 689 3600, x 136

Director, Desmond (Des) Fitzgerald

Secretary, Christine Howley

Des addressed the audience, introduced himself and Christine.

- Committed to supporting the swim team
- Staff is working hard to get the pool ready for practices in early July; everything on track
- Pool and pool house improvements: bathroom remodeling, fresh coat of paint, repairs to lighting (overhead lights on deck repaired)
- Swim team needs to be self-funded, including payment for coach(es). Size of team dictates number of coaches.

*