

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
June 1st - 7:00 PM

Roll Call

- Present: Victor Cioni, Beth Uporsky, Mike Nachbaur, Des Fitzgerald (Rec Director), Christina Howley (Rec Secretary), Penny Shaul (arrived 7:35), Adam Zimmer (arrived 8:50)
- Absent: April Tull, Erica Kilkinney

Minutes of prior meeting

- Approved / Approved with Changes: April 20th (version submitted earlier was not corrected), May 4th and May 18th minutes.
- Changes: Add Victor's letter to Council to minutes as correspondence

Audience Participation

- Discussion – Moved to open audience portion, no one in attendance, moved to close audience portion – all approved

Communications

- To/From Committee - None

REPORTS

- Rec Director Report:
 - Pool is fully staffed.
 - Pool is being filled today (6/1) and new well pump is working perfectly
 - There have been extensive repairs to the pool water line where the seam meets the skimmer (caulk and epoxy). This should prevent leaking at that point.
 - All of the striker points have been painted and missing tiles have been replaced.
 - All floors in the pool house have been stripped bare and repainted. We will not use the mats throughout the pool house.
 - All new bathroom stalls have been installed in the men's and women's restrooms.
 - These bathrooms just need to be properly cleaned and handicapped railings and changing stations reinstalled prior to open house.
 - Other 2 bathrooms in the pool house (facing the basketball courts) have been repainted (floors, doors, stalls) and urinal in Men's restroom to be replaced when it comes in to Link plumbing.
 - Grandstand bathrooms have been cleaned and floors repainted, however the Women's restroom was vandalized and the damage has since been repaired but the floor in the women's room still needs to be repainted, hopefully before June 11th (the bathrooms will need to be open and cleaned for the June 12th Softball event).
 - Cooking patio is being built.
 - All flowers in the pool area have been planted (thank you to Shop Rite and Country Fresh Farms for donating the flowers.
 - All shrubs near the Grandstand have been pruned and weeded.
 - MUSCO came in to replace some of the burnt out bulbs and fuses at the main ball field lights at Borough Park.
 - Des found a button in the coaches' room that he believes will control the lights (later note from Beth upon inspection in the closet: this is the switch that was disconnected from the old lighting connection years ago.)
- Report From Council Meeting:
 - None

Old Business

- Park and Pool
 - Key and lock update - The lock to the sport closet has not yet been repaired. Coaches cannot access the equipment. Beth suggests that we repair the lock and provide coaches with access to lock up the closet, the bathrooms and the grandstands, as this was a successful model for several years.
 - Pool status – See above notes in Director's report
- Recreation Ordinance and Bylaws
 - Discussion of draft: Draft to be presented to Committee upon final passage of the new Ordinance by Council.
- WB Youth Baseball Tournament Clinic: Beth will finalize the schedules of this program and the Warren Warriors 12U Softball program and post it to the calendar. Softball program has paid \$225 fee and

understands that use of the lights is a separate fee. WB Youth Baseball will pay their fee after signups are complete and registration fees are paid.

- Drainage work at Vara/Steinhardt fields:
 - Des to set up a review meeting with volunteers Dave Hackney and RJ Sherman (of WB Youth Baseball) to review and confirm date when the volunteers will work on the drainage problem.
 - Borough Engineer (Andrew Holt) will need to review the drainage proposal
 - Special thanks to Veolia Water for donating the needed perforated piping as well as the gravel
- Other: None

New Business

- State of the Parks discussion
 - Borough Park: railroad ties, landscaping:
 - Beth has raised concerns about the overall condition of the park landscaping and railroad ties. The ties are creosote-soaked and she stated that they should not be used in pedestrian areas. The mounds of wood chips that are piled up along the ball field have not been raked out, are blocking passage on the sidewalk and are killing the flat grassy area along the ballfield fence. The entry points to the park from Route 31 and Broad Street present a very poor impression of the park. The grass along 31 is uncut. Ties and woodchips are piled up at the entrance and around the parking lot area. We need more manpower to get the ties out of the park and the woodchips properly spread.
 - Des confirmed that Norfolk Southern has agreed to donate the Rail Road ties that are already at the park and the regional manager from the railroad is also coming in to meet Desmond at the park.
 - Vandalism:
 - Women's restroom was vandalized and the damage has since been repaired but the floor in the women's room still needs to be repainted
 - Urinal in Men's bathroom facing basketball courts was also vandalized and needs to be replaced – already ordered from Link.
- New Program Proposals: **Beer Festival in the Borough**
 - Michael and Victor have been researching the possibility of bringing a fall Beer Festival to Borough Park. The concept is in its infancy and there would be much to do and coordinate but all Committee members believe it is feasible and would be a very big benefit to the town and recreation as a whole. Target date would be October 2011. Victor requested a vote from committee for the permission to move forward with additional research and present more at the next meeting. Motion made by Adam, Victor Seconded, all approved.

SPORTS PROGRAMS: Reports

- Adult Basketball (Victor)
 - As of June 1st there has been only 1 team application (5 players) received for the 2011 Men's Basketball season so Victor has recommending to the Recreation Director to cancel the season this year due to lack of interest. Victor has personally called over 30 individuals from last year's rosters with mixed responses. Many were told after last season that there would not be a 2011 season by the heads of their teams.
 - We will again offer this program next year and look at ways to better market it and do additional research on pricing/fees/recruitment.
- Youth Softball (Beth)
 - Warren County Warriors 12U Travel Team – fee has been paid and the field reserved for a series of games and practices
 - All Star Game June 12th: preparation of the park and stadium – we have a good opportunity to sell food and beverages at the All Star game with hundreds of people attending. Des expressed concern that we aren't prepared. Beth suggested purchasing additional supplies when purchasing food for opening day (June 11th)
 - Softball Team Party: June 12th - long hose to be used for the slip n slide on the hill by the pavilion.
- Swim Team (Beth)
 - Participants: 52
 - Coaching Staff – Heather Flimlin has accepted the head coaching position, and Andrew Ward has accepted the assistant coach position. Upon accepting the position, Andrew will not be participating

as a swim team member, so he is eligible for refund of his swim team and pool membership fee. The Wards must apply for the refund.

- Practice Start Date – Possibly Saturday June 4th.
- Youth Soccer (Penny) -
 - Updates:
 - Beth to share meeting notes with Penny on meeting held with Beth, Terry Finnegan and Desmond. Terry Finnegan has provided a very detailed account of how youth soccer is currently structured. Beth documented the roles and responsibilities of Recreation Committee Liaison, Recreation Department and Washington Youth Soccer Association. The document was distributed to Terry and Des for comment a few weeks ago.
 - Discussion on the condition of Vara field still needs to take place (weeds, overall grass conditions. The field is not in good shape for the upcoming soccer season.)
- Field Hockey (Mike)
 - So far we have 7 kids registered and 3 more pending. Mike will coordinate with Dave Dempsky (Washington Township) too coordinate.

OTHER PROGRAMS: Reports

- Game Day (Penny) – No updates
- 3 on 3 – NTR (Beth)
 - No Updates, on hold for now however, Adam stated he will attend the 3 on 3 in Palmer Township (PA) to see how that is structured and report back his findings. Anyone from the Committee is welcome to join him.
- 5K Run (Adam) – No updates
- Senior Splash (Victor)
 - New program for active seniors, class will be at Borough pool, 3 times a week, for 6 weeks (45 minute classes)
 - Instructor has already been confirmed.
 - Flier passed around to committee for review/comment
 - Vote to move forward with the program and begin to market: Motion made by Victor, Mike seconded – all approved
- Teen Pool Party (Victor)
 - Victor felt that we needed an evening program for teens in the Borough so he put together a proposal for a weekly Teen Pool party for teenagers (Middle School to High School levels)
 - DJ already secured (no cost)
 - Concession stand will be open to sell refreshments
 - Flier passed around to committee for review/comment
 - Penny to find out if there are any restrictions on the number of people (capacity) for the pool/pool area. Desmond said there is no such restriction for outside areas.
 - Des to set up a meeting/call with Risk Manager
 - Des to set up a face to face meeting with himself, Victor, Borough Manager and Police Chief.
 - Motion made by Victor to move forward, Mike seconded – all approved.
- Zumba (April) - NTR

Website

- Changes Needed / Changes Made - None

Comments

- Committee Comments
 - Adam thought that Victor did a great job organizing the 3 volunteer days and that a lot had been accomplished.
 - Victor followed up with Adam about securing a small fire extinguisher for the outside patio where food will be prepared – Adam will follow up with Fire Chief on 6/2
 - Penny asked if the pool has been fully staffed – Desmond responded that it has.
- Recreation Chairman Comments – See Director's report

Adjourn: **9:50PM**