

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
March 14th - 7:00 PM

The Meeting of the Recreation Commission of the Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey was held in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall at 7:00p.m.

Opening 7:05p.m.

Flag Salute

Statement of Adequate Notice

- Jeff Haines read the following Statement into the Record: “The requirements of the ‘Open Public Meetings Law, 1975, Chapter 231’ have been satisfied in that adequate notice of this meeting has been published in the Star Gazette and posted on the Bulletin Board of Borough Hall stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting as required by law.”

Roll Call

- Present: Michael Nachbaur, Jeff Haines, Tim Shanahan, Melissa Hommes, Jesica Olmos, Adam Zimmer
- Absent: Victor Cioni
- Also Present: Des Fitzgerald, Christina Howley

Minutes of Prior Meetings

- Michael Nachbaur motioned to approve the minutes from the 2/8/12 meeting with no changes. Seconded by Tom Shanahan.

Audience Participation

- RJ Sherman representing Washington Borough Youth Baseball was present. RJ just wanted to stop by and see if there was anything the Recreation Commission needed from him to ensure the spring season runs smoothly. Jeff will provide the Girls Softball schedule to RJ as soon as he has it so WBYB knows when Girls Softball needs to utilize Memorial Field. RJ raised the question that once baseball season is over in early June, who will cut the grass.
Adam Zimmer motioned that Washington Boro Recreation should take over mowing Steinhardt Field regularly after baseball season is over in June. Seconded by Mike Nachbaur.
Ayes: 6 Nays:0 Motion Carried.
RJ also raised the topic of the port a john at Steinhardt. RJ would like to split the cost of the port a john between baseball and softball. Currently WB Rec is paying for a port a john at Boro Park for Girls Softball due to the fact the bathrooms can't be opened until the water leak is fixed. Des said he could move the port a john from Boro Park to Steinhardt in April once the water leak is fixed. RJ suggested WBYB would pay for half and WB Rec should pay for the other half of the cost of the port a john at Steinhardt from April to June since Girls Softball would utilize it as well.
Jeff Haines motioned that Washington Boro Recreation should take over mowing Steinhardt Field regularly after baseball season is over in June. Seconded by Melissa Hommes.
Ayes: 5 Nays:0 Michael Nachbaur abstained. Motion Carried.
Michael Nachbaur motioned to end the audience participation portion. Seconded by Adam Zimmer.
Ayes: 6 Nays:0 Motion carried.

Recreation Director's Report

- Date on start of concession stand – everything is ready to go, just waiting on J&M Air to renew their business license that had lapsed.
- Jeff and Des did an experiment comparing the quality of dirt/clay from Boro Park and Steinhardt. The outcome is that both fields have the identical makeup, it's just a matter of maintaining it properly.

- Des worked with Hazmat / Warren County Health Department (Tom Nigro) to make sure that the fuel smell coming from the Broad Street area was not park or pool related.
- DPW service all the Recreation machinery and everything is like new. DPW possibly working on putting new overhead doors on garage to better utilize the space that is there
- DPW worked on the leak at the pool today. They dug a 10 foot long trench. Whitney plumbing working on repairing the leak. Another leak was also found.
- ADA lift has been ordered, just waiting for delivery from Recreonics.
- Des would like the equipment policy added to the By Laws.
- Des spoke with John Burd and Kristine Blanchard regarding creating bins at DPW to have a central location to store mulch and use as needed.
- The man hours on the list of recreation projects that Des passed out does not correlate to the cost column. The man hours are the time it would take to do the job and the cost is what's being paid out for the job.
- Badges for pool – tabled to the next meeting. Possibly 100 badges set aside and given out to those families in need determined by the Recreation Director.
- Des passed out an expense report from the Edmunds system. Most agreed this is something they do not want to see.

Michael Nachbaur motioned to table discussion on the expense reports until the next meeting when Victor returns. Adam Zimmer seconded.

Ayes: 6 Nays:0 Motion carried.

Old Business

- Background Check Discussion – Questions, comments, and concerns are with Kristine Blanchard and the code book review committee. Update after their next meeting.
- Easter Egg Hunt. Melissa secured donations from Shop Rite and Rite Aid, approx. 600 pieces of candy so far. Melissa asked A&P for candy also, just waiting to hear back. Subway donated 2 foot long subs as prizes. ACE matching what they did in the past for prizes. Second Time Around consignment store is making little gift bags to donate. Family Pizza has closed and Melissa is having a hard time at Sal's. Adam suggested also trying Tractor Supply for prizes. Possibly stuffing eggs Friday, March 30th.
- Draft By Laws. Des stated that he would like the equipment policy that he provided to everyone added to the By Laws. Also he wants it changed that the Recreation Director reports to the Commission, not the Chairman of the Commission.

Melissa Hommes motioned to table the draft By Laws discussion until the next meeting when Victor returns. Adam Zimmer seconded.

Ayes: 6 Nays:0 Motion carried.

New Business

- Warren Arts and Street Festival April 21st. No interest from the commission on having a table to promote recreation. There is already a lot going on this day. 5k at Meadowbreeze in the morning, opening day for Girls Softball and possibly WBYB as well. Also the same day as the Swim Team bowling fundraiser.
- Frank Blanche signs for Vara and Steinhardt Fields. The signs have deteriorated over the years. Victor got an estimate of \$580 for the two signs. Asking WBYSA if they will donate the cost of the Vara sign and WBYB to donate the cost of the Steinhardt sign. If these two organizations do not donate them, then this is something that may have to wait til next year as there are a lot of other projects going on right now. Signs can be placed within 7 to 10 days from payment.

- Volunteer Days – May 17th 18th & 19th. Flyer is done. Victor secured a commitment from Sherwin Williams to donate the paint and paint supplies. Need a letter on Rec letterhead to get the items donated.

Sports Programs

- 5k. Jessica would like to hold it on the first Saturday of October which is the 6th. It did not happen in the spring because the fee schedule was not approved in time. Trying to word where the money will go. Possibly something like “Benefitting the Youth of the Community”. Jessica will work on something for the next meeting. There are some upcoming 5k’s in the area. April 21st at Meadowbreeze and May 20th at Warren Hills.
- Swim Team Bowling fundraiser will be held April 21st. Jessica has secured enough participants for two teams. A coach is needed.
- Soccer – Weed and feed treatments, the first one being done in early spring.
- Field Hockey – nothing to report except that more participants are needed this year. Last year we had 10 and 3 of them were 6th graders who are done with the program.
- Street Hockey – many, many issues. Hockey was kicked out of Memorial gym on Friday February 10th by Superintendent Rozsa. By Monday morning February 13th all was resolved and hockey was allowed to continue their season at Memorial. Hockey’s end of season banquet will be held at Memorial Thursday April 5th at 6pm in the cafeteria. A representative and the mascot from the Devils will be present. The idea of trophies was brought up – NO trophies. Parents will pay towards a pizza party unless donated by local pizzerias. Michael working on getting donations. Michael also brought up that in the past there has always been a parents vs players game. Due to safety, insurance and liability concerns he did not feel it should continue.
Adam Zimmer motioned to cancel the parents vs players game. Tim Shanahan seconded.
Ayes: 6 Nays:0 Motion carried.
- Youth Basketball – Season has ended. Clinic has a few more weeks and going very well. We need to get the first aid kits back from the basketball coaches. Christina will email Bill Smith.
- Karate – We ended last session with 26 and so far session 2 currently has 23 signed up.
- Youth Baseball – Adam suggests we add Dave Hackney or RJ Sherman’s contact information on our website for any little league questions.
- Girls Softball – Jeff stated we had an excellent turnout this year with 61 participants. Have had to turn girls away this year for the first time ever. We have 2 Junior teams, 1 Intermediate, and 1 Senior team. We were only 7 short to have a pony team so we were close to having teams at all levels. Season starts on Saturday April 21st. June 3rd is the All Star game @ Boro Park. 5th & 6th grade teams play at 4pm and 7th & 8th graders play at 6:30pm. Jeff would like to have the two Junior teams play each other under the lights to make their game special since the All Star game is only for the upper levels. He’ll update us on that date. Also North Warren High School Girls Varsity Softball will be playing at Boro Park.
- Adult Softball – preseason meeting on Monday. Adam understands they will be using Washington Twsp fields. Nets would have to be put up on the Route 31 side if they were to ever come back.
- Adult Baseball – will be playing their season in Alpha again for \$250.

- Men's Basketball – Bob Eckel working with Victor to get the league set up again. If there is a program, Bob Eckel will come on as paid director of the program. If there isn't a league this year, that's it.
- Tennis Clinic – starts July 23rd with June 15th as the sign up date.

Website – Changes Needed

- Baseball contact info added.
- 2012 Pool membership form added.

Adjournment

Adam Zimmer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:17pm, seconded by Melissa Hommes.
Ayes: 6 Nays:0 Motion Carried

Adjourn **9:17PM**