

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
July 11th - 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 7:05 p.m.

Flag Salute

Statement of Adequate Notice

- Victor Cioni 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: Jeff Haines, Michael Nachbaur, Adam Zimmer, Victor Cioni, Tim Shanahan(7:10)
- Absent: Jesica Olmos, Melissa Hommes
- Also Present: Christina Howley, Des Fitzgerald, Scott McDonald, Ann Kilduff

Minutes of Prior Meetings

- Adam Zimmer motioned to approve the minutes from the 6/27/12 meeting with no changes. Seconded by Jeff Haines. Ayes: 4 Nays:0 Minutes approved, motion carried.

Audience Participation

Adam Zimmer motioned to open the audience participation portion of the meeting. Seconded by Michael Nachbaur. Motion carried.

Adam Zimmer motioned to close the audience participation portion of the meeting. Seconded by Michael Nachbaur. Motion carried.

Communications

- None.

Recreation Director’s Report

- Vandalism at the pavilion. Jeff Haines saw the individuals who vandalized but the police did not get there in time. John Burd called Victor because he was unable to get in touch with Des, who was out to dinner. Kristine Blanchard told John Dorsch to do what he needed to do to secure the fixture. Kristine told Vic that Des was away. A back up person must be designated while the Recreation Director is out of town.
- Jeff still has questions on the sheets that Des had distributed at the prior meeting in response to Barbara Van Why’s letter regarding the balance of the Recreation Trust account. Jeff and Des will meet to discuss.
- Adam Zimmer asked about what work Sunshine performed. They sprayed Vara Field, inside the pool and along the fences around the pool.

- R.R. embankment. Victor said it looks like Sunshine was paid for the railroad embankment. When Des had been asked at an earlier meeting he stated that Sunshine never did the Railroad embankment because we never received approval from the RR to spray. Des will look at why it was paid and get back to the commission. The railroad also has two dead trees on the embankment that need to be taken down by the railroad. Des will also follow up with them on this and report back to the Commission.
- Adam Zimmer also asked if the wristbands used for daily admission to the pool were enough for this year. Des responded that there were enough for this year and for part of next year as well.

Report from Council Liaison

- Council had commented on why there were so many underground leaks at the pool this year. Scott told them that everything is old.

Old Business

- The boy scouts are not able to do any of the projects that Victor had presented to them so it reverts back to the recreation department.
- Pool closing parameters. Victor said that the parameters set by the three pool managers and the recreation director look fine and will be implemented immediately.

Adam Zimmer motioned to approve the pool closing parameters. Seconded by Tim Shanahan. Ayes: 5
Nays:0 Motion carried.

New Business

- List of open park projects. Des said the floors will be painted in the grandstand bathrooms before soccer starts practicing
- The recreation department dealt with two major leaks that they did not expect when the original list of projects to be completed was done. Jeff would like to know what is getting done. Jeff would like to sit down with Des one day next week to go through what is getting done. Jeff and Des will meet Tuesday at the pool.
- 2013 Capital Projects – Renovations to the baseball/softball grandstand at Boro Park. The fencing around the grandstand needs to be replaced at approximately \$12,000 and the grandstand needs to be scraped and painted for approximately \$14,000 for a total of \$26,000. Victor would like to discuss the option of going to council with this request to fund this as a capital project. Because the total amount would be over the bid threshold as well as prevailing wage, Victor suggested doing only one of the components, and possibly the second the following year (2014). Does the commission think it is a worthy project to do any renovations to the grandstand? We will still move forward with the possibility of the historic preservation but it could take 6 months to 2 years to even hear if we get designated for such a preservation. If we don't do something soon we will have even more deterioration. The dugouts are would be fenced in with a gate to keep vandals out in the evening. If we maintain the existing structure it would entice more organizations to come play there. Boro Park is currently used for girl's softball and soccer. Jeff suggested doing the fencing and having the park workers and volunteers help with the painting and scraping of the parts of the Grandstand that are in really poor condition. It would definitely make a difference in appearance prior to any centennial celebration we will have next June. Tim is not opposed but would like to look harder at the situation since Boro Park is barely used. Mike agrees to move forward but work on the fencing to secure the existing structure first. Adam and Jeff both say yes to move forward to present this project to council. Scott says go ahead and ask for it because if we're going to have a grandstand then we should fix it up so the fencing doesn't create a safety issue. He suggested to go in front of council probably around late September or October to present. Let's do the work but let's get more teams back here to make it worth it. Des suggested the

roof should be taken care of first. Second the brick portions should be sanded to get the paint off to restore the brick. Put up the right kind of netting to attract baseball teams as well.

Motion made and seconded to do the fencing in 2013 if we get Council funding for this capital project (\$12,000). Vote: Ayes 5, Nays 0

Sports Programs

- Swim Team – The parent’s association is selling blab ads in the championship program for \$1. The recreation commission will put an ad in to show their support.
- 5k – Victor has reached out and is helping Jesica secure donations.
- Youth Soccer – The water wheel needs to be tested by the end of the week and the results reported to Victor and Terry Finnegan.
- Field Hockey – only 1 registered so far. If we don’t have more by the end of the month, we may have to close the program so they can play for the township..
- Youth Baseball – Adam got the blueprints for the temporary mound. He needs to price out the materials
- Adult Softball – Possibly a 6 team league run by Darren Wyckoff would play 3 games on Thursdays at Boro Park this fall. They would be charged \$45 per day and \$17 per hour for the lights. If so, soccer would need to move from Boro Park for those Thursdays.
- Adult Baseball – To celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the grandstand, the Neshanic 19th century baseball team would want to play a game at Boro Park wearing their “old time” uniforms. They are a non-profit organization so Adam would like to donate some money to their organization if possible. Their website is www.neshanic.org This is going to take a lot of planning for one person so a subcommittee of Adam Zimmer and Jeff Haines will work together. Victor has discussed this with the Historic Commission and asked Adam and Jeff to work with them to coordinate and sponsor the event.
- Pool – Victor asked why the cluster of remaining garbage cans were still within the pool fence and not placed in the locations for which they were intended. Des responded that they have not had a chance to relocate them yet and he is not certain where they will go. Victor also asked if a set of the garbage cans can be placed in the corner near the pump house so the patrons sitting in that area don’t have to walk so far to dispose of their trash/recycling.
- Teen Pool Party – There were ten the first week and only one the second week. The pool party sign is gone. We will give it one more Friday to see if there’s any more kids that are interested to come and if not we cancel the rest for this season.

Website – Changes Needed

- None

Recap

- Des will check to see why it seems Sunshine was paid for the embankment.
- Des will contact Norfolk Southern regarding the two dead trees.
- Jeff & Des will meet at the pool on Tuesday (7/17) to discuss the open projects list.

- Des – Victor wants the water wheel tested by the end of next week.
- Mike will send something out to last year's field hockey parents to get people to sign up.
- Adam will price out the materials for the portable mound.
- Scott will get the name of the Youth Corp for Victor.

Commission Comments

- Tim asked about the status of the background checks. It is still in the works but something should be presented to the commission soon.

Adjournment

Adam Zimmer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:19pm, seconded by Jeff Haines.
Ayes: 5 Nays:0 Motion Carried

Adjourn **8:19PM**