

**Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
September 12th - 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 7:01 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: Victor Cioni, Melissa Hommes, Michael Nachbaur, Tim Shanahan, Adam Zimmer, and Jeff Haines (7:16pm)
- Also Present: Christina Howley, Scott McDonald, Adam Robinson

Minutes of Prior Meetings

- Melissa Hommes motioned to approve the minutes from the 8/8/12 meeting with no changes. Seconded by Adam Zimmer. Ayes: 4 Nays:0 Abstain: Michael Nachbaur and Tim Shanahan Minutes approved, motion carried.

Executive Session

- Adam Zimmer motioned to go into Executive Session for personnel purposes. Seconded by Tim Shanahan. All in favor, motion carried.
- Adam Zimmer motioned to end Executive Session. Seconded by Michael Nachbaur. All in favor, motion carried.
- Victor Cioni motioned to go back into Executive Session to discuss the candidates. Seconded by Adam Zimmer. All in favor, motion carried.
- Adam Zimmer motioned to end Executive Session. Seconded by Michael Nachbaur. All in favor, motion carried.

Audience Participation

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

Communications

- Thank you letter from the Washington Sharks Swim Team to the Recreation Commission for all their hard work during the Championship Swim Meet on August 4th at the Boro Pool.
- Resignation letter from Christina Howley as Recreation Secretary. Christina will be resigning as of October 1st but will stay until there is a new secretary in place.
- Victor Cioni motioned to accept Christina’s resignation letter. Seconded by Jeff Haines. Motion carried.

- Victor Cioni motioned to accept and file communications. Seconded by Melissa Hommes. Motion carried.

Recreation Director's Report

- None.

Report from Council Liaison

- None.

Report from Secretary

- Christina requested approval for a refund to the Family Guidance Center of Warren County. They paid \$160.00 up front in the beginning of the pool season for members of their School Based Youth Services program at the Middle School. They were unable to come for their last scheduled visit and are due \$44.00. Vote to provide School Based Program a refund of \$44.00. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: Adam Zimmer. Motion carried.
- Terry Finnegan would like to increase the referee fees from \$30 (Division 5 games) and \$40 (Division 4 games) to \$40 (Div 5) and \$50 (Div 4). He said this has been the rate for the past ten years and an increase would bring us in line with other towns in the league. The commission needs more information to make an educated decision in this matter. They would like to see if there is a suggested rate mandated by the league and also what other towns in the area are paying as well.
- At this time (8:19pm) Melissa Hommes excused herself from the meeting.

Old Business

- Recreation Director search – The Commission had two interviews tonight. There will be a special meeting on Monday September 17th at 7:00pm to vote on the candidates.
- Background Check Discussion – the Background Check Ordinance was repealed. Council asked the Recreation Commission to add language to the By Laws stipulating that Rec mandates some level of background checking of all volunteer coaches and assistant coaches. Victor has had much discussion with a company called Protect Youth Sports. Each national background screening service would cost \$7.95 and would begin in effect with our winter 2012 sports such as Karate, Youth Basketball and Street Hockey. The following will be added to the By Laws: **The Recreation Commission mandates that any Borough Sponsored program or any 3rd party utilizing any Borough venue must provide a background check for anyone 18 years or older that is a coach, assistant coach or participates in any way of supervising minors for that event, program or activity. Any 3rd party must submit proof of background check prior to start of their program, no more than 3 years old from time of submission. Any person(s) that is an officiating capacity for any Borough sponsored event, activity or program, as long as the coach/assistant coach is present will be exempt from this provision.** Jeff Haines motioned to use Protect Youth Sports as our background check method. Seconded by Michael Nachbaur. Ayes: 5 Nays:0 Motion carried.

New Business

- Welcome new Commissioner, Adam Robinson. Adam has lived in Washington for the past 10 years. Adam has an extensive recreation background. He has participated in wrestling, played soccer and played baseball. He has experience coaching both baseball and soccer. He played baseball professionally for about 5 years with the Oakland A's and Cleveland Indian's AA & AAA teams. He will be a great asset to the Washington Borough Recreation Commission.

- Fee Schedule changes/additions for 2013 – Victor would like to propose to council the following changes:
 - Pool memberships be the same cost for in town and out of town residents
 - Eliminate the trial membership line item – wasn't very successful
 - Water aerobics – would like to introduce water zumba with possibly a pool member rate and a non pool member rate which would both be variable.
 - Added a line item at the bottom for any day care or child care organization who would like to come to the pool. The child rate would still apply. However, adding that up to 4 chaperones are free.
 - Equipment use fee – variable fee.
 - Add Adult Baseball and Adult Softball with a range of \$15 to \$100.
- Victor will appear before council on behalf of the Commission to defend these changes.
- At this time (8:56pm), Adam Zimmer excused himself from the meeting.
 - Capital Monies requested from Council – Victor will appear before council to ask for funds to complete the following:
 - Replacement of Grandstand Safety Fencing/Baskstop fence as well as dugout fence and gates to prevent loitering and vandalism. Cost \$13,367
 - Repair/Clean and repaint existing pool surface prior to season (Last completed 4 years ago). Cost \$1,203.72
 - 10 new chaise lounge chairs for pool. Cost \$2,000
 - Protect Youth Sports – Background check. Cost \$795
- Total Council Request \$17,365.72 Tim Shanahan motioned to accept and file the 2013 capital request. Seconded by Adam Zimmer. Ayes: 4 Nays:0 Motion carried.

Sports Programs

- 5k – Adam Robinson will take on the 5k liaison responsibility. Race is Saturday, October 13th. We need volunteers.
- Youth Soccer – A lot of complaints about poor communication. Try to improve that for next year.
- Youth Basketball – need to create a separate form for the Little Hoopsters clinic (K-2)
- Girls Softball – Still looking at pitching machines.
- Karate – Need to check with Melissa Hommes and Paul Kilduff as to when session 1 will start this year.
- Pool – The pool is being drained and Dave will start working on patching it once the materials have arrived.
- Tennis Clinic – Expanding next year to 40 kids.

Website – Changes Needed

- Basketball page – remove men's basketball and Lady Streaks camp.
- Floor Hockey page – remove late fee statement.
- We now have 220 friends on Facebook.

Commission Comments

- Tim would like to request to move from active member of the commission to an alternate.
- Victor would like to thank JCP&L for putting two flood lights at the pavilion. One facing the pavilion and one facing the playset.
- Victor would also like a certificate of appreciation sent to Dan Aron for his donation of the lumber. Without it we could not have built the forms to get the concrete decking completed.
- Vic also asked Tim if he was interested in putting together a lacrosse clinic sometime during the course of the year.
- Victor also thanked the DPW for their assistance in adding the final load of playground mulch. Also, thanks to Dave Dickson for his work with the mulch and adding a separator between the sandbox and the mulch.

Recap

- Christina – will get more information from Terry Finnegan regarding the referee fees.
- Christina – will send certificate of appreciation to Dan Aron
- Victor – will send revised wording on background check and revised 2013 Ordinance to Kristine Blanchard

Adjournment

Michael Nachbaur motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:32pm, seconded by Tim Shanahan.
Ayes: 4 Nays:0 Motion Carried

Adjourn **9:32PM**