

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2013 - 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 7:00 p.m.

Opening 7:03 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, Adam Robinson, Adam Zimmer, Joe Pinto, Michael Nachbaur (7:20), Chris Zimmerman. Also present: Richard Thompson, Council Liaison, Melissa Hommes (7:06) and Susan Turner.

Swearing in New Commissioner

- Victor Cioni swore in a new Recreation Commissioner Chris Zimmerman.

Minutes of Prior Meetings

- Adam Zimmer moved to approve the minutes from the 10/9/13 meeting with changes. Seconded by Joe Pinto. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 2. Motion carried. Minutes approved with changes.

Audience Participation

- Victor Cioni moved to open the audience participation portion of the meeting. Seconded by Adam Zimmer. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion carried. Audience participation portion opened.
- Isaac Quelly recapped his Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Project including the Boy Scout requirements and procedures, fund raising and the construction of the tables and benches for the pool. He said the extra pieces of composite material for the table tops will be brought down to the pool to be stored in order to replace damaged pieces in the future. In accordance with Boy Scouts rules he presented a check to the Recreation Department donating the unspent funds he had raised for the project. The check totaled \$1043.71. Isaac stated that the Boy Scout Council had not given the final approval on the project and it was going through a special review process. Both Melissa and Victor said they would gladly write letters to the Boy Scout Council for Isaac. Victor told Isaac we had received many compliments on the tables and benches throughout the season.
- Adam Zimmer moved to close the audience participation portion. Seconded by Joe Pinto. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion carried, audience participation closed.

Communications

- None

Recreation Director’s Report

- In addition to her regular report, Melissa told the commission that this past Friday the fence and a post around the dumpster were damaged by a garbage truck backing into them. Melissa will contact Blue Diamond Disposal.

Report from Council Liaison

- No report.

Report from Secretary

- The family who rented the park pavilion on October 13, 2013 requested a refund. The area was strewn with garbage (some of which was personal in nature and not proper for small children to see) which they cleaned up before their party. A lot of graffiti which they found objectionable was on the posts. They covered what they could with party decorations. All Commissioners present approved the refund.

Old Business

- House Decorating Contest – Adam Zimmer said five (5) \$50.00 value gift baskets are being made. He will divide the borough into 5 zones and assign one to each commissioner. Each commissioner will choose one house in their zone as a winner. All winners will be chosen by Dec. 9th. They will be invited to the December 11, 2013 Recreation meeting where they will receive the baskets. Melissa will look into preparing a flyer and Victor will send information to Morris to post on the Borough website.

New Business

- Pool Winterization – The work in the pump house is completed. The main pool is being worked on and will be finished shortly.
- AED machine – the machine has been removed from the pool house and will be brought to the Emergency Squad for storage.
- Coaches' room – After this weekend the lock code on the door can be changed.
- Budget Items – Melissa reviewed several items she will include on the budget to be presented to Borough Council.
 - Repair lighting at the park for security purposes.
 - Replace paper towel holders in the pool bathrooms with air dryers. This will require wiring.
 - Plumbing repairs at the pool and grandstand. Because the walls are cinderblock they will need to have areas “knocked out”. Once the repairs are completed panels will be installed to allow easier access.
 - Weed and Feed treatments at the park and field.
 - Periwinkle plantings and mulch at the park.

Victor also mentioned Life Guard and Pool Manager salaries which Melissa will discuss with the Borough Manager, and outdoor speakers at the Grandstand. Wiring could be run to allow a permanent hookup for the speakers to the amplifier.

All commissioners approved the items Melissa had presented. No additional items put forward by the commissioners.

Sports Programs

- Swim Team – (Joe Pinto) – A check will be cut for the 5K Donation collected for the Swim Team. Joe said the Swim Team would like the advertising signs. Melissa will work on the layout. Joe asked for confirmation that Andrew Ward had been paid all the monies he was due.
- 5k – (Adam Robinson) – Adam stated that there was a big 5K in Easton on the same day as ours which took some runners away from our event. We should know in December what their date will be for 2014. He is looking at corporate sponsors for next year. We should try to get more activities for children to enjoy before and after the race and perhaps have the kids run/fun walk earlier. Adam said that Councilwoman Gleba would address Recreation paying for 2 policemen to cover the event at a future council meeting.
- Youth Soccer – (Victor) – This year was successful. The online survey has been sent out and about ½ of the parents have responded. Most were happy with the program and about 1/3 were new to the program. Victor sent the results to Adam, Melissa and Terry Finnegan. They will be meeting next Thursday to discuss making the program better for next year and getting kids back into it. The meeting will include expectations from WBYS regarding equipment or money. Melissa will find out if WBYS is doing a winter clinic fundraiser. Adam Zimmer said if WBYS does not want to make a monetary donation perhaps the grandstand snackbar could be opened during soccer. WBYS would supply the food. Victor also said he would like to have 1 coach for each team with an F license certification. The course costs

\$45.00. Adam Robinson suggested a coaches' clinic and having a coordinator at each level. He also suggested we work with United Soccer to have them send any of the children cut from their travel team back to the Recreation Program. Victor said he will reach out to the Warren Hills Athletic Director to ask the Middle School soccer coaches to do the same.

- Street Hockey – (Tim Shanahan) – Inventory needs to be done. Mike said all the equipment is at Memorial School. The NJ Devils will donate new equipment. Practice starts in January. Chris Zimmerman can be the liaison. Adam Zimmer offered to help.
- Youth Basketball – (Mike Nachbaur) – More than 30 registrations have been submitted for Lil Hoopsters but Mike doesn't know if he can get the extra gym time. The Middle School and High School gyms have their own teams and Mike doesn't want to encroach upon their time or other towns' time. Victor suggested getting the practice schedules and see if there is room for Lil Hoopsters. More coaches would also be needed. Coaches are also needed for the 7/8 team. 2 to 3 Composite balls need to be ordered for each of the older teams; 27.5 for grades 3/4 and 28.5 for 5/6. The teams will use the practice balls in their games. The 27.0 balls should be phased out. Mike also asked that we get a quote for 10 new jerseys at each size. Melissa got the numbers earlier this season but didn't know how many were needed. Melissa will have the background checks for coaches done tomorrow.
- Youth Baseball – (Adam Robinson) – There is a new president of the Warren Hills Little League Association who wants to combine the towns/leagues. T-ball teams would remain in their individual towns. WHLL will handle field maintenance. Adam Zimmer recommended we suggest to WHLL that each team could play one Saturday night game under the lights at Borough Park. A mound would be required.
- Girls Softball – (Joe Pinto) – The winter clinic is scheduled to start the first Saturday in December 2:00-3:30 at Memorial. He is waiting for a final response from the school. The clinic will start with pitchers and catchers and in January will include all players. Once a girl signs up for softball she can go to the clinics. Joe will be contacting the High School Softball coach to ask the High School players to help and show their skills. Some of the old uniforms have not been returned. Susan will email the parents to inform them of the clinic and ask for the uniforms to be returned.
- Karate – (TBD) – Victor – Session 1 was successful. Session 2 will begin Dec 6th.
- Adult Softball – (Adam Zimmer) – Adam spoke with the local director. Dec 1 new league rules and fees are to be implemented. Once the director gets the information to Adam, Adam will present it to council.
- Adult Baseball – (Adam Robinson) –No report
- Pool – (Victor) – We had a successful and profitable year even though August's weather was bad. Victor has received good feedback.
- Tennis Clinic – (Victor) – No report
- Lacrosse Clinic – (Tim Shanahan) –No report.
- Aqua Zumba – (Victor Cioni) – No report.

Commission Comments

- Richard Thompson- no comments
- Joe Pinto – no comments
- Adam Zimmer – no comments
- Adam Robinson – We should have one color and symbol for all the Borough Rec Teams. Rich Thompson suggested a logo contest among the children at Taylor Street and Memorial Schools. The PTO could possibly help. Mr. Rosza will be contacted.
- Michael Nachbaur – no comments
- Tim Shanahan – no comments
- Victor – no comments

Website

- We now have 366 friends.

Recap

Adjournment

- Victor Cioni moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Adam Zimmer seconded. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Adjourn **8:30 PM**