

**Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey**  
**Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**April 9, 2014 - 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 7:05p.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: Victor Cioni, Danni Steiner, Adam Zimmer, Chris Zimmerman, Adam Robinson
- Also Present: Ethel Conry, Michael Terminelli
- Absent: Joe Pinto, Tim Shanahan, Susan Turner

**Minutes of Prior Meetings**

- Adam Zimmer moved to approve the minutes from the 3/12/14 meeting with no changes. Seconded by Danni Steiner. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2. Minutes approved, motion carried.

**Audience Participation**

- Victor Cioni moved to open the audience participation portion. Seconded by Adam Zimmer. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried.
- No Audience participation
- Victor Cioni moved to close the audience participation portion. Seconded by Adam Zimmer. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried

**Communications**

- None

**Recreation Director’s Report**

- Michael submitted his Directors report prior to the meeting. No commissioners had any questions or comments on it.
- The budget request to council for funding for 2014 items was approved at the last Council meeting..
- Michael will be giving Council a presentation on the new Splash Pad proposal.

**Report from Council Liaison**

- None

**Report from Secretary**

- N/A

**Old Business**

- None

## New Business

- Splash Pad Engineering proposal: Victor has proposed using a portion of the moneys donated to recreation via the developers agreement with Ryan Homes (Rt. 31 Washington) to design and construct a zero grade Splash pad that will be adjacent to the Baby/Toddler pool within the existing fence line. This is pending Council overall approval and Recreation receiving transfer of said funds. The splash pad presentation is available at Borough Hall. The splash pad gives Washington Borough recreation an added use of the pool facility and allows greater handicap and elderly access than does our current main pool. We would be the only area pool that has a full splash pad set up which will increase our membership and day trippers.
- Addition to New Business – In his absence Joe Pinto asked that the following questions/concerns be mentioned: “ First, I am not sure where the pad is going? Is there enough room for this?”
- The quote price does not include excavating, engineering, assembly or unforeseen expenses like the guy rips out the pool return lines with an excavator. The way I read the quote is its just for the parts nothing else. I think if we get into this the cost will out weigh the benefit of this project. I think we should table this till all the costs are calculated and then we can make a better assessment of this project.
- Over the last few years the pool has not been without its problems. Even the problems with just turning on the water this week .We should fix the wrongs and make it safe before we tackle a new project.”

Answers to the Commissioner’s questions:

The splash pad is going next to the baby pool but still inside the baby pool fence. It is currently an unused area that is a hill. Yes, there is plenty of room for this as it was measured out to be about 60 ft long.

- Correct, the engineering quote price covers writing the bid spec and oversight/engineering/designs of the entire project as laid out in the proposal.
- The quote for construction will be separate (excavation, retaining wall, concrete pad, etc.). Where the excavator is digging there are no pipes so no worries about ripping pipes out.
- Again, remember we set the total price of this project as 'not to exceed \$125-130K' which includes *everything*. This was laid out to both the engineering firm and the splash pad equipment vendor. We control that with the RFP.
- The benefit to this is an increased membership as well as day trippers and handicapped kids and elderly that will have access issues in our main pool. Another benefit is that none of the other competing pools have this type of feature.
- Lastly, there isn't a pool anywhere that doesn't have it's yearly problems. At some point in the next 5 years we will likely need to resurface the pool and finally get a pool cover which will help us better protect it. Pipe leaks are a yearly occurrence especially when you are dealing with an older pool.
  - Adam Zimmer made a motion to proceed with the splash pad engineering costs not to exceed \$23,000, contingent upon Council approval of the project and transfer of the funds. Seconded by Danni Steiner: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion passed.

## Sports Programs

- Easter Egg Hunt – Danni has received a good amount of donations for this year’s event and we will continue to solicit more. We will again break out the kids in age groups but this year we will also stagger the start times based on age brackets to better help parents that have multiple children that would be in different areas of the park. The Friday prior to the event Victor offered his house for everyone to meet and stuff the eggs.
- Swim Team – Joe was absent but Swim Team sign ups have begun. 5k – (Adam Robinson) – No report although there are a few local races going on this Spring and Adam is contacting the organizers.
- Youth Soccer – (Victor) – No report

- Field Hockey – Although this program has been cancelled in the past Michael received a call from a Borough resident that wishes to coach and perhaps have a free clinic to generate interest. Michael will follow up and keep the commission updated. We would like to see this come back.
- Street Hockey – Chris Zimmerman: Hockey season is over and survey results are now being compiled from parents. Chris still has to complete the Hockey inventory of equipment. Chris reached out to Bethlehem township and they will help promote as they do not have a program. Also, Chris is looking to start a summer hockey program and possible travel hockey in the event we have the numbers to support it. We also need to probably find a new venue to play and practices because if enrollment next year grows as expected we will not have enough room at Memorial and Taylor street schools. Victor has contacted Warren Technical school regarding renting of gym space for next season. Chris and Michael need to complete their facilities use form and submit for review. Other locations are being looked at as well.
- Youth Basketball – No report
- Youth Baseball – T-Ball teams have been set and practices should begin the week of April 20<sup>th</sup>. Barricades will be put up at Vara field to prevent people from walking on it as we are having the field treated. .
- Girls Softball – Joe Pinto absent however Michael stated that Boro field has already been prepped. We are still waiting to have some minor water leaks fixed so that we can turn on the water. Should be completed by 4/12.
- Karate – Danni Steiner: No updates. Flyers were distributed to Borough and area schools.
- Adult Softball – Adam Zimmer has created a new Softball Facebook page ‘2014 USSSA Washington Mens Softball League’ page and already has over 70 ‘likes’. We now have 6 teams confirmed with 2 additional pending. Looking to begin season June 15<sup>th</sup> through the End of August with playoffs the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> weeks of September. Games would be at night. Adam is also looking for any Washington Business that wishes to sponsor a team.
- Pool – (Victor) – Pool is in the process of being drained. Much of the caulking that was applied just last year needs to be replaced. The caulk we used was submersible 50 year caulk so we are not sure why it failed. Michael to research better caulking. Michael is also in the process of contacting lifeguards and staff to see who is coming back this year.
- Tennis Clinic –(Victor) – no report

### **Website – Changes Needed**

We now have 477 friends on Facebook.

### **Commission Comments**

- Ethyl Conry - She stated she is very excited about the Splash Pad addition
- Danni – Also excited about the splash pad
- Adam R – nothing
- Adam Z – very much in favor of the new Splash pad.
- Michael – nothing
- Chris Z.- Nothing
- Victor – Victor asked Ethyl to please ask the Borough Manager if she can have DPW sweep the parking lot of Borough Park prior to the Easter Egg hunt. Victor also reached out to a Green acres contact regarding application for a 2014 trails grant for Railroad avenue park multi purpose trail. He has not yet heard back.

- Victor also informed the Commission that WHLL (Warren Hills Little League) is interested in providing an AED for use at Steinhardt and Vara fields if Recreation pays for half (\$350). Commission felt this would be a very good thing to have. Adam Robinson stated he would only be in favor of approving this expenditure IF WHLL agreed to allow the Borough use it for other sports played at the field as well (Soccer) and also required that at least one coach on any team utilizing the device be properly certified in its use. Motion made by Adam R and seconded by Victor Cioni: Ayes 5, Nays 0. Motion passed.

### **Recap**

- Michael needs to set up a meeting with school superintendent Lance Rozsa to introduce himself.
- Michael will also reach out to Terry Finnegan from Soccer on AED use and requirement that at least one coach per team must be properly certified in it's use.

### **Adjournment**

- Victor moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. Adam Zimmer seconded. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried

**Adjourn 8:00 PM**