

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2014 - 7:15 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 7:15 p.m.

Opening 7:12 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, Joe Pinto, Danni-lyn Steiner, Chris Zimmerman. Also present: Councilwoman Ethel Conry and Susan Turner.

Audience Participation

- Victor Cioni moved to open the audience participation portion of the meeting. Seconded by Adam Robinson. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried. Audience participation portion opened.
- Victor Cioni moved to close the audience participation portion. Seconded by Adam Robinson. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried, audience participation closed.

Minutes of Prior Meetings

- Joe Pinto noted that an email detailing his concerns and questions about the Splash Pad should have been discussed and/or included in the minutes for the 4/9/14 meeting as he requested. The email will be included in the official minutes.
- Ethel Conry noted her name was spelled incorrectly in the Roll Call section.
- Victor Cioni moved to approve the minutes from the 4/9/14 meeting with changes. Seconded by Adam Robinson. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2. Motion carried. Minutes approved with changes.

New Business:

- None

Recreation Director’s Report

- After reviewing the pictures of the pool damage, Danni asked if the damage is common wear and tear. Victor said they have seen similar damage every year. Mike noted that the damage was the result of water coming from behind the pool walls and there are 6-7 similar areas that need patching. It was determined the caulk used last year was not to be used with chlorinated water so it did not function properly and has to be replaced. All the culk and old cement have been removed and the new patching is expected to start next week. After a light coat of paint Mike wants to start filling the pool May 19th. Mike recommended filling the pool only half way for winterization.

Recreation Secretary’s Report

- One Swim Team parent requested a refund of the registration fee. Victor moved to approve the registration fee refund. Seconded by Joe Pinto. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2. Motion carried. Refunds approved.

- Joe Pinto said two Girls Softball parents asked for refunds of the registration fee. Victor moved to approve the registration fee refunds. Seconded by Joe Pinto. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2. Motion carried. Refunds approved. Joe will email the names to Susan.

Report from Council Liaison

- Ethel said a council member has again raised the issue of a possible leak at a water meter/pit at Vara field. Victor said that this has been brought up in the past and the Borough Manager has been made aware that the leak must be coming from a water pit that was installed when Centex sodded the field and it was not a Recreation issue. According to Ethel the Manager said at the council meeting that American Water had been asked to look at it.

Sports Programs

- Swim Team – (Joe Pinto) – We have 33 registrants so far. Joe said an Open House will probably take place again. Another flyer will be sent out to the schools. Joe will check with Christine Thompson about a new flyer or changes to the current one.
- 5k – (Adam Robinson) – No report
- Youth Soccer – (Victor Cioni) – We used to have clinics in the summer at Boro Park run by USA Sports. Last year they did not have a good response and did not hold the clinic. Vic believes it may have been because of timing and/or the cost. They are working on having a clinic the end of July. We might take the registrations at the Rec office. A sub-account for the soccer revenue fund would need to be created. The office can send a flyer to the school if USA Sports provides it.
- Street Hockey – (Chris Zimmerman) – Chris & Mike discussed a summer program. Boards/padding would be needed in front of the basketball poles in addition to having them wrapped. Vic asked if the NJ Devils could provide them but Chris said he already asked and they only provide sticks and pucks/balls. Chris will look into the cost of the boards. Vic suggested putting something on the Facebook page to gauge interest in a summer program. We could start with a small number of teams and a short season. Chris will get the inventory and post-season recap done and sent to Susan and Mike.
- Youth Basketball – No report.
- Youth Baseball – (Adam Robinson) – The fields are being maintained and lined better than in the beginning of the season. Vic wondered if we should refund the maintenance fee for April but Adam said since this is the first year Recreation has done the maintenance and it is now better a refund is not necessary. Adam said the gate and fence at Vara field need repairs. The poles by the gate have spread and the gate won't close and a long wire in the top of the fence is loose and should be cut or replaced.
- Girls Softball – (Joe Pinto) – The program is going well. New catchers' equipment has been received. Joe wants coaches shirts for the new coaches and would like them by the tournament on May 17. They will be Navy blue t-shirts. At Boro Park Joe and Mike fixed all the bases, installed new pitching cleats for the different levels, replaced home plate and found another pitching rubber. Joe said we will definitely need new uniforms for the Junior team(s) next year. He has a lot of Adult size uniforms that are too big for the players. He asked if we should implement a uniform charge to encourage parents to return uniforms at the end of the season. The trip to see the Somerset Patriots will be on July 11th. The tickets are \$8 each. Should the trip be opened up to any family involved in a Rec program? Joe asked about using the Taylor Street School field for practices/games. Vic said that is a school issue. The field is in bad shape and he doesn't think the school will do anything to improve or maintain it. The field at Memorial School is edged and maintained by Adam R and WYB. Vic recommended using the Middle School fields. Paperwork would need to be completed and schedules worked out. Joe said he may have to hire umpires to call some games. Parents are not volunteering and he has had no response to his request for girls from the High School team to help. Adam R asked about the Sewer Plant field. Vic said before that field can be used it must be fenced. When originally approached with the request, the Borough Council denied the funding for a fence. This could be revisited with Council. In answer to his question Joe was told yes, Ryan Homes money could be used for the initial set up of a Rec field at the Sewer plant.

- Karate – (Danni-lyn) – Session 4 began Friday (May 2). Danni asked about pictures being taken. Susan told her she has the Consent to Use Child’s Image forms for each registration on file in the office.
- Easter Egg Hunt – (Danni-lyn Steiner) – The Easter Egg Hunt was a success. There was more candy and eggs this year than before. Danny-lyn said she has received good feedback and parents were pleased with the staggered start times for different ages. She recommended plastic bags be on site next year for children who don’t have a bag or basket.
- Adult Softball – (Adam Zimmer) – Vic reported for Adam that there are 6 teams and coaches are meeting Tuesday.
- Adult Baseball – (Adam Robinson) – No report.
- Pool – (Victor) – Information was covered in the Director’s Report. We’re ahead of schedule compared to previous years. Want to have the pool filled by the first week of June.
- Tennis Clinic – (Victor) – Vic has spoken with Ralph Fiore and set the date for the week of July 21, 9am -11 am. It will be held the week after the school’s summer program finishes. The flyer is on the website and Facebook and Vic will send it to Susan to be distributed to the schools.
- Lacrosse Clinic – (Tim Shanahan) –No report.
- Aqua Zumba – (Victor Cioni) – Mike has spoken with the instructor as well as a regular Zumba instructor and a Yoga instructor. More will be done after the pool has been filled.

Commission Comments

- Joe Pinto – Joe received tremendous praise about the Borough Park field at last night’s game.
- Adam Zimmer – no comments (absent)
- Adam Robinson – no comments.
- Tim Shanahan – no comments (absent)
- Victor Cioni– Mike is doing a great job.
- Chris Zimmerman- no comments
- Danni-lyn Steiner- no comments
- Ethel Conry – May is Older Americans Month. There will be a Safety Seminar 6:30, May 22nd.

Website

- We have 462 friends on Facebook.

Recap

- Joe’s concerns/questions will be added to the minutes from the April 9 meeting.
- Joe will check with Christine Thompson regarding a new Sharks Swim Team flyer.
- Chris Zimmerman will inventory the Street Hockey equipment and submit his post-season recap.
- Vic will send the Tennis clinic flyer to Susan

Adjournment

- Victor Cioni moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 pm. Seconded by Danni-lyn Steiner. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Adjourn **8:22 PM**