

**Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2015 - 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 7:04 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, Brian Collum, Tom Iadevaia, Joe Pinto, Chris Zimmerman (8:03). Also present: Jeff Greene and Susan Turner.

Audience Participation

- Vic moved to open the audience participation portion of the meeting. Seconded by Brian Collum. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion carried. Audience participation portion opened.
- Vic moved to close the audience participation portion. Seconded by Brian. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion carried. Audience participation closed.

Minutes of Prior Meetings

- Vic moved to approve the minutes from the 1/7/15 meeting. Seconded by Tom Iadevaia. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 4. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

New Business:

- Memorial School Scoreboard – Jeff spoke with Mr. Rosza – The board is proprietary so only the one vendor can work on/repair it. Mr. Rosza wants Recreation to pay \$1000 for the new module. Vic reminded the commission that Recreation had paid half of the cost to repair the board 3 years ago. He feels the school should pay half and Rec can be responsible for half but we should reach out to Washington Township to pay a portion of our half since they also use the gym. Jeff said that he will reach out to baseball teams and the Township. James Sawyer will talk with the other basketball league members at their meeting next week. Vic moved to approve spending up to \$500 for the repair of the Memorial School scoreboard with \$250 coming from each basketball and hockey. Seconded by Brian Collum. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 4. Jeff will draft a letter to Mr. Rosza, copying the School Board, stating our agreement to pay up to \$500 for the repair of the scoreboard.

Audience Participation

- Vic moved to re-open Audience Participation to allow Beth Uporsky, representative of Warren County Girls Softball League, to address the Commission. Seconded by Brian. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Audience reopened.
- Beth had received an email from Jeff with several questions about the League, fees, services, etc. She chose to address the commission so that everyone had the information. Beth explained that the League has not raised any fees in 6 or 7 years. The fees provide each town with league membership, ASA

membership, an ASA coordinator's services for game scheduling, playoffs and umpires, the league setup of the All Star Game and tournaments, and balls for the tournaments and playoffs and trophies. In order to keep spending in check she recommended looking into the Morris County Coop for uniforms and equipment.

- Vic moved to close the Audience Participation. Seconded by Brian Collum. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Audience Participation closed.

Swearing In of New Commissioner

- Vic swore in new Recreation Commissioner Heather Jorgensen.

New Business:

- Security cameras – Vic has looked into getting security cameras installed at the Borough Park and new technology has brought the cost down. 6 new wireless High Definition cameras with night vision and their installation will cost around \$3400. He and a Police Department representative will ask the Rotary Club at their March 2nd meeting to donate the entire amount. An \$80 monthly monitoring fee would be paid by the Borough. The wireless feed is monitored by the Police Department through an app and motion alerts. Last year the vandalism to the pavilion took 3 days to repair so it cost Recreation 24 manhours plus \$550 supplies. A camera in the pavilion would be encased in a box. Others in the park would be placed up high on poles. Vic asked the commission what it would be comfortable paying if the Rotary Club does not cover the total cost. Brian suggested we revisit this after the Rotary Club meeting.
- Civil War Project – Vic went to the Historical Commission with a request to clean up and paint the cannon at the park. He researched having the USS Maine monument moved from the pool area next to the cannon and put on top of a concrete pedestal in which the WWI and WWII plaques from borough hall would be set. Recreation would not be part of the project. All the commissioners agreed that the project would benefit the town and the park.
- Pool commercial – Vic reviewed the Comcast package we can renew– 200 ads per month for 3 months on major Comcast channels shown throughout the day would cost \$600. If we want to upgrade the existing commercial with info about the Splash Pad it will cost an additional \$125. In past years we have run a full page ad in the Washington Messenger highlighting the pool and all the summer Recreation programs. The ad costs \$316 per month and will run in May and June.
- Easter Egg Hunt – Vic recommended holding the Easter Egg Hunt the Saturday after Easter. If we do the week before it is still March and the weather will probably be an issue. Commissioners agreed on April 11 date, raindate April 12 at 2pm. Heather will work on donations for candy, coupons and prizes. We already have a donation of 1000 filled eggs and Enzo's will donate coupons for free pizza slices and pies.
- Ordinance – dogs on the fields – the memo was distributed and will be voted on in the March meeting.

Old Business:

- Splash Pad – All the equipment has been ordered. Work will begin the end of February.
- Baseball netting – Jeff has received 5 bids. The cost of the entire job is so high it will have to go out to public bid. The cost of the new poles and netting would have to be paid for by the Borough since they are requiring it. If the Council defers we will use the equipment we already have.

Recreation Director's Report

- There were no questions or concerns regarding Jeff's report.

Council Liaison's Report

- No report.

Recreation Secretary's Report

- Hockey refund request – After registering for hockey a boy hurt his arm. The doctor said he cannot use it for 3 or 4 more weeks. The father requested a refund. Vic moved to refund the hockey registration fee. Seconded by Brian. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion passed. Refund will be processed.

Sports Programs

- Easter Egg Hunt — (Heather Jorgensen) – See New Business.

- 5k – (Adam Robinson) – No report.
- Youth Soccer – (Victor Cioni) – No report.
- Street Hockey – (Chris Zimmerman) – We have 2 new goals at Taylor St. and 25 new sticks thanks to the NJ Devils. Chris left a note in the gym that these are for Rec only. The older children (3rd-8th) don't have enough coaches so they play "pick-up" games with no set teams. If a "call" is made the infraction is reviewed and the proper way shown and practiced. The kids are enjoying it and there is not as much aggression as last year. A NJ Devils player is coming next Thursday to practice with all the children. Chris has some children from Oxford and Hackettstown but most are from the Borough. He heard that the Pohatcong program charges the same amount but gives the players equipment to use during the season.
- Youth Basketball – (Tom Iadavaia) – We are mid-season. The games are going well but there have been issues with children in the Memorial gym "lobby" and hall area.
- Lil' Hoopsters – (Brian Collum) – Vic sent out the follow up survey and has received responses from just over half.
- Youth Baseball – (Adam Robinson) – Tom raised the issue of the portable mound at the last WH Little League meeting. There is confusion over who wants a portable mound and who would pay for it. Since this came about from a request of Adam Zimmer's and not Rec or Little League it will be tabled for now. The clay for Steinhardt field will be bought through the co-op. Rec will continue to receive field fees from WHLL for prepping the field. Opening day is set for April 18th. Jeff said the field will be ready.
- Adult Baseball – (Adam Robinson) – No report.
- Girls Softball – (Tom Iadevaia) – We have about 15 girls registered. Tom knows of 2 more definites. Tom will send emails out to parents from other sports' programs. Hackettstown has 4 girls who want to play on our Ponytail team. If we have only 3 teams we can spread the practices out at the park and Vara field. We will not have to use the Middle School or Memorial. Tom said Adam R. told him the Memorial School field cannot be used unless we get clay.
- Adult Softball – (Adam Zimmer) – No report (Absent)
- Karate – There are 20 children registered for Session 3.
- Swim Team – (Joe Pinto) –Parent meeting will be May 7 at Borough Hall. Sign ups are March 1 thru May 15. The pool will be open the first week of June. Jeff will be meeting with the High School swim team coach to get kids for the Sharks and lifeguard positions. Joe asked that we reimburse the league fees again this year. We will re-do the contract. Andrew will be the Swim Team coach and he is looking into an assistant. Joe would like the on line registration opened.
- Pool – (Victor) –No report.
- Aqua Zumba – (Victor Cioni) – No report.
- Tennis Clinic – (Victor) – No report.
- Lacrosse Clinic –No report.
- Adult Zumba – (Victor) – We have a new program by Carly Sopko who does the Aqua Zumba classes at the pool. They are using the fire hall in Borough Hall Wednesday and Friday evenings. Vic will talk to the Fire Department about reducing the room rate for future sessions. We have 17 people registered. Vic set up a deal with Home Instead in which the \$10 senior discount is paid by them.

Commissioner Comments

- Joe Pinto –No comments.
- Adam Zimmer –Absent.
- Adam Robinson –Absent.
- Victor Cioni–No comments.
- Chris Zimmerman- No comments.
- Brian Collum –No comments.
- John Ruela – Absent.

- Tom Iadevaia – No comments.

Website

- We have 622 Facebook friends.

Recap

- Vic will send Tom the end of year financial comparisons he presents to Council.
- Jeff will draft a letter to Mr. Rosza and the Board of Education regarding Recreation paying up to \$500 towards the repair of the Memorial School gym scoreboard.
- Vic will send Tom the email addresses from the soccer roster.
- Vic will talk with the Fire Department about reducing the fire hall rental rate for future Adult Zumba sessions.

Adjournment

- Vic Cioni moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 pm. Seconded by Brian Collum. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Adjourn **9:01 PM**