

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2016 - 7:00 PM

The Meeting of the Recreation Commission of the Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey was held in the Fire Hall of Borough Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Opening 7:00 p.m.

Flag Salute

Statement of Adequate Notice

- Adam Zimmer 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: Rick Feldman (7:07), Tom Iadevaia (7:20), Joe Pinto, John Ruela (left meeting at 9:10), Terry Thomas, Adam Zimmer and Chris Zimmerman (7:02). Also present: Corey Kozimor, Recreation Director and Susan Turner, Recreation Secretary.

Audience Participation

- Adam Zimmer moved to open the audience participation portion of the meeting. Seconded by Joe Pinto. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion passed. Audience participation portion opened.
- Ellen Garzon, a Sharks Swim team parent from Oxford, NJ, heard the Swim Team may be dismantled. Adam explained that the installation of the pump was delayed and has caused the opening of the pool to be delayed. This, in turn, caused a delay in the start of swim team practice. The pump has been installed and is running and the pool is on schedule to be opened this Saturday. Ellen said she never received Swim Team information from the school and she would be happy to help distribute flyers for any program in the future. She encouraged the commission to use Facebook to request volunteer help for all programs and events.
- James Sawyer, Beethoven Ave, Washington is interested in becoming an Alternate Commissioner. He has run the Basketball program for the last 2 years, he is Vice President of the Soccer Association and worked with Terry Finnegan to run the soccer program last year. He has completed the online volunteer form. He would like to get a 2 day, Saturday and Sunday summer basketball clinic going at the park but would also like an indoor site available. Mansfield has a similar program, there are lots of travel basketball players on the regular season teams and the parents are interested in it. Rick asked that they present to us what they want to do. He remarked that as an unorganized event the parents and children have access to the courts at any time.
- Adam moved to close the audience participation portion. Seconded by Terry. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0. Motion passed. Audience participation closed.

Minutes of Prior Meetings

- In the Minutes of the May 11, 2016 meeting in The Statement of Adequate Notice Adam Zimmer’s name should be replaced with Terry Thomas. Adam moved to approve the minutes from the 5/11/16 meeting with the change. Seconded by Chris Zimmerman. Ayes:6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent:2 . Motion passed. Minutes approved with change.

New Business:

- Swim Team – The Sharks have been using the Belvidere Pool for practice. They have paid a lifeguard \$10 per hour/ 2 hours per practice for 4 practices so far. They also have the pool reserved next week. Joe will submit the final bill for reimbursement. Rick moved to reimburse the Sharks Swim Team for the Belvidere Pool Rental costs for practices. Seconded by Adam Zimmer. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2. Motion passed.
- The commissioners discussed a partial reimbursement of the registration fee because the pool has been unavailable and parents have had to drive to Belvidere. Rick moved to reimburse \$10.00 per participant whose registration is received prior to June 16. Seconded by Terry Thomas. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 1 Absent: 1. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- Swim Lesson Liaison – Adam Zimmer volunteered to act as Liaison for the Swim Lesson program.
- Online Store – Terry distributed Recreation Commission shirts to commissioners which are to be worn at public Recreation events. Susan has received 2 checks totaling \$114.00 from Abilities for the Recreation portion of the proceeds from water bottle and magnet sales.
- Washington KidCare – Washington Kid Care requested reduced pool admission rates for 20-25 children 2 times a week. Terry is not clear on whether that is the number of all children or that is just the NORWESCAP children. Rec can donate passes to KidCare but, due to the fee schedule, cannot reduce the admission rate. A copy of the fee schedule was distributed. Rick said if the minimum fee on the fee schedule for all programs is set at \$0.00 the commission can charge a lower rate in similar situations. If the commission approves the \$0 fee it would go to council. Council would read the change, issue an ordinance and then pass the ordinance. This process takes at least 2 Council meetings to complete. Rick moved to change the Recreation Fee Schedule so all program minimums read \$0.00 and to request Borough Council issue an ordinance to amend the Recreation Fee Schedule. Seconded by Chris. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1. Motion passed.
- Pavilion repairs – Ethel will be sending an email to all commissioners with information about the repairs. A resident has rented the pavilion this weekend but is concerned there is still no electricity. After discussion Terry Thomas said he will donate his generator for the duration of her party. Corey will pick it up, set it up and return it. The resident will provide her own outdoor extension cord.

Recreation Director's Report

- Corey has been sending out daily reports; See attached.
- Both Corey and Adam had unsatisfactory experiences with Ray Palmer and Associates regarding the new pump, including the original order time line being ignored, phone calls not returned, incorrect information, delaying scheduled appointments, and being told we're "at the bottom of the list".
- The new pump was installed and running on Monday.
- The baby pool and splash pad are ready to go.
- Corey asked John to confirm there is a Variable Frequency Drive on the pump. John asked if the pump moving the proper amount of water. Susan will send Adam a copy of the original quote for the pump.
- The second Park maintenance position is available again. Susan has left messages for a previous applicant but hasn't heard from him. The position will be advertised and applicants interviewed.
- Terry asked if there will be anything special planned for the opening weekend. Adam asked if a local radio station could broadcast from there, possibly for future events. Susan will check with stations later this summer.
- Rick mentioned the first aid kit in the lifeguard room doesn't appear fully stocked. Susan will be going to the pool Thursday and Friday to double check the lifeguard room, front desk and managers' office and stock up where needed.
- Rick said he asked the Borough Manager to have the DPW trim the hill along Route 31 since the Park Maintenance has been understaffed.

Old Business:

- Pavilion Repair – During the Recreation Director’s report a letter from the resident renting the pavilion this weekend was hand delivered to the Chairperson. The letter was read aloud by the Chairperson. A copy is attached.

Council Liaison’s Report

- No report.

Sports Programs

- Easter Egg Hunt — No report.
- 5k – (commission) – Adam wants to hold the race in town. He will need a copy of the route. Sponsors are listed on shared Google.doc. Adam will contact the police department to find out everything that needs to be done. He wants to have a military veteran serve as an honorary race starter.
- Youth Soccer – (Tom Iadevaia) – Registration will be opened June 20. Susan will send Tom the registration form, last year’s roster and contact info for Terry Finnegan and James Sawyer.
- Street Hockey – (Chris Zimmerman) –Chris said there is interest for a high school age program. In July or August Adam and Chris will put together a flyer for the area high schools. Gym space could be a problem. Corey met with the head of the Board of Education who is working with all sending districts to divide up the athletic facilities evenly. We might be able to use the auxiliary gym for street hockey. Corey will request use minimum 2 times a week. Chris asked if he can use the new hockey nets for pick up games at the basketball courts this summer. Ok as long as he is there. Chris has contacted the NJ Devils to new sticks for next season.
- Youth Basketball – (Sean Farrington) – No report.
- Lil’ Hoopsters – (Terry Thomas) –Terry is working on a new game plan for next January.
- Youth Baseball – (Tom Iadevaia) – No report.
- Girls Softball – (Tom Iadevaia) – The All Star Game is Sunday. Celestine’s Catering will be there selling food. Tom asked if there are any objections to having a second food truck there. No objections. Terry will set up the sound system that day. The pitching mound will need to be changed in between games. Tom forgot to ask for certificates earlier. Can they be printed by Saturday when the girls are having a picnic at the park? With all the work getting the pool open Susan will not have time to create and print them by then. Chris asked if we could give each player a day pass to the pool for Saturday. Terry moved to donate up to 27 pool day passes for the intermediate and senior Girls Softball players for their picnic at the pool Saturday, June 11, 2016. Seconded by Chris. Ayes: 7 Nays:0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1. Motion passed.
- Adult Softball – (Adam Zimmer) – There will not be a Men’s Softball League this year. 3 of the teams could not get either enough money or enough players. Adam is considering a Fall league, possibly co-ed. They’d have to work with soccer and the soccer clinic for field availability. We charge considerably less than Hackettstown yet they hold onto the teams. Adam will try to get Readington to come to us. Rick asked if we can structure something to attract teams away from Hackettstown. We’d have to develop something now to present next year.
- Karate – (John Ruela) - No report.
- Swim Team – (Joe Pinto) – Susan will write up vouchers for the partial refunds and get them to Joe. Terry will post on Facebook that registration is open until June 16. Susan will print flyers and forms and bring them to the pool. Once the practices at Belvidere are finished Adam wants to write a letter to Belvidere Pool thanking them for their help. Adam moved to have a Thank you letter to Belvidere Pool drafted for approval. Seconded by Terry. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion passed. After the letter is approved it will be printed on Commission letterhead and mailed and Terry will post it on Facebook.

- Pool – (Rick Feldman) – Rick stated that over the last few years there has been a lot of turnover with Directors and Commissioners and Park Maintenance staff we don't have anyone who has strong experience with pools. He wants to look into "complete care" companies that provide all pool services. He wants to contact Belvidere, Lopatcong and Hackettstown pools and find out how they handle all their pool services and needs.
- Tennis Clinic – (Joe Pinto) –The Tennis coach wants to hold the clinic over 2 weeks, one for younger children, second week for older ones. Joe is waiting to hear about reserving the courts. Joe will email Terry the info to post on Facebook.
- Zumba – Carly sent Terry a new flyer for Facebook.

Commissioner Comments

- Sean Farrington–Absent.
- Rick Feldman –Rick moved to open a discussion about the keeping the Boro Park fences unlocked so the public can use the field. Seconded by Adam. Rick would like to see the fields open for people to use especially in the summer when they are there with their families. They started being locked last year because of vandalism. Adam said the fences would need to stay locked after the field has been lined and prepped for a game. Terry said it would be good to get bigger and better "rules" signs. Tom recalled that the commission had voted on new signs last year that the Borough was to purchase and install. Adam will contact Ethel for information on them. Corey noted that the gate at Steinhardt would need to be chained open. Rick moved to keep all Boro Park ballfield fences unlocked on days no games are scheduled. Seconded by Adam. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2. Motion passed.
- Tom Iadevaia –Tom thanked Corey for his hard work. He asked if anything was done regarding Michael Scott's request for a summer basketball clinic. Terry said he left him a message but hadn't heard back. H
- Joe Pinto – No comments
- John Ruela – Absent
- Terry Thomas – Terry asked which commissioners will be at the pool opening this Saturday. Adam will try to be there.
- Adam Zimmer – No comments
- Chris Zimmerman – No comments

Website

- We have 865 Facebook friends.

Adjournment

- Rick moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 pm. Seconded by Chris. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0. Motion passed.
Adjourn **9:25 PM**