

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2016 - 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 7:08 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: Sean Farrington, Joe Pinto, James Sawyer, Adam Zimmer. Also present: Ethel Conry, Council Liaison, 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: 4 Nays: 0. Motion passed. Audience participation portion opened.
- No Audience present. Adam moved to close the audience participation portion. Seconded by Joe. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion passed. Audience participation closed.

Minutes of Prior Meetings

- Joe moved to approve the minutes from the 11/9/16 meeting. Seconded by James Sawyer. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 3. Motion passed. Minutes approved.

New Business:

- Fee Ordinance/ Fee Schedule- The commission would like to be able to provide low or no cost fees specifically for the pool daily rates so that they can support local day care centers’ low income patrons. Could a charitable program be created with a zero dollar minimum? Ethel advised against a zero dollar minimum and recommended a \$3.00 minimum. The commission can vote to donate passes on a case by case basis if the day care provides supporting documents. Corey will discuss this with the Borough Manager and possibly the Borough attorney so wording for any program is correct. Corey asked if the lighting fee we charge at the Boro Park ballfield should be increased. He will check with Paula Drake for up to date electricity costs. Susan suggested each commissioner review the current program costs and bring suggestions for increases to the January meeting. Changes may have to be approved by Borough Council. Susan will check the Swim Lesson rates offered at Hackettstown and Belvidere Pools.
- Xander Moran – The Moran Family suffered the loss of their 3 year old son this past weekend. Their oldest child has been involved in basketball for many years. James asked if the commission can make any donations to the family to support them. Gifts cards were suggested. Corey will ask Natasha the best way to enter Purchase Orders for this. Sean asked if they had a pool membership last year. We could offer passes or a membership. Adam Zimmer moved to approve the purchase of 3 \$50 Visa or Mastercard gift cards, one for each of the Moran children, and the card activation fees, for holiday items. Seconded by James Sawyer. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion passed.

Joe Pinto moved to refund the basketball registration fee paid for the oldest child. Seconded by Adam. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion passed.

Sean Farrington moved to donate a 2017 Season Family Pool Membership to the Moran family. Seconded by Adam. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion passed.

Susan will print out a letter or certificate for the Family Pool Membership. James or Terry will deliver the items to the family.

Old Business:

- Financial Review –Financial reports for the month of November were distributed. Adam asked the commissioners to review them. Any questions can be directed to Adam who will re-direct them to Natasha or Susan.

Recreation Director's Report

- Pool Tarp – The corners of the tarp are at risk of tearing. Corey wants to purchase “air pillows” to go under the tarp next year which will alleviate some of the standing water that collects. Corey will get prices and include them in the budget request.
- The camera antennas are exposed and Corey wants something over them to protect against vandalism. It cannot be metal which could interfere with the camera reception. Ethel recommended lucite lock boxes which can have a spot cut out to accommodate the antennas.
- Corey wants to get Lifeguard certification. This will allow him to be fully educated on the rules and responsibilities of the lifeguards and he can fill in if there is a need. He will discuss with the Manager having the Borough cover the cost.
- Corey spoke with Beth Uporsky who said Softball league fees will be going up. The Pony team fee will be \$50, Junior team fee \$100 and Senior and Intermediate team fee \$300. The commission will consider raising Softball registration fees when the fee schedule is discussed in January.

Council Liaison's Report

- Ethel has no official report but wished to express her pleasure working with the commission. She does not know who will be the new liaison. She reminded commissioners about Rice Laws and that issues with the Director must go through the Manager. She also reminded Corey to submit the budget information as soon as possible.

Recreation Secretary's Report

- No report.

Sports Programs

- Easter Egg Hunt — No report.
- 5k – (commission) –No Report.
- Youth Soccer – (James Sawyer) – Steve Deming will be the NWJSL rep. James said we need to set a solid registration deadline and a uniform hand out date. There were many issues with both this past season.
- Street Hockey – (Adam Zimmer) – We have only 6-8 participants so far. Last year numbers were low too. Fliers have been sent to all area schools and put on the Facebook page. Adam wants minimum 2 teams at each school with 6-8 on each team. He will wait until after the Jan 6 registration deadline when he sees the final number registered to decide how to proceed. Chris' interest in a summer program was mentioned.
- Youth Basketball – (James Sawyer/Sean Farrington) – The changes implemented by Warren Hills are expensive and very trying. 5/6 and 7/8 games have always been at the Middle and High schools. They used to charge \$50 per gym for the season. Now they want \$45 minimum for each night just at the High school. The Township doesn't have their own gym. They will pay over \$2000 for the season. They charge more for registration and have the funds to cover the costs this season. Warren Hills also said we cannot use our own scoreboard because it's not a console. James has talked with the Township about purchasing a console scorekeeper.
- Lil' Hoopsters – (Terry Thomas) –

- Youth Baseball – () – Adam said he has not received a return email from Adam Robinson. He will get the League President’s email.
- Girls Softball – () – No report.
- Adult (Mens) Softball – (Adam Zimmer) – There is a meeting in January. He plans to approach groups in Hackettstown, Phillipsburg and Readington areas.
- Karate – (John Ruela) – No report.
- Swim Team – (Joe Pinto) –The vendor fair did not get a good turnout. Joe thinks because of Post Office employees and a bus trip and most of the parking spaces were filled people did not stop in. About 20 vendors participated.
- Pool – (Rick Feldman) – No report.
- Tennis Clinic – (Joe Pinto) – No report.
- Zumba – No report.

Commissioner Comments

- Sean Farrington– He has been contacted by a substance abuse prevention agency. He will share the details at a later date. He is working with Rutgers University to bring Youth Basketball participants to Rutgers to play on their court. We’ll miss having Ethel work with the commission.
- Rick Feldman – Absent.
- Joe Pinto – Thanked Ethel for her time working with the Rec Commission. He wants to be reappointed in at the January meeting.
- John Ruela –Absent.
- Terry Thomas – Absent
- James Sawyer – Thanked Ethel for her time working with the Rec commission. He wants to remain an alternate commissioner. (Susan will email info to Ann Kilduff and Mayor-elect David Higgins)
- Adam Zimmer –

Website

- Adam said there have been a lot of new postings on the Facebook page.

Executive Session (If Necessary)

- James moved to go into Executive Session. Seconded by Adam. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion passed.
- Adam moved to close Executive Session. Seconded by Joe. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion passed.

Adjournment

- Adam moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 pm. Seconded by James. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion passed.
Adjourn **9:03 PM**