

**Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2018 - 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 7:05 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, Rick Feldman, Joe Pinto, James Sawyer (entered 7:44 pm), Adam Zimmer. Also present: Gary Masenior, 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 Absent: 2, Abstain: 0. Motion passed. Audience participation portion opened. No audience members present.
- Adam moved to close the audience participation portion. Seconded by Rick Feldman. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 2 Abstain: 0. Motion passed. Audience participation closed.

Minutes of Prior Meetings

- Rick Feldman moved to accept the 1/24/18 minutes. Seconded by Joe Pinto. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Absent: 2, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.

New Business:

- Accept resignation of Terry Thomas. Adam Zimmer moved to accept the resignation of Terry Thomas from the positions Recreation Commissioner and Recreation Commission Chairperson. Seconded by Rick Feldman. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Absent: 2, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- Little League/Tball sponsor signs/shared payment for ballfield clay and portajohn for Steinhardt/Vara fields - Gary stated he received an email from Adam Robinson who wanted to attend the meeting but could not. Adam had several comments about Steinhardt field: New clay is needed. Weeding needs to be done. Fences around the dugouts need repair and should be extended one panel on each end. Mowing in the spring needs to be done more frequently. The clay needs deep dragging. They plan to rebuild the mound and get new bases. Gary is getting quotes from area landscaping companies. Rick asked that Chris Cannavo’s Jan 2 email to Terry Thomas be read into the minutes. Adam read the email as follows: “**From:** Christopher Cannavo <cannavo30@yahoo.com>

Date: January 2, 2018 at 1:33:31 PM EST

To: Terry Thomas <thomast0601@yahoo.com>

Subject: Clay & Sponsor Banners Hi Terry, Happy New Year! I hope you and your family well and adjusting back to the school / work routine. Two things...First, I found out that the clay mixture we got for the Oxford field in October was from Winsor Soil and they charged us \$1087.50 for 25 tons. Secondly, I think the easiest solution is for Adam Robinson and WHYBA splitting the cost of clay and potty’s while keeping 100% of sponsor money. However, if Rich advocates for the Rec Commission to gett a cut from sponsor banners, and the majority of the commission agrees, than I humbly suggest the

Rec Commission solicit sponsors independent of WHYBA and the Raptors. Between the Boro Park, Steinhardt and Vera fields, sponsor signs could be a lucrative endeavor. To be completely candid, WHYBA can sell sponsor banners in Oxford, Meadowbreeze, Mansfield and Franklin at 100% profit. So if the rec commission decides to get a cut, WHYBA would be less motivated to sell banners on Steinhardt field. Please don't take that as a threat, I'm just being honest. Thanks Terry, I look forward to getting the season squared away soon,-Chris" Discussion followed concerning sponsor signs on the fence, fees charged, services provided and what area towns may charge and provide. Gary or Susan will check Green Acres regulations about sponsor signs. Rick asked Gary to check with the area Rec Departments to determine what they charge and what services are provided. Susan asked if the field fees, plus half the cost of ballfield clay plus the portajohn fees received now would be more than could potentially be received from a percentage of their sponsor signs? Adam asked Gary to respond to Adam Robinson telling him we are researching information and will get back to him after our next meeting. Gary asked about the Borough having its own Little League team. Adam suggested looking into American Legion Major and Minor teams.

- Assign Liaisons – Girls Softball – Adam volunteered to be the contact. Gary is working as the liaison now and will continue through the season. Karate, Facebook, Lil Hoopsters – no volunteers.
- Fee Schedule Changes – Gary said Basketball and Soccer should be increased to \$70 or \$75. James Sawyer and Bill Lyons had recommended \$75 for each program based on gym/field fees and many other new costs. (James Sawyer entered the meeting at 7:44) James reviewed the extra Basketball costs including gym fees, security fees, scoreboard/scoring module, and uniforms. James moved to raise the Youth Basketball Program registration fee to \$75 while retaining the 3rd child half price and 4th child free policy. Seconded by Sean Farrington. Discussion – Gary is meeting with the National Guard next week to discuss renting the armory. He also suggested asking Good Shepherd Academy to barter Pool Daycare visits for gym time at their facility. James stated Franklin allowed our teams to use their gym several times this season but 2 incidents occurred which may cause them to deny us use in the future. Vote – Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.

Soccer fees – Gary stated the program brought in \$6300 revenue and had \$5970 in expenses. James said this was without field fees for the Middle School field or any new uniform purchases, both of which should be expected next season. We did not use the Middle School field because a travel team had booked it for the season. We made due with the soccer uniforms but usually we need additional ones. The league has also talked additional fees. James moved to raise the soccer registration fee to \$75. Seconded by Rick. Discussion – Rick is concerned the program will cost too much for local families. James said costs all around are increasing. \$75 is near the bottom of what the area towns charge. Joe asked if the Warren Hills Middle and High School offer a shared service contract wherein Recreation programs from their sending districts are not charged as much as third party groups. They do not. Mayor David Higgins (audience) suggested we investigate fundraising/sponsorships or a booster club. He will check to see if the commission is allowed to raise money in this fashion. Vote – Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.

Swim Team Pool Membership requirement – Rick wants the Pool Membership requirement for swim team members removed. The swim team numbers have been low and that extra cost has prevented some from signing up, especially those who have a pool. It was stated years ago that this was a league requirement but Joe Pinto said it is not. Susan stated she found reference in old paperwork that it was a requirement of the other league teams. Joe said not all of the other towns have it. The change would require amending the ordinance which has to go to council and requires two readings so it would take about 30 days. The council may not accept it. Rick suggested an extra fee for non-Boro residents. Dave

Higgins recommended reviewing all the costs involved, lifeguards, etc. before deciding on a fee. Adam Zimmer moved to amend the program fee ordinance to remove the pool membership requirement for swim team registration and to set the registration fee at \$55 for Boro residents, \$75 for non-Boro residents. Seconded by James. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 1. Motion passed.

Swim Lesson height requirement – Gary asked that the 42” minimum height requirement be removed from the program fee ordinance, especially since this would not allow any participants in the Mommy and Me lessons. Rick moved to amend the program fee ordinance to remove the 42” height requirement for swimming lessons. Seconded by Adam. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 1. Motion passed.

- Lil Hoopsters Ref/coach voucher – Gary stated Terry Thomas wants to pay Michael Scott, the coach who ran Lil Hoopsters, \$400 for his services. Susan stated Michael came in to the Rec Office with a voucher for \$400 signed by Terry. None of the commissioners remember Terry asking or stating that he be paid. Gary said the parent feedback re: Michael have been very positive. Susan recalled Gary’s statement from an earlier meeting that if a service is performed, if a voucher is submitted it must be paid. Mayor Higgins agreed. James moved to pay the \$400 Lil Hoopsters coach voucher. Seconded by Sean. Ayes: 4, Nays: 1, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- Memorial School Gym rental – James thanked Susan and Gary for putting through the paperwork. The session this past Saturday went well. Susan asked James to clarify if the rental for March 3 is for practice or for games. He said it is practice time for the boys’ teams going into the playoffs because they do not have any other practice time available before the playoffs begin Monday, March 5. Susan explained to commissioners the cost was \$35 per hour plus \$35 for an extra hour for the custodian to set up and clean up. Rick moved to approve payment for the Memorial School gym on March 3, 2018. Seconded by Adam. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- Baseball Opportunity – Gary met with Bob Folks, a representative from the American Baseball Collegiate Confederacy, Allentown Revolutions team, who is looking for a new game field and is interested in the Borough Park Stadium. The stadium they use now is to be demolished. Gary will advise if he gets any additional information.

Old Business:

- Pool Passes – Gary had requested 1000 day passes for the pool to be used for marketing. 500 was recommended at the last meeting. Dave Higgins recommended color coding them for use on different weeks so everyone doesn’t come in the same week. Adam moved to allow 400 color coded day pool passes be given to Gary, 200 to be used in each of the first two full weeks the pool is open. Seconded by Sean. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- Treasurer Position defined – Rick moved to table discussion of a Treasurer Position. Seconded by Adam. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- Election of Treasurer liaison – Adam moved to table the election of a Treasurer liaison. Seconded by Rick. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- Budget Approval – Gary wants the budget approved so he can submit it to the Manager and CFO. Adding 7 days to the pool season would add \$7000.00 to expenses. Gary wants approval to use money from the Capital Improvement funds. What constitutes a Capital Improvement item was discussed, including minimum prices and 5 year life span. Dave Higgins said it has to be done through a Council spending ordinance. Rick asked about approaching council to provide funds for non-capital improvement items, particularly safety issues that are outside of our normal spending. Dave said since the Borough owns the property and buildings the Borough is responsible for maintaining it. Adam moved to table further discussion on Budget Approval. Seconded by Rick. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- Rick moved to table the Swim Team Contract. Seconded by Adam. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed

- Rick moved to table Policy wording re: payment of vouchers/invoices. Seconded by James. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- Policy wording requiring signed registration form- Susan stated that a hurdle for this is that people won't be familiar with the policy on the registration form because they wouldn't have completed a form before practicing. Adam moved to table further action. Seconded by Joe. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- Adam moved to table Local Family Assistance. Seconded by James. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- Election of Recreation Commission Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. Adam moved to nominate Rick Feldman for Chairperson. Seconded by Joe. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 1. Motion passed. Adam moved to nominate Joe Pinto for Vice Chairperson. Seconded by James. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 1. Motion passed.

Recreation Director's Report

- Gary distributed his report and an agenda from

Council Liaison's Report

- No report.

Recreation Secretary's Report

- No report.

Sports Programs

- Easter Egg Hunt — (all commissioners) - No report.
- 5k – (commission) –No report.
- Youth Soccer – (James Sawyer) – No report.
- Street Hockey – (Adam Zimmer) – No report
- Youth Basketball – (James Sawyer/Bill Lyons) –No report.
- Lil' Hoopsters – () –No report.
- Youth Baseball – (Adam Zimmer) - No report.
- Girls Softball – () –No report.
- Adult (Men's) Softball – (Adam Zimmer) – No report.
- Karate – () – No report.
- Swim Team – (Rick Feldman) – No report.
- Swim Lessons (Rick Feldman) – No report.
- Pool – (Rick Feldman) – No report.
- Tennis Clinic – (Joe Pinto) – No report.
- Zumba – No report.

Executive Session (If Necessary)

- No Executive Session held.

Facebook page

- No report.

Recap

- No Recap given.

Commissioner Comments

- Sean Farrington– No comments.
- Rick Feldman – No comments
- Bill Lyons – No comments.
- Joe Pinto – No comments.
- Terry Thomas – No comments.

- James Sawyer – No comments
- Adam Zimmer – No comments.

Adjournment

- Rick moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm. Seconded by James. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
Adjourn **9:45 PM**