

**Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey**  
**Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**December 19, 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 7:03 p.m.**

**Flag Salute**

**Statement of Adequate Notice**

- Chairperson Rick Feldman 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: Dan Almind, Rick Feldman, Mark Garrison, Craig Geller, Joe Pinto, 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 Dan Almind. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0 Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed. Audience participation portion opened.  
No Audience members present. Adam Zimmer moved to close the audience participation portion. Seconded by Dan Almind. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0. Motion passed. Audience participation closed.

**Minutes of Prior Meetings**

- Adam Zimmer moved to accept the minutes of the November 18, 2018 meeting. Seconded by Mark Garrison. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.

**New Business:**

- Swim Team – Rick said we are committed to having a Swim Team. He asked Gary to begin looking for a coach. Gary has reached out to two people already. Rick said we will need help from all commissioners to get it back up and running. Gary asked who will run it? Rick said the Commission would but we’re not there yet. It would not be the Parents Association. Adam asked if the coach will be paid more this year. Rick thinks so, we need to pay people more money to get people interested. Gary has budgeted \$1800 for the head coach, \$1500 for the Assistant coach, and \$1366 for a lifeguard.
- Sponsor Stickers – Gary purchased 100 window cling “Proud Supporter of Washington Borough Recreation” stickers for businesses to display.

**Old Business:**

- Youth Basketball – Dan said 3 Borough girls showed up at the first “merged” 7/8 grade girls’ practice with the Township and were told the team had been closed. Gary pointed out that the registration had been closed for several weeks and extra time had been allowed for the 7/8 girls to sign up. At some point the team has to be closed.
- Lil Hoopsters Instructor – Craig emailed last year’s coach/instructor but hasn’t heard back. If he does not volunteer to do it Craig will have to run it himself and enlist parent volunteers.
- Holiday House Decorating Contest – The commissioners chose 90 Youmans Ave, 35 W. Marble St., 153 Sunrise Terrace and 91 Carlton Ave. While visiting businesses for potential program sponsorships Mark got gift certificates from The Washington Diner, Celestine’s Catering, Juanito’s and Empanada Mamacita’s which will be put in the baskets. A “Proud Supporter” window cling will also be included. Susan or Gary will contact each homeowner and invite them to the Jan 9, 2019 meeting to receive their basket. They will also request permission from each homeowner to post a picture of their house, their name and address on the Rec Facebook page.
- Budget Discussion – Gary distributed several spread sheets including three that show proposed Pool Salary budgets using the current pay scale, the mandated \$.25 per hour minimum wage increase and the \$13 per hour lifeguard salary. If lifeguards are paid up \$11 per hour to start with an extra \$.25 per hour for each year they worked for Recreation, maxing out at \$13 per hour, they will receive up to a \$3.57 per hour increase, a raise of approximately 38.5 %. This adds \$17,169 to last year’s budget. Gary recommends paying a maximum flat \$11 per

hour lifeguard rate, with no \$.25 per year increment, which is a \$1.57 per hour, approximately 17% increase versus the \$13 per hour rate. Rick noted the Preliminary Budget Gary distributed shows the state mandated \$.25 per hour minimum. Rick directed Gary to present the budget proposals at the next meeting based on the maximum \$13 per hour lifeguard rate, with no objection from the commissioners.

The Preliminary budget includes all revenue and expenses to date. Rec will basically break even this year. There are some funds that need to be moved into and out of different accounts on paper to properly reflect profit/loss for those specific programs/accounts. Gary recommends we request \$89,000 from council, the same amount we received last year, plus the commission approved increase to Gary and Susan's salaries. The preliminary numbers indicate this year we brought in \$95,216 in revenue and the total expenses were \$178,181 to date. Gary asked if the commission will vote on the budget tonight. Adam said the numbers aren't finalized and cannot be voted on. Gary asked if there are any other programs to be added i.e. Facebook boosts, BrewFest, Community Days, Railroad Avenue property, because he never received numbers from the commissioners. Rick told the commissioners to get all the numbers to Gary. Rick said he needs solid numbers to present to council along with reasons we need what we are asking for. Adam would like money in the hockey budget earmarked to purchase discounted Devils Hockey tickets, if they are available, and offer them to hockey participants. After discussion the request was dropped.

- Railroad Ave Property – No new information.
- Youth Baseball – The Warren Hill Youth Baseball League held their Reorganization meeting last week. They will hold an organization meeting in the next few weeks to vote for officers and begin advertising. Dunne has the charter for Little League and Cal Ripkin League. Either Dan Dunne or RJ Sherman may be the new president. Gary said RJ told him the league will be run the same as last year. Gary said Dan Dunne is the new President of the Washington Township Youth Association.
- Spring 5K – Gary read his list of pros and cons. Discussion followed. Some commissioners said it is a good way to raise funds but it is difficult to get volunteers. Gary and Rick said that by working with Warren Hills Project Graduation we could get many volunteers from the school. It was stated that asking local businesses for donations again could “cause the well to run dry” but if some of the proceeds go to Project Graduation we could expand our sponsorship requests into all of the sending districts. Concern was raised that the date Gary gave was only 3 months away and there wouldn't be enough time to coordinate everything. The weather in early April could also be a problem. It was suggested the race be moved to the end of April/beginning of May. Gary will look into what other races are in the area at those times. Rick would like the race to start and finish in the park and he feels having food trucks or other attractions for spectators will be a benefit. Rick asked Gary to determine a route and look into road closing permits for Route 57. Rick has no objection to part of the route being in Washington Township.
- Men's Softball – No new information.
- Cameras – No new information.

### **Recreation Director's Report**

- There are 28 signed up for Street Hockey, 85 in youth Basketball and 32 in Lil' Hoopsters..

### **Communications**

- No communications.

### **Council Liaison's Report**

- No report - Absent

### **Recreation Secretary's Report**

- No report.

### **Sports Programs**

- Easter Egg Hunt — (all commissioners) – No report
- 5k – (commission) – No report. Spring 5K discussed in Old Business.
- Youth Soccer – (James Sawyer) –No report.
- Street Hockey – (Adam Zimmer) – Discussed in Old Business – Budget and Director's Report.
- Youth Basketball – (James Sawyer) – Discussed in the Director's Report
- Lil' Hoopsters – (Craig Geller) – Discussed in Old Business and the Director's Report.
- Youth Baseball – (Adam Zimmer) – No report.
- Girls Softball – (Mark Garrison) – No report
- Adult (Men's) Softball – (Adam Zimmer) – Discussed in Old Business.
- 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**

- No Executive Session.

### **Facebook page**

- No report

### **Recap**

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### **Comments**

- Dan Almind – No comments
- Mark Garrison –
- Craig Geller – No comments
- Rick Feldman – Rick spoke with Mayor Higgins regarding the appointment of a new commissioner. The Mayor appoints the person and the Borough Council approves the appointment. The Recreation Commission, according to the bylaws and statutes, has no say in who is or is not appointed. Mark will email the volunteer and Rick will also contact him.
- Joe Pinto – Joe resigned his position as Recreation Commissioner effective at the end of the meeting.
- Adam Zimmer – No comments
- Gary Masenior – No comments

### **Adjournment**

- Adam Zimmer moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 pm. Seconded by Dan Almind. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0 Absent: 1, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.  
Adjourn **9:12 PM**