

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2019 - 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 7:07 p.m.

Statement of Adequate Notice

- Susan Turner 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.”

Selection of Temporary Alternate Chairperson

- Susan Turner indicated a Temporary Alternate Chairperson must be nominated and confirmed to run the meeting in the absence of the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and any previous Chairperson or Vice Chairperson. Dan Almind volunteered. James Sawyer moved to nominate Dan Almind as Temporary Alternate Chairperson for this meeting. Seconded by Craig Geller. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 3. Motion passed. Dan opened the meeting with the Flag Salute.

Flag Salute

Roll Call

- Present: Dan Almind, Mark Garrison, Craig Geller, and James Sawyer. Also present: Gary Masenior, Recreation Director and Susan Turner, Recreation Secretary.

Audience Participation

- Mark Garrison moved to open the audience participation portion of the meeting. Seconded by Craig Geller. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Absent: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- No audience member wished to address the commission.
- James Sawyer moved to close the audience participation portion. Seconded by Craig Geller. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Absent: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passed. Audience participation closed.

Minutes of Prior Meeting

- Craig Geller moved to accept the minutes of the February 13, 2019 meeting. Seconded by Mark Garrison. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 3. Motion passed.

New Business:

- Memorial School Gym – James wants to rent the gym at Memorial School Saturday, March 2 for Basketball games. Because of bad weather this season they have games to make up before the championships begin next week. The total cost for 4 hours of gym time and 1 hour of janitorial set up and clean up time is \$175.00. Mark Garrison moved to approve renting the Memorial School gym for basketball games on Saturday, March 2, 2019. Seconded by Craig Geller.
- Dan Almind said he was contacted by a local DJ interested in performing at the pool. Gary said to give the DJ his contact information.

Old Business:

- Budget – no new information
- Swim Team – no report. Swim Team liaisons Rick Feldman and Sean Farrington are absent.
- Spring 5K – No new information. Gary is waiting to hear from Project Graduation.
- Railroad Avenue Property & Cleanup – James is working on a flier. Susan confirmed gloves and garbage bags can be paid for out of the Clean Communities Grant. However, most of the funds go toward the Borough’s street sweeper so we should look at alternate ways to pay for water and possibly food. Susan will check if the Grant will cover the cost of a port-a-john for the weekend.
- Men’s Softball – No report – absent.
- BrewFest – Craig has no new information as he is waiting to hear back from the State Attorney General. He will need to submit paperwork/information to prove we are non-profit.
- StarGuard Lifeguard Training Program – Dan asked for a motion to re-open discussion of the StarGuard Lifeguard Training Program based on David Higgins’ statements to and discussion with the commission at the Feb 13, 2019 meeting. Mark Garrison moved to re-open discussion of the StarGuard Lifeguard Training Program. Seconded by James Sawyer. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 3. Motion passed. Dan asked if any

commissioners wanted Dave to review the information discussed at the Feb 13, 2019 meeting. No one requested a review. Gary stated the course was offered in Cranford 3 weeks ago. Unless they create another class there will be none in this area. However, Cranford or StarGuard can send a certified trainer to our facility to conduct the lifeguard instructor training program and the lifeguard certification program for a flat fee. He is waiting to get the fee amount. With this option we may be able to train a larger number of lifeguard training instructors. If StarGuard sends a certified trainer we could possibly open it up to other towns who want StarGuard lifeguard instructors too, as mentioned by the Risk Management President. James Sawyer moved to proceed with the StarGuard Lifeguard Certification Instructor Training. Seconded by Mark Garrison. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 3. Motion passed.

For the March 13, 2019 meeting Dan asked Gary to have the fee Cranford and/or StarGuard would charge to come to our facility to provide training. Gary said he will also have new pool salary numbers because of different state regulations. Gary stated if we pay the StarGuard lifeguard certification recipients \$1 less than those who paid for their certification, we could recoup the cost of covering their certification costs.

Recreation Director's Report

- Gary attended the New Jersey Recreation & Parks convention. While there he attended a full day Aquatics course and several multiple hour courses. Last week he attended the WHYBA meeting. They have 159 children registered. They will use Steinhardt field and the Borough Park field for Majors. They are providing 360 ft of fence cap for the Taylor Street field and a pallet of chalk for field lining. The Raptors would like to play games on the Borough Park field Sundays. They are paying half the cost of an outdoor portable mound. The clay for Steinhardt, Borough Park and Taylor Street has already been ordered. Gary expects to cut the field at Taylor Street within the next month. The games at the Borough Park will be scheduled around the Girls Softball games. Dan asked if getting JCP&L to run electricity at Steinhardt field has moved forward at all. Gary is meeting with JCP&L soon.
- Borough Council passed the resolution to raise the non-resident family pool membership fee to \$300 and change the definition of resident to include all residents of the Warren Hills Regional School District.
- Gary read the breakdown of expenses paid out of the Capital Improvements (COAH) fund. (All amounts are approximate). The account opened in July 2010 with \$230,000. \$20,000 was paid for splash pad consulting fees. \$35,000 was paid for splash pad material. \$97,850 was paid for constructing the splash pad. \$17,375 purchased the pool cover. \$14,699 purchased the outfield netting at the Borough Park ball field. \$10,615 purchased a new pool pump and motor. \$1,800 was paid to paint the Grandstand. \$15,000 was moved into the Recreation Trust fund last year to cover multiple purchases/projects. The remaining balance is \$17,661.
- Gary would like the commission to give him the authority to distribute free pool passes like he did last year. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Recreation Secretary's Report

- Susan reminded commissioners to visit local businesses and request donations for the Easter Egg Hunt. Dan asked if we should put a free pool pass in some of the eggs. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Sports Programs

- Easter Egg Hunt — (all commissioners) – Discussed in the Secretary's report.
- 5k – (commission) – Spring 5K – Gary is waiting to hear back from Project Graduation. He said a car show is set up for May 11 which could draw more people to the entire event.
- Youth Soccer – (James Sawyer) – No report.
- Street Hockey – (Adam Zimmer) – Gary is waiting to hear from the NJ Devils with a date for the mascot and a player to come to a practice.
- Youth Basketball – (James Sawyer) - The program continues another week. We will not be able to use the High School gym after Friday. James may use the Franklin gym for the Boys' finals. We have the Memorial school gym through mid-March. James has heard that Washington Township is looking at buying the Good Shepherd buildings and using them for a Community Center, Day Care and Gym. Perhaps we can start up an Adult Basketball program. Gary and Dave Higgins said our Men's Outdoor Basketball program at the park used to be big. The court is playable but would need resurfacing in the near future. People used to sit on the hill and watch.
- Lil' Hoopsters – (Craig Geller) – No report.
- Youth Baseball – (Adam Zimmer) – No report. (absent)
- Girls Softball – (Mark Garrison) – The League meeting is Sunday. We will have 2 Pony teams and 1 team at each other level. The Association will now pay the umpires using a system very much like soccer. We will pay all anticipated umpire fees to the League based on a League invoice. Each coach and umpire will complete a game voucher, send it to the league who will pay the umpire. At the end of the season any unused funds will be returned along with an accounting of what was paid out. Mark will hold a coaches' meeting either the end of next week or beginning of the following week. Weather permitting, he will start practices April 1st or earlier if possible. There

will be a Memorial Softball Tournament in Hackettstown for the founder of the Warren Hills Softball Association. Dan suggested setting up a coaches vs coaches game, maybe after the AllStar game.

- Adult (Men's) Softball – (Adam Zimmer) – No report. (absent)
- Karate – (James Sawyer) – No report.
- Swim Team – (Rick Feldman/ Sean Farrington) – No report. (absent)
- Swim Lessons (Rick Feldman) – No report. (absent)
- Pool – (Rick Feldman) – No report. (absent)
- Tennis Clinic – (James Sawyer) – No report.
- Zumba – No report.

Executive Session (If Necessary)

- No Executive Session.

Facebook page

- No report.

Recap

- Susan Turner will check if rental of a Port-a-john is allowed under Clean Community Grant guidelines.
- Susan will contact the Middle School again for softball blackout dates.

Commissioner Comments

- Dan Almind – No comments.
- Sean Farrington– No comments.
- Rick Feldman – No comments
- Mark Garrison– No comments.
- Craig Geller– No comments.
- James Sawyer – No comments.
- Adam Zimmer – No comments.

Adjournment

- Mark Garrison moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 pm. Seconded by James Sawyer. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0. Motion passed. Adjourn **8:22 PM**