

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
June 27, 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 7:01 p.m.

Statement of Adequate Notice

- James Sawyer 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.”

Flag Salute

Roll Call

- Present: Craig Coughlan, Craig Geller, Spencer Nicholson, James Sawyer, and Christine Rodriguez. Also present: Susan Turner, Recreation Secretary.

- In the absence of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson a commissioner must be elected to run the meeting. Craig Geller moved to nominate James Sawyer. Seconded by Craig Coughlan. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.

Audience Participation:

- Craig Geller moved to open audience participation. Seconded by Spencer Nicholson. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.
- No audience members present.
- Craig Geller moved to close audience participation. Seconded by Spencer Nicholson. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.

Minutes of Prior meeting:

- The minutes of the prior meeting have not been completely transcribed and are not available.

New Business:

- Commission Voting Procedures – Susan Turner explained that Gary had put this on the agenda because he wanted to clarify when alternates voted. This will be discussed at a future meeting when all commissioners are in attendance.
- Soap Box Races – Susan Turner explained that Dan Almind had put this on the agenda under the belief that Washington Celebrates America would no longer be holding the races and the Rec Commission may be able to. However, the races were only cancelled this year because of the road conditions on Broad Street. Washington Celebrates America plans to continue running the races.

Old Business:

- Review Commission By-laws – table discussion until the Chairperson is in attendance.
- Railroad Avenue Property – Work on the property has been suspended until the fall.
- BrewFest – Dan Almind was going to reach out to the Fire Chief about doing a joint event. Craig has not heard from the state.
- Home Run Derby – table discussion until Mark Garrison is in attendance.
- Community Day - table discussion until Mark Garrison is in attendance.
- Cameras – Susan Turner checked the Rec Director’s emails and found nothing about cameras.

Communications:

- See Recreation Secretary report

Reports:

- Recreation Director – With Gary’s extended absence, setting up a policy procedures manual and log book at the pool to cover all of the steps in setting up the pumps, filters, chemical systems, etc. to “open” the pool and to check what has been completed is very important and must be done.

- Recreation Secretary – Susan Turner read an email asking if a divorced parent’s children can use their military eligibility available through the other parent’s military service for a discount of the pool membership fees. The second parent would not be listed on the membership application. Spencer Nicholson moved to allow the discount provided the children’s military ID’s are current or other current paperwork is provided. Seconded by Craig Coughlan. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.

A Senior Pool membership holder asked Susan if her 2 adult, medically disabled children were eligible for any discount. After discussion it was determined that no broad medical discount would be offered without discussing potential parameters with the Risk Manager. Individual requests may be handled on a case by case basis.

Susan has used almost all of the 1000 pool membership tags purchased last summer. More than half of the members did not return them last summer despite emails and signs at the pool asking that they do so. The cost for 2500 tags is only \$100 more than the cost of 500 tags. Spencer Nicholson moved to approve the purchase of 2500 pool membership tags. Seconded by Craig Coughlan. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Absent: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passed.

The StarGuard Elite lifeguard training course will be held Monday and Tuesday, July 1 & 2. We have 10 employees signed up for the course.

Susan asked Craig Coughlan about ice cream, ice pops and Gatorade quantities for the Softball Summer Clinic. She will tell Park staff to unlock the field gates.

Susan reviewed the Pool membership numbers versus 2018 numbers. Fewer family memberships have been bought this year but Susan feels more will be purchased through the second week of July, as they have been in the past. However, she does not believe we will receive the same amount or more than 2018. Senior memberships have increased.

Sports Programs

- Easter Egg Hunt — (all commissioners) – No report
- 5k – (commission) – No report.
- Youth Soccer – (James Sawyer) – No report.
- Street Hockey – (Spencer Nicholson) – Spencer wants to talk with Gary because he is not familiar with the program. Susan said Gary had hoped to work with the Police Department, similar to the Phillipsburg PBA team.
- Youth Basketball – (James Sawyer) – No report.
- Lil’ Hoopsters – (Craig Geller) – No report.
- Girls Softball – (Mark Garrison) – Summer Clinic discussed in Secretary’s report.
- Karate – (Sean Farrington) – No report.
- Swim Lessons (Dan Almind) – Susan said Dan was going to send confirmation emails to participants and since he is not available she asked for another commissioner to send them. Craig Geller volunteered.
- Pool – (Craig Coughlan) – Discussed in Rec Secretary’s report.
- Tennis Clinic – (James Sawyer) – 13 children are registered. Susan will buy snacks and water. James’ daughter will bring them to the courts because she is volunteering at the clinic. James will talk with Coach Henning about assistant coaches so Susan can enter a PO for the cost. James will contact All Sports about the shirts.
- Zumba – No report.

Social Media

- Susan asked Christine Rodriguez to find out if we qualify to post for free on the Treasure Hunt Community page.

Commission Calendar

- No report

Executive Session (If Necessary)

- No Executive Session.

Recap

- No Recap requested.

Commissioner and Director Comments

- No comments

Adjournment

- Spencer Nicholson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 pm. Seconded by Craig Coughlan. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passed. Adjourn **7:48 PM**