

Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey
Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
July 25, 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 7:06 p.m.

Statement of Adequate Notice

- Dan Almind 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: Dan Almind, Craig Coughlan, Sean Farrington, Craig Geller, Spencer Nicholson, and James Sawyer.
Also present: Susan Turner, Recreation Secretary

Audience Participation:

- Craig Geller moved to open audience participation. Seconded by James Sawyer. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 2. Motion passed.
- No audience members present.
- James Sawyer moved to close audience participation. Seconded by Craig Geller. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 2. Motion passed.

Minutes of Prior meeting:

- Craig Geller moved to approve minutes from the May 23, 2019 meeting. Seconded by James Sawyer. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 2.

New Business:

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Old Business:

- Community Day – This will be moved to Labor Day weekend. Susan will ask Brooks to get lifeguard staffing information. We will hold a children’s kickball game during the day and a family softball game at night. James will get the flier from Mark. We can offer special prices at the concession stand to sell the last of the food.
- Cameras –Susan checked the Rec Director email account back to early spring and found no emails, received or sent, regarding the cameras. The commission wants to get 3 quotes. James will provide the names of suppliers and the type of equipment to Susan.
- Water Fountain – Link & Sons has not submitted a quote for a new water fountain. Susan will contact them.

Reports:

- Recreation Secretary – Susan distributed a comparison of 2018 and 2019 memberships. Family memberships and revenue are down this year. NJ minimum wage will increase to \$11 per hour next year which will further reduce our revenue. Discussion was held about ways to increase revenue and decrease expenses including increasing low cost/free advertising, raising daily entrance fees, adding weekend only daily fees, raising concession stand prices, changing suppliers, changing the hours of operation, adding another water sport, raising swim lesson rates, offering a month long membership instead of half price, and advertising earlier. Susan will compile a cost analysis of the concession stand products based on vendors and 2018/2019 month by month Front Desk Daily attendance comparison. Christine Rodriguez will get the costs for ads in the Treasure Hunt. Dan asked all commissioners to brainstorm ideas for existing and new programs.
Pool Closings – Changing the pool office phone message to advise if the pool is closed was recommended along with posting a notice on the door. Susan will talk with the Borough Manager about a dedicated Nixle alert for pool members. It was suggested we add “Do you want to receive Nixle alerts about pool conditions and closings?” to the membership application.

Pool Badges – Last year less than half of the members returned their badges despite emails and posted signs asking them to do so. The commission recommended sending out a notice that we would charge a \$5.00 “unreturned badge fee” to next year’s membership cost for anyone who does not return their badge this year. Susan received a call from Partac – the order for ballfield clay is still open. Do we want to get the clay this year or next spring? The commissioners stated that the ballfield needs to be re-aligned. Craig Coughlan, Spencer Nicholson and Craig Geller will discuss the field and advise on the clay delivery.

Sports Programs

- Easter Egg Hunt — (all commissioners) – No report
- 5k – (commission) – Dan needs to talk with Mike Jones at Warren Hills to confirm the date. We can advertise in the Treasure Hunt, list the race in the online runners’ sites. We can have awards for costumes, possibly team up with local businesses and have them offer a discount that weekend when a runner uses their Bib #. Dan asked Susan to print last year’s flier to review at the next meeting.
- Youth Soccer – (James Sawyer) – New goals were not purchased last year. They will cost about \$1200. They need to be here by Labor Day. We also need nets. James will get quotes. Craig Geller moved to set a limit of \$1,500.00 for the purchase of new soccer goals and nets. Seconded by Spencer Nicholson. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 2. Motion passed. James will inventory the soccer equipment net weekend. He will move baseball equipment out of the coaches’ closet and into the Grandstand snack bar area to make room for the soccer equipment and goals. The goals will be stored there off season.
- Street Hockey – (Spencer Nicholson) – Spencer wants to talk with Gary to get all of the information he needs to run the program.
- Youth Basketball – (James Sawyer) – No report.
- Lil’ Hoopsters – (Craig Geller) – No report.
- Girls Softball – (Mark Garrison) – Craig Coughlan said the Summer Clinic is going well. The night game went well. They did not sell any food. The Clinic will pay the one hour wage for the cashier who was there. Dan asked Susan to send him the revenue, participant, and expense numbers for the clinic.
- Karate – (Sean Farrington) – Sean wants to talk with the local jiu jitsu gym to see if they’ll offer a similar program. We could do a karate demonstration in the park. Session 1 will be advertised in the Treasure Hunt and on Warren County Wanderings.
- Swim Lessons (Dan Almind) – No report.
- Pool – (Craig Coughlan) – Pool was discussed in Reports.
- Tennis Clinic – (James Sawyer) – We took in \$880 in registration revenue and spent about \$162 on shirts, snacks and water. There were no fees for assistant coaches since the students volunteered their time as community service. The net proceeds, \$718, will be split with the Warren Hills Tennis Club for services provided.
- Zumba – No report.

Communications:

- No Communications.

Social Media

- No report.

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 8:45 pm. Seconded by Craig Coughlan. Ayes: 6 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0 Absent: 2. Motion passed. Adjourn **8:45 PM**