

RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes
October 1, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:40 pm by C. Zaikov, Vice Chairman of the Recreation Commission who determined the meeting had been called in accordance with the N.J.S.A. 20:4-6 et seq. Notice of this meeting was given by annual notice to the official newspapers, and posted at Borough Hall.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG**ROLL CALL:**

L. Monetti (P); B. Jacques (A); D. Beck-Clemens (A). C. Zaikov (P); D. Mobus (P); C. Murphy (P); J. Pennett (P); M. Onuska (P); S. Mersereau (A)

CONSENT AGENDA: The minutes of the September 9, 2014 meeting was motioned to be approved by D. Beck-Clemens via e-mail prior to the meeting and second by D. Mobus.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Attached

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

Temporary Restroom – 8/14/14 - 9/13/14 – Phillip’s Field	\$ 75.00
Jeff Isaacs – Paint & Supplies for Mobus Pavilion (Building & Grounds)	\$341.43
Team Life, Inc. – Defibrillator Annual Service Contract	\$295.00
BSN Sports – Volley Balls, Inflator & BB Ball Locker	\$339.84
Buildasign.com/L. Monetti – Coming Soon Playground Sign	\$69.91
Fishing Derby/L. Monetti – Refreshments	\$64.93
Fishing Derby/D. Mobus – Bait & Tackle	\$55.71
Fishing Derby/J. Pennett – Donuts & Coffee	\$57.68
D & M Trophies – Fishing Derby	\$120.00
Home Depot – Heater for the Seniors Room	\$59.97
Staples – 2 Boxes/4 Padded Folding Chairs for Seniors Room	\$144.98
<i>Capital Budget;</i>	
Huston Lumber – 60 Railroad Ties/Spikes/Rebar for Mobus Playground	\$1395.58
Game Time Playground Equipment	\$48,151.37
Kamback Bros., LLC – Equipment Storage and Install Deposit	\$10,000.00

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Fishing Derby; The commission agreed that the event was well attended and even though there were some residents at the event from surrounding towns it would be too difficult to not include everyone that was in attendance.

Playground Project; L. Monetti mentioned that it was anticipated that the project would be complete by Oct. 25th the date of the Harvest Festival and that the borough plans on having the Ribbon Cutting on the day of the festival at 3:00 pm .

Harvest Festival; The commission discussed the upcoming event. D. Mobus offered to cook the hot dogs. J. Pennett planned to attend and pick up the ice from Colorado Café. L. Monetti planned to pick up the BJ's order and mentioned the involvement of the CERT team members and high school student volunteers as well as the anticipated donation of Zepoles from the Blue Ridge Sportsmen team.

Alternate Member; Mary Ann Weber sent in a volunteer application and will be invited to the next meeting to discuss the possibility of filling the position.

Fall Tennis Program; The tennis program is underway and will run through the month of October for both adults and children ages 4 to 14.

REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:

Recreation Basketball
Boys Traveling Basketball
Somerset County Activities
Volleyball

Special Events
Girls Traveling Basketball
Adult Basketball
Tennis

Travel Basketball; C. Murphy announced that the surrounding towns will not be joining the Garden State league this year but instead will be joining the Jersey Ball Association as teams will not have to travel as far for games. He mentions that the cost will be the same and that there will be a need for travel coaches. He also spoke of running a charity event in March for the 4th to 9th grade level as a 3 on 3 tournament. Also mentioned was hosting a thank you party for the coaches at the Exempt Hall at the end of the season.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Print of Mobus Field Sign
3D Print of Mobus Playground Equipment
Breakdown of Costs for the Playground Project
Operating Budget

NEW BUSINESS:

L. Monetti mentioned the operating budget and the inclusion of the donations in that budget. The Commission has made donations yearly to help support programs in order to help leagues keep costs down for our residents. The Little League was mentioned in particular and that they have incurred all costs of the program including the maintenance of Phillip's Field and all purchases including and not limited to the cost of the bleachers, tables, batting cages and ball machines. C. Zaikov who is on the Little League board expressed the need to replace the decking around the Snack Shack.

C. Murphy made a recommendation to donate \$700.00 to the Little League, D. Mobus second the motion, and all were in favor.

US Sports ran programs for Watchung and Warren residents using fields in both towns. The process of coordinating these programs with both town using fields in each and making sure all necessary paperwork was submitted became very time consuming and it was difficult to keep track of what was submitted with the many requests to US Sports to follow through. A meeting will be held with Watchung and Warren after all programs are complete to see if the process could be simplified.

L. Monetti mentioned that J. Tormey the tennis instructor running the fall program would like to run a program in the spring. All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was call to adjourn at 9:25 by C. Murphy, second by D. Mobus.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at 7:30PM at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted



By Linda Monetti
Recreation Coordinator

WATCHUNG RECREATION
COORDINATOR'S REPORT

October 1, 2014

1. ***Playground;*** The playground equipment has been delivered to Mobus Field and is being stored in a trailer until the contractor is ready to start the installation process. Public Works has pulled all the existing equipment out of the area and will prepare the area with new railroad ties, stone, filter fabric and new playground mulch once the equipment is in. The contractor hopes to start sometime next week weather permitting. The installation process is expected to take approximately 5 to 6 days. The playground area should be complete and ready to enjoy by the Oct. 25th Harvest Festival!

2. ***Fishing Derby;*** The Fishing Derby ran well thanks to the Rec Commission and Karl Baumle. We had 64 youth registered at the event and 46 fish were caught. The largest fish caught was a 21" Catfish next largest fish was a 17" Bass. The trophies, fishing pole and tackle give-a-ways were a big hit with the children and I would say we had close to 200 people at the event. There were some people from out of town but there were no issues, plenty of bait, refreshments and tackle for all. A few donuts were left by the end of the event and a little coffee so I would purchase the same amount next year. We did not go through many water bottles or juice packs so we could supply less next year. Our total cost for the event came to \$260.53 including the banner which can be used again next year.

3. ***Harvest Festival;*** This year the Harvest Festival hours will be extended an extra hour and will now run from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Last year the cost for the event came to \$3718. The amount budgeted for the 2014 event is \$4500. and as I will need to purchase extra food and anticipate extra costs due to the extra hour we will need most likely need the full amount budgeted this year. In order to bring something different to the event I plan to change the amusement company that we use from what has been used in the past. Last year we were able to rent bales of hay at a cost of \$3.00 a bale. The hay was delivered, set up, and then picked up for that price. This was a rental agreement that works well as we would have no use for that many bales of hay after the event and Public Works would need to store or dispose of them. The quality of the hay bales are much more durable from this company then can be purchased from a garden center and for the same price. This year I will purchase a larger number of bales to make the area of climbing attract more children.

4. ***Tennis Program;*** The fall tennis program was well received as 20 students registered for the program and 2 adults. J. Tormey would like to run a spring program starting registration in January. The adult program did not fill up as only two adults registered for the program but Joli felt it was important to get a program up and running hoping that once the programs are in place the word would spread and more adults would sign up. She also expressed that she would like to run a program inside once the weather is no longer favorable for the outside program, if there would be any room for such a program in our schools.

5. ***Volleyball***; Women's Recreation Volleyball will start Monday, October 6th and run from 7:00 am – 9:00 pm. Julie Gunther will run the program again this year at Valley View School.

6. ***Open Gym Basketball***; Men's Open Gym basketball will start this Friday night at Bayberry School and run from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm.