

RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
November 5, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:30pm by Bill Jacques, 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 (P); D. Beck-Clemens (P). C. Zaikov (P); D. Mobus (P); C. Murphy (A); J. Pennett (A); M. Onuska (P) S. Mersereau (A)

CONSENT AGENDA: The minutes of the October 1, 2014 meeting were motioned to be approved by D. Beck-Clemens and seconded by C. Zaikov.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: See attached

CORRESPONDENCE:

Oath of Office for Mike Onuska for signature

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed the details of the Harvest Festival. The event exceeded expectations with an estimate of about 1000 people. Seashore Amusements was a nice change to the event with the mechanical swing ride. The Ribbon Cutting portion of the event was a big hit as the children couldn't wait to access the new playground equipment. As it is always difficult to estimate the amount of refreshments needed for such an event, 120 extra hotdogs were purchased for the event, including extra cookies, candy, popcorn, waters and juice and we could have probably used double that amount with the number of people that came out for this event. We did have enough apple cider, hot chocolate, cotton candy and popcorn that lasted until the end of the event.

The Commission discussed the alternate member position available. L. Monetti mention that Maryann Weber will be invited to attend the next meeting as a possible candidate.

The Commission discussed adding supervision to the BB program as there have been issues with children running in the halls and climbing on the wall to the lower level of Valley View School during the games. C. Zaikov felt that the supervision could be handled by the parents.

REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:

Recreation Basketball	Special Events
Boys Traveling Basketball	Girls Traveling Basketball
Somerset County Activities	Adult Basketball
Volleyball	Tennis

D. Mobus mentioned that we will need 28 to 32 students registered for the High School Intramural basketball program. The Valley View School gym has already been reserved for basketball. The HS program will use the gym Wednesday evening from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. The program will start January 7, 2015.

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

Temporary Restroom – 9/14/14 - 10/13/14 – Phillip’s Field	\$ 75.00
Staples – 2 Boxes/4 Padded Folding Chairs for Seniors Room	\$144.98
The Fibar Group, LLC – Playground Mulch and Mats	\$4,918.18

Basketball;

Eric Korb – Registration Roll Over and Updates	\$225.00
League Athletics LLC - Annual Hosting Fee	\$450.00
Jersey Basketball Association – Registration Fees (7 Teams @ \$115 ea.)	\$805.00
BSN Sports – Wilson Basketball for Open Gym	\$46.00
L. Monetti – Folding Tables (8 – 8 ft. & 4 – 6 ft.)	\$680.01
Donation – Watchung Little League	\$700.00

Capital Budget; (Playground)

Huston Lumber –Mobus Pavilion Siding	\$216.12
Kamback Bros., LLC – Installation Balance	\$15,600.00
Steve Monetti – Mobus Pavilion (power wash, paint, repairs)	\$1,995.00

Harvest Festival;

Seashore Amusements – Rides, Slide, Cotton Candy, Popcorn Machines	\$2,300.00
Face Painter	\$250.00
Rock Bottom Sound Production – DJ	\$350.00
L. Monetti – BJ’s membership, Décor, Non-Perishables	\$298.17
Event Banner	\$56.96
Oriental Trading – Sand Art	\$104.75
Popcorn & Cotton Candy (Bags & Cones)	\$116.31
BJ’s Food & Supplies -	\$490.91
Swift Farms – Hay & Pumpkins	\$935.00
Propane – Refillable Tank & Propane	\$60.00
Ice & Prize Ribbons	\$31.41
Corn Stalks & Mums	\$143.73
Extra – Hot Dogs, Rolls, Waters & Soda	\$64.76

NEW BUSINESS:

D. Beck-Clemens suggested incorporating a family trip like a Christmas show that would be run through Watchung recreation. L. Monetti mentioned she would see if Green Brook would be interested in offering the ski trip this year as the Borough's insurance company requires the Borough to carry extra insurance for a ski trip that would add over \$1000 to the cost of the trip. Green Brook could offer the trip to Watchung without adding extra insurance using their blanket policy. M. Onuska proposed offering summer trips to Dorney Park, Great Adventure, Turtleback Zoo and the Patriots games. He also mentioned the Ringling Brother Barnum and Bailey Circus will be at the Prudential Center in Newark in 2015 March 12th through the 15th.

ADJOURNMENT

D. Beck-Clemens made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm, D. Mobus seconded the motion. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, Dec 3, 2014 at 7:30PM at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard

Respectfully Submitted by,



Linda Monetti
Recreation Coordinator

WATCHUNG RECREATION
COORDINATOR'S REPORT
NOVEMBER 5, 2014

1. ***Playground;*** The playground equipment installation is now complete although the area around the playground needs grooming and the ramp still needs to be installed. There were many obstacles during the process of the installation do to the weather but with the coordination of Tom Herits, Public Works and Greg Kamback the equipment contractor, the playground area was completed in time for the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Harvest Festival. The equipment was well received by the children as they were very excited to enter the area prior to the ribbon cutting. The ribbon cutting was a wonderful addition to the event as it was another element for the children to explore.

2. ***Harvest Festival;*** This year's festival was well attended as it was a beautiful day. The involvement of Public Works for the setup of the hay stack and the pumpkin patch as well as the tables and field preparations were necessary. The grounds were very wet prior to the event due to the heavy rain Wednesday into Thursday therefore hay was needed around those areas that had heavy traffic which helped tremendously in keeping the areas easier to navigate as the ground was saturated. The mechanical swing ride and climbing tree house were new additions this year as a different vender was used to change those elements of our festival. Also added was a face painter which was very well received by the children. Unfortunately the boy scouts were not available this year to put up the extension bridge but we did have the involvement of the girl scouts who ran the sand art table. Three students from the WHRHS Community Outreach program volunteered their time and helped with the setup, the treat table and the cotton candy machine. Carolyn Solon from the CERT team ran the popcorn machine serving more than a case of 12oz. packages. Joe Nappe from the Warren Blue Ridge Sportsmen deer program donated 15 lbs. of dough for Zeppoles that he and his team prepared at the event. They also donated two fishing poles for prizes. Charles Neiss and Mary Ann Weber helped out at the hotdog table, Steve Monetti helped with the setup, break down as well as picked up the ice and propane for the grill. M. Onuska donated Toys R Us gift cards that were used as prizes for contests held by the DJ. The event photographer was Lea Monetti who captured some really great photos of all the elements of the event including the ribbon cutting portion which can be viewed on our website. Also donated was hot apple cider from the PBA and paint for the pumpkins from the library who supervised that portion of the event. Thank you letters will be sent to all the volunteers and for those that made donations to the event.

3. ***Alternate Member;*** The recreation commission has a position available for an alternate member. Mary Ann Weber expressed her interest in the position and has agreed to attend the December meeting to meet the members. She was a tremendous help at our Harvest Festival and should be a welcomed addition to our commission.

4. ***Game Day;*** The ladies from the Mah Jonng group that play in the Seniors Room plan to start a game day on Friday afternoons from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. This program will be available to Watchung residents and be starting sometime in November. The date has not yet been determined.

5. **Tennis Program;** The fall tennis program was well attended registering a total of 22 residents. A field use profit for the department was \$220.00. A tennis program will run again in the spring.

6. **Mobus Pavilion;** The pavilion was power washed and painted prior to the Harvest Festival and repairs were made to the siding on the tennis court side that had missing boards. Two quotes have been received to replace the roof of the pavilion with the lowest bid being \$4900 from Penyak Roofing Company. I am waiting for an adjustment to the quote for the replacement of the cement floor as the Borough will receive the material for the job from Weldon. These repairs will need approval by the Building and Grounds committee and most likely be made early next year.