

RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes

September 2, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:35 pm 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 (A); D. Mobus (A); C. Murphy (P); J. Pennett (A); M. Onuska (A) S. Mersereau (A) M. Weber (P)

CONSENT AGENDA: C. Murphy made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2015 meeting, M. Weber second the motion.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: See attached.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Farmer's Market Flyers
Fishing Derby Flyers
US Sports Fall Programs for 2 – 5 yr. olds (Soccer & Lacrosse)
Fall Tennis Programs – Youth & Adult
Pickleball dimensions layout

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

Hick's Septic – Temporary Restroom at Phillip's Field		
	8/10/15 – 9/10/15	\$65.00
	9/10/15 – 10/10/15	\$65.00
<i>Movie Night Event;</i>		
Taylor Rental – Popcorn Machine Rental		\$82.50
L. Monetti – Misc. Supplies for event		\$94.97
L. Monetti – BJ's Candy		\$126.28
Warren Township – Summer Camp Scholarships		\$170.00
Project Graduation – Donation to Event		\$300.00
Rutger's S.A.F.T.E.Y. Clinic Master Roster		\$50.00
Hoops Inc. – Pro Dunk Basketball System (Mobus Field)		\$3,866.00

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed details of the fishing derby, the commission's involvement and volunteers for the event. B. Jacques suggested using a pre-registration, listing only the name, age and town of each child involved. C. Murphy and B. Jacques offered to bring the ice. L. Monetti mentioned that the Blue Ridge Sportsmen will help out along with K. Baumle from the former Optimist Club.

The Commission made a final recommendation to the Mayor and Council on field use fees including the use of the Senior's Room at the library. The recommendation for fees for profit organizations to run programs on our fields was \$15.00 per registered person, which is an increase of \$5.00, as the fees have been \$10.00 pp. The fee recommendation for the Senior's room will be \$25.00 per hour with a minimum charge of \$100.00 for profit organizations only.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Rutger's Safety Clinics is mandatory for all coach and assistant coach positions for any programs associated with Watchung Recreation. Copies of all certificates need to be on file at Borough Hall or on the lists created by the Youth Sports Research Council. Background checks will be handled again online by the National Center for Safety Initiatives. Anyone involved as a coach or assistant will be required to go through the background check process. The cost of \$25. pp will be covered by the Borough and is effective for 2 years.

The Commission discussed adding a Pickleball court to the tennis courts which is a modification to the courts by painting lines specific to the game and lowering the nets while playing. A request came in to the Borough to see if we would consider making this modification. D. Beck-Clemens suggested looking into other towns that have made this modification and to see how well it was received. L. Monetti mentioned she would check to see where these courts are being offered and if they are being used.

The Commission discussed a possible Eagle Scout project of adding grasses to the border of the lake and stream at Mobus Park to deter the geese from entering the park area. They discussed other options for deterring the geese like using Border Collies or a swan. D. Beck-Clemens mentioned that these ideas were used in other towns without success. The Commission liked the idea of using the grass plantings as an Eagle Scout project but were not convinced the grass would discourage the geese. Also mentioned was using a machine that would pick up the waste that could be attached to the back of a DPW lawn tracker. L. Monetti mentioned that the only sweeper that seemed to remove the waste without manually using a vacuum hose and would sweep the waste when driving across a field would cost over \$5000.00. Less expensive units come with a vacuum hose that is made for horse manure and needs to be applied at each individual site of the droppings and would not be practical for the amount of waste geese leave behind.

The Commission discussed the involvement of the Recreation Commission at the Civil War Reenactment / History Day event on September 26th. C. Murphy mentioned he had a potato sack race game and was willing to lend it to the Borough for the event. As no members were available to attend the event L. Monetti offered to represent the Commission at the event which will be held from 10:00am to 5:00pm. She mentioned they will offer games for families that were played in the past like the Hoop and Stick game.

REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:

Recreation Basketball
Boys Traveling Basketball
Somerset County Activities
Volleyball

Special Events
Girls Traveling Basketball
Adult Basketball
Tennis

Basketball;

C. Murphy mentioned that Recreation and Travel Basketball registrations will start at the end of October. The facility use forms have been submitted to the schools for approval and once school use was approved the sign will go up on Spratford Park.

D. Beck-Clemens reported that the Ness property parking lot has been scheduled to be redone. She also mentioned that the Borough plans to take down the buildings at Ness and that the fence around the tennis courts at Camp Endeavor have been removed and area is being cleaned up.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business D. Beck-Clemens motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm, C. Murphy second the motion. The next regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7th, 2015, 7:30PM at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.