

**RECREATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
May 11, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:45 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 ); C. Zaikov ( A ); D. Mobus ( P ) (Arrived at 8:15);  
C. Murphy ( A ); J. Pennett ( A ); M. Onuska ( P ) M. Weber ( P ) D. Devine ( A )

**CONSENT AGENDA:** M. Onuska made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6th, 2016 meeting, M. Weber second the motion.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** See Attached

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Community Picnic donation list  
Estimate for fencing around playground

**REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE: (NO REPORTS)**

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

L. Monetti advised the Commission of who would be volunteering at the Community Picnic and what vendors would be attending. Most members of the Commission were available to attend and help out at the event. D. Mobus offered to pick up the ice tea from Duncan Donuts and cook the hot dogs at the event, J. Pennett and C. Murphy offered to pick up the ice. M. Onuska offered to help with the hot dogs, M. Weber offered to serve the popcorn and help pick up the Costco order and D. Devine offered to serve the nachos.

L. Monetti mentioned that the survey for the Rec department will be put on the Borough's website as soon as a few changes were made that were discussed at the April meeting.

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (Continued)***

The Commission discussed running a Minds in Motion summer program at Mobus Field during the two weeks that no other camps were available in Watchung. Also discussed was using the Youth Service Grant funds and how best to use these funds. The Rec Commission felt the YS Grant funds would best be used as scholarships for at risk students on a need based criteria. The Commission thought the Borough could run programs during each week of the summer and offer students an opportunity to apply for the scholarships based on the available programs. The YS Grant could then fund those students that qualify. All were in favor.

***NEW BUSINESS:***

L. Monetti reported that C. Murphy had accepted a new work position and would regretfully have to resign from the Commission due to the extensive traveling that it would require. L. Monetti announced that C. Murphy had run the basketball program since 2009 and that a Certificate of Appreciation would be sent to him from the Mayor for his years of service. Discussed was presenting him with the Certificate and a gift certificate from Water and Wine in appreciation for his efforts at the Community Picnic. All were in favor.

The Commission discussed the alternate member positions available after the resignation of C. Murphy. Mallory Moralas applied and had made plans to attend the meeting but then had accepted a new work position and felt the new position would make it too difficult to join the Recreation Commission at this time so she declined.

The Commission discussed the fence estimate that was submitted by B. Burns for the area around the playground. The idea of using a fence around the area was to hopefully keep the mulch from escaping during a storm and/or keeping young children from wondering toward the brook. The Commission also discussed raising the railroad ties one course in order to hold back the mulch but they all felt that might be a trip hazard.

***VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:***

Hicks Septic – Temporary Restroom	\$65.00
Game Time – Parts for Playground	\$61.64
<b><i>Community Picnic;</i></b>	
Somerset Syrup & Concession, Inc. – Nachos & Cheese	\$118.40
Somerset Syrup & Concession, Inc. –Nacho Trays, Cotton Candy Cones & Sugar	\$144.15
L. Monetti – Oriental Trading Sand Art Supplies, Helium, Balloons, Table Clothes Etc.	\$387.64
Costco – Non-perishables Sodas/Waters/Juice Etc.	\$253.62

**VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL: (Continued)**

***Basketball Referee Reimbursements;***

D. Hunsinger	\$400.00
T. Murphy	\$100.00
C. Murphy	\$560.00
J. Tormey	\$550.00
J. Tormey	\$300.00
N. Rao	\$80.00
J. Lister	\$80.00
O2 Sports – Mesh Jerseys	\$75.00
JM Designs	\$617.00

***ADJOURNMENT***

As there was no further business B. Jacques called to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 pm,  
D. Mobus second the motion. All were in favor.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 7:30PM  
at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Linda Monetti*

Recreation Coordinator/Secretary

**WATCHUNG RECREATION**  
**COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

**May 11th, 2016**

**Tennis;** Approximately 15 students are participating in the Spring Tennis program. Registrations are still open for the second session starting Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup> and running through to June 19<sup>th</sup>. A sign has been posted at the entrance to the park to advertise the program. Flyers have been posted at the library, in the school Friday Backpack, posted on our web-site and Facebook page as well as sent out by resident email.

**Yankee Trip;** The Borough has just received the tickets for the June 24<sup>th</sup>, Yankees vs. Minnesota Twins game. Details can now be put on the website and sent through the schools as well as put on our facebook page and sent out as a resident email. Tickets will be available for purchase through the Borough's Pay Pal account by Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. The total cost of the tickets will be offered for \$65.00 per person and will be non-refundable. The tickets will be on a first come first served basis and will be offered to surrounding towns after the first month of their availability. The bus has been contracted and the pickup location will be at the Police Department. The bus will leave at 4:30 pm but will be listed to leave at 4:00 pm on the flyer in order to accommodate those that might have issues with traffic. 17 Tickets have been purchase or reserved to date.

**Community Picnic;** Most of the plans for the picnic are now in place. \$3400.00 in donations have been received from local businesses and organizations to date. All non-perishable items have been purchases for the event from Costco who donated 10 cases of waters and they are trying to secure a Magician for the event. Perishables items will be purchased Friday the day before the event. Colorado Café has offered to supply the ice, Rolf's has offered to serve Chili, Texas Roadhouse has offered to serve ribs and rolls. Home Depot will donate a grill as a prize give-away and they are working on a craft item to bring to the event as well as a face painter. Hand and Stone will be offering a chair message, Roma Salon will offer Eye Brow threading and Henna Tattoos. Sunburst Gymnastics (M. Onuska) is donating Toys R Us gift cards again this year for prizes and Weichert Realty will donate a bicycle again this year. Meeker Sharkey has donated the pizza and will run the table. The pizza will be supplied by San Remo this year from North Plainfield at a cost of \$9.00 per pie which is a \$1.00 savings from \$10.00 pies that have always been purchased from Marino's for past events. 45 pies will be ordered this year instead of the 40 pies that were ordered in past years for an additional cost of only \$5.00. The \$3400. in donations will cover the majority of the costs of the event.

**Summer Programs;** Youth Services and Watchung Recreation have discussed the possibility of offering a week long summer program this year with the leftover funds from the Youth Service Annual Grant. The county, who supplies funds through an Annual Youth Service Grant allows the Youth Service Commission to combined efforts with the PTO or Recreation Commission to utilize the \$5000. awarded to YS for programs that serve at risk children and would be considered an ongoing program. Youth Services has run several programs yearly that utilized the grants funds but the school was not able to use all funds for the 2015/16 school year and so approximately \$2000. is available that could be used to run a program during the summer months. Minds In Motion LLC runs science workshops for surrounding towns and offers programs that are geared toward children ages 6 to 13 years old. Programs can be run Monday through Friday from 9 am – noon and/or 12:30 – 3:30 pm or all day. Details still need to be worked out to determine available dates and cost to parents as the \$2000. grant could help offset the costs or be used for scholarships that would be awarded to students in need and that would apply for the scholarship program. This program would be run at Mobus Park pavilion. The cost average for one child for a morning or afternoon session is between \$135.00 and \$165.00 for the one week program or about \$300.00 for the week if the child stays for a full day through the week. The \$2000. grant could give about 7 children the opportunity for scholarships or it could offset the cost of the program as a whole. Scholarships were favorable to the Youth Service Commission as there is a need for this type of program for some working parents but transportation could be an issue as well as before and after care. Other options to utilize these funds would be to offer scholarships to summer programs already in place that are being run by US Sports and Mr. B's Baseball and Fishing Camps as well as Warren's Summer Camp program.

Respectfully Submitted By,

*Linda Monetti*

Recreation Coordinator