

RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes

March 1, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:30 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 (A); C. Zaikov (P); D. Mobus (P); J. Pennett (A); M. Onuska (P); M. Weber (P)

CONSENT AGENDA: C. Zaikov made a motion to approve the February 1, 2017 meeting minutes, M. Weber 2nd the motion. All were in favor.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: See Attached

CORRESPONDENCE:

Summer Camp Director Advertisement
Summer Camp Registration Advertisement
Request for donation to "Project Graduation"
Fee Resolution for Summer Camp Program
Spring Tennis Flyer
Easter Egg Hunt Flyer

REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:

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

C. Zaikov reported that Opening Day is scheduled for April 22nd. He also mentioned that the Basketball Shootout is scheduled for March 11th at Valley View School which starts at 9:00 am ending at 4:30 pm. This event is an end of the basketball season event with championship games, trophies and prizes.

C. Zaikov suggested putting in a two way bridge at Phillip's Field to avoid traffic during events and games as well as put in more spaces for parking.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed the details of Summer Camp program. J. Pennett suggested asking the Rescue Squad if any members would be willing to work at the camp or teach the staff CPR and first aid. He also mentioned that the staff will need to carry a medical bag with records of the campers with special medical needs. D. Mobus suggested purchasing a large tent to accommodate the children and staff in case of inclement weather but mostly to have a check in point where they could be in the shade. Also mentioned was to offer parents the option of tennis or swim lessons. D. Mobus also suggested if there is room on the bus we could offer Brook Hill members the option of going on the trip and charging a fee to fill the bus. He suggested posting the trips at the Swim Club prior to the trip and getting emergency forms for any additional children. Also mentioned was supplying water coolers at the camp and if extra funds were available running a weekly class for tennis as part of the program.

M. Onuska mentioned that Green Brook owns their busses and that maybe since Watchung is inviting their students to be a part of the Summer program maybe we could work something out with them. D. Mobus suggested getting three quotes for bus trips before making a decision.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed the details of the Easter Egg Hunt event, donations and expenses.

The Commission approved the Summer Camp Resolution to set the summer camp fees.

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

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| Fun Services – DJ Services for Easter Egg Hunt | \$350.00 |
| Fun Services – DJ Services for Community Picnic | \$500.00 |
| L. Monetti – Easter Egg Hunt Banner | \$89.72 |
| Sunburst Gymnastics – Reimbursement for “Kids Night Out” | \$420.00 |
| L. Monetti – Prizes for Easter Egg Hunt event | \$112.00 |
| Costco – Yearly Membership | \$55.00 |

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business C. Zaikov made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm, M. Onuska 2nd the motion. All were in favor.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 5, 2017, 7:30PM at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator

WATCHUNG RECREATION
COORDINATOR'S REPORT

March 1, 2017

Capital Improvements; As the Borough had planned to renovate the Phillip's Field decking adjacent to the Snack Shack the Borough received two quotes from local contractors for the job. When the lowest bidder submitted the drawing of specifications for the renovation the building inspector assessed the condition of the deck before approving the work and it was his recommendation that the deck should be completely removed and rebuilt with ADA requirements as one of the joists were loose in the ground. Although he did not feel it was an immediate concern, he did feel it was not wise to add more weight to the structure as it is and that it should be rebuilt to code for the future. As the Little League season is fast approaching the project was put on hold until the end of the 2017 Little League season. As the original quotes for the renovation will no longer be valid new quotes for the replacement of the decking will need to be requested.

Field/Facility Use; Mr. B ran a holiday camp at Valley View School on February 20th for President's Day. The facility use for that program with 16 registrations at \$15.00 per registered student was \$240.00 for the one day program. Mr. B plans to run another holiday camp program during the Easter holiday break. He has also submitted a field use application for various summer camp programs for the weeks between June 26th through August 25th. His programs will include half and full day camps.

At the last meeting the Recreation Commission discussed a request from WHRHS for the use of the borough tennis courts at Mobus Field. As the high school courts are in disrepair the director of the boys tennis team requested to use the borough's courts for their tennis season from March 3rd to May 26th for whatever days would be available. As the commission and the administrator was in agreement that we should accommodate their request, we gave the boys tennis team permission to use the Mobus courts on those days that the borough's spring tennis lessons are not in session and allowed them to store equipment in the pavilion during that time. As the recreation spring tennis program is scheduled to run on Tuesday's from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm the Borough has received the field use application from WHRHS for the use of the courts from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday as well as Tuesday before 4:00 pm and after 6:00 pm.

Kids Night Out Program; After the final count of 14 registrations for the program the Borough received a refund from the insurance carrier of \$302, bringing the total cost of insurance down to \$145.00 from the original \$447.00. With the cost of the bus the total amount for running the program came to \$390.00.

The Kids Night our Program was mentioned at the last Youth Services Commission meeting by it's youth members. Their feedback was that the students appreciated the opportunity of the "Kids Night Out" program and even though they were not able to attend they hoped that other programs could be run so that students would have more social opportunities in the future. They felt that if this was an ongoing program students could plan ahead. As this program would be available to at risk students, which is what the Youth Services Grant funds programs for, it is possible that Recreation could partner with Youth Services to help fund future "Kids Night Out" programs.

Summer Camp Program; After a meeting with Brook Hill Swim Club to discuss the possibility of running a summer camp program at their facility, members of the board approved running the program at their facility with a \$7.00 per person, per day fee to compensate Brook Hill for the use of their facility. The Borough is in the process of putting together all the necessary forms needed to run the program. A notice to announce the camp director's position has gone out to the papers this week and the notice was forwarded to the high school, Valley View and Bayberry. A Resolution to set the fees for the program will be approved at the Mayor and Council meeting tomorrow night, March 2nd. Trips need to be scheduled, buses need to be reserved and forms need to be updated or complete before the program can be advertised. The rain location has been approved with a \$5.00 per person/ per day fee for Sunburst Gymnastics. A revised insurance quote for the entire camp program including all trips was quoted as \$340.00 for the 8 week program. The program will run from June 26th through August 18th and the staff will be hired according to the amount of registrations. The director will oversee the program and staff, an assistant to the director will be hired with CPR and first aid certifications. The staff will consist of qualified college and high school students with relevant experience.

Easter Egg Hunt; The event flyer has been posted in the school's Friday Backpacks. A new banner has been purchased as the first banner was worn and the dates are not current. It will be placed on the Watchung Lake property before the end of next week. The DJ has been scheduled and we have a volunteer for the Easter Bunny mascot. More eggs will be purchased this year in anticipation of a large crowd like last year and parking will be offered at Valley View School as we now have the approval to use their parking lot for the event.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator