

**RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
**June 7, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:40 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 ); J. Pennett ( P );  
M. Onuska ( P ); M. Weber ( P )

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The minutes of the May 3, 2017 meeting were approved by M. Onuska, seconded by M. Weber. All were in favor.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** See Attached

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Community Picnic Donations  
Summer Camp Registrations to Date  
Summer Camp Trip Schedule

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

The commission discussed the details of the Community Picnic Event. The commission agreed that the event was well attended and that it was a big help to have Stop & Shop employees handle the hot dogs and condiment table. See Coordinator's report for details of the event.

L. Monetti mentioned that A. Bowerly from the Colorado Café suggested using his contacts for line dancing lessons at the Harvest Festival event.

Details of the Summer Camp were reported see Coordinator's report, attached.

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

Recreation Basketball  
Boys Traveling Basketball  
Somerset County Activities

Special Events  
Girls Traveling Basketball  
Adult Basketball

Volleyball  
Tennis

***NEW BUSINESS:***

The Movie Night Event was discussed which is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm. The event will be held in conjunction with the PTO Ice Cream Social which will start at 6:30pm. Both events will be held at Phillip's Field.

The commission also discussed the Fishing Derby which is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>, with a rain date of Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held at Watchung Lake from 9:00 am to noon. D. Mobus suggested calling the fish hatchery for stocking the lake before the event.

Councilman G. Sopko attended the meeting as a representative of the Open Space Committee and to discuss the Ness Property concept plans. He mentioned that Maser was hired to produce plans for the property in order to submit them to the county to obtain a grant. He reported that both the Recreation Commission and the Open Space Committee agreed that Concept C were the most favorable plans. He also mentioned that there is contaminated soil on the area of the property closest to Mountain Blvd. which could only be used for parking. D. Mobus mentioned that concept C included a recreation center which could not be built on the property as the property is for open space only but we could include restrooms. D. Mobus suggested adding an all-purpose field. M. Weber suggested putting in a basketball court. M. Onuska suggested adding a soccer, lacrosse and football field. All were in favor of putting in one large multipurpose field, a community garden and keeping an open area that can be determined. J. Pennett and M. Weber agreed that putting in a nature trail with a gazebo as an open air shelter would be a good addition to the plans. G. Sopko mentioned that maybe we could put in an amphitheater as a future development project.

***VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:***

ARF Rental Service – Temporary Restroom	\$93.70
The Fibar Group – Playground Mulch	\$1144.50
PlayPower – Parts for Swing Set at Mobus	\$84.00
Bardy Farms – Fruit Basket for J. Pennett (Loss of Father)	\$35.00

*Community Picnic;*

L. Monetti – Prizes & Vinyl Gloves for Food Prep.	\$116.06
Condiments and Tip for Pizza Delivery	\$35.63
Somerset Syrup & Concession – Cotton Candy Floss & Cones	\$87.45
Fun Services – Amusements, Italian Ice, Face Painter, Balloon Artist	\$4750.00
Marino's – 45 Pizza Pies	\$405.00

*Summer Camp Program;*

Liberty Science Center – Deposit	\$230.00
Land of Make Believe – Deposit	\$100.00
Sky Zone – Deposit	\$100.00
Amazon – Tent and Installation	\$1853.77
Home Depot – Picnic Tables	\$949.96
The Recorder Publishing – Summer Camp Staff Ads	\$39.92

***ADJOURNMENT***

As there was no further business B. Jacques adjourned the meeting at 9:20 PM.  
The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, September 6, 2017, 7:30PM  
at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted By;

*Linda Monetti*

Recreation Coordinator/  
Recording Secretary

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

**June 7, 2017**

***Community Picnic;*** The picnic was a great success in spite of the morning rain. All 15 vendors that promised to be at the event were present giving the event many options for the residents. The Stop & Shop manager came with a few employees and worked the grill and condiment table. They also brought a Boars Head representative who supplied the event with chicken sausage which was a big hit. All members of the Recreation Commission were present and helped out before, during and after the event which helped to make the entire program run very smooth for the amount of involvement and guests present. The Borough received a total of \$5050.00 in donations, a BBQ grill from Home Depot, gift cards from Water & Wine, Sunburst Gymnastics and Buffalo Wild Wings that we were able to give out as prizes. \$300.00 in Stop & Shop gift cards are left over and can be used for the next few events as well as a few cases of waters, popcorn and cotton candy. The Stop & Shop manager offered to help out again at the Harvest Festival event as he enjoyed being at the event and helping out in that capacity. A big thank you to Karen Pennett, Carolyn Taylor and Arlene McCoy, all who are not on the commission but offered to help out and stayed to clean up. We were promised a donation from Caldwell Banker in the amount of \$250.00 to cover the Italian Ice but we did not yet receive that amount. The event ran smoothly although we do need to hire a DJ/Game host for the next event as the DJ played a great array of music but he had a difficult time getting the children and parents involvement which has always been an important component to the event.

***Summer Camp;*** The enrollment to date is now 46 campers including three Warren residents and two residents from Gillette, the rest are from Watchung. There is an average of 19 children involved in each week with the least being the first week with only 9 campers registered and week 4 has 27 campers enrolled which is the most enrolled in one week. Dealaman Bus Company has been scheduled to provide bussing for our trips and they are available for most days if it rains but they have 7 days that they are not able to provide service to the program if we have a rain occurrence. Several companies have been contacted to provide service for these date if it rains but service has not been confirmed. The newly appointed camp director Desiree Sommerville has made recommendation for an assistant and 4 counselors one of which will be part time and on an on call basis. She has produced a supply order of crafts, game and misc. items that we will need to order. A 20' x 30' foot tent was ordered including the set up to free up the DPW department during this busy season. Also ordered was folding picnic tables

that will be used for lunch, games and crafts under the tent.

Six out of eight trips are confirmed and are as follows;

Week 1 – Land of Make Believe

Week 2 – Liberty Science Center w/IMAX Theatre

Week 3 – Oasis Family Farm in Robbinsville NJ

Week 4 – Sky Zone

Week 5 – Turtle Back Zoo (Pending)

Week 6 – Circus Place (Pending)

Week 7 – Bounce Factory in Warren

Week 8 – Somerset Patriots Game

To date the camp registrations total \$34,800.00. I expect at least a few more registration prior to the start of camp as there has been a few calls this week inquiring if there is room in any of the weeks. We did have one cancellation and as we clearly stated in the registration forms we reserved the right to a no cancellation policy and the refund was denied as it was not medically related or warranted for any emergency purpose.

Respectfully Submitted By,

*Linda Monetti*

Recreation Coordinator