

RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes

February 12, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:33 pm by C. Zaikov, Vice 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); S. Black (A); J. Pennett (A); M. Onuska (P); M. Weber (P); S. Stiles (P); A. Baitel (P); D. Mobus (P)

CONSENT AGENDA: M. Weber made a motion to approve the January 8, 2020 meeting minutes M. Onuska second the motion.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Attached

CORRESPONDENCE:

Event and Program "Save the Dates"
2020 Commission Contact List
Meeting Schedule for 2020
Oaths of Office – A. Baitel, S. Stile, D. Mobus
Watchung Hills Soccer Information
US Sports Tennis program information
Mr. B's Volleyball program information

NEW BUSINESS:

The Commission welcomed new members Allison Baitel, Suzanne Stiles and former Council Liaison Dave Mobus. L. Monetti familiarized new members with all recreation's programs and events.

L. Monetti mentioned the Borough will be reappointing D. Somerville as the Summer Camp Director, A. Burns as Assistant Director and J. Mobus as Senior Counselor. They have all worked for the camp since 2017. L. Monetti mentioned that we will need a total of 8 staff members for the camp to accommodate the required 6/1 ratio of campers to counselors.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed Capital Budget items for Camp Endeavor and the Ness Property. D. Mobus suggested adding a dog park, a trail and/or adding new tennis courts and basketball courts at the Camp Endeavor site. M. Weber mentioned that we would need running water if we were to add a dog park. M. Onuska suggested adding a hiking trail with picnic tables and benches.

The Commission discussed the Holiday Lights and Snow Sculpture contests. As there were only 2 entries for the Holiday Lights contest the Commission agreed that we should no longer offer that contest as residents may just be too busy during the holidays to enter. Since several residents entered the Snow Sculpture contest the Commission agreed to keep this as a yearly contest. All were in favor of eliminating the lights contest and keeping the Snow Sculpture contest.

REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:

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

C. Zaikov reported that there are four more Saturdays before playoffs start for Recreation Basketball. He reported there are 72 students registered for Travel and 61 in Recreation basketball.

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

Sports Engine, Inc. – Background Checks	\$25.00
Darrow’s Sporting Edge – Youth & Adult Jerseys	\$888.95
ARF Rental Service Inc – Temporary Restroom (Jan.)	\$47.18
CineMark Theatre - Holiday Lights & Snow Sculpture Contests	\$175.00

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business D. Mobus made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45, M. Onuska second the motion. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, May 2, 2018, 7:30PM at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted By;

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator
Recording Secretary

WATCHUNG RECREATION
COORDINATOR'S REPORT
March 4, 2020

Field / Facility Use; (Reminder of Upcoming Programs & Events)

Easter Egg Hunt – April 11th 11:00am – 12:30pm Phillip's Field
Community Picnic – May 16th, Noon to 3:0pm
Memorial Day Ceremony – May 25th at 9:30am - Texier House
Music in the Park – June 6th from 4:30pm – 7:30pm Phillip's Field
WHRHS Boy's High School Tennis – Mar. 9 - May 15, Mon. – Fri. 2:30 – 5:00pm (2 courts @ Mobus)
US Sports - Youth Tennis at Mobus, March 19th- June 14th & June 29th – Aug. 21st (9am -12)
US Sports - Youth Soccer, Mobus Field, June 27th – August 9th (9 – 5)
Little League – March – November Phillip's Field (Opening Day - April 18th)
Operation Pride – Town Clean-Up Day – April 25th 9am - Noon
Mr. B's Volley Ball Camp, Valley View School – July 13 – 17 & July 27 – July 31st
Mr. B's Fishing Camp - June 29th – July 3rd & Aug. 17 – Aug. 21st

Snow Sculpture Contest; Six entries came in from the Dec. 2, 2019 snow event for the Snow Sculpture Contest. The last day to enter was March 1st. Since there was only one snow event this year these are the only entries. The Commission will choose the first, second and third prize winners.

Summer Camp Program; The Summer Camp will be run this year from June 29th through August 14th. The last day of school is scheduled for June 23rd. The start of camp registrations is expected to start March 15th contingent on the acceptance of the revised contract with Round Top which is not final at this time. There will be a one month time frame for early registrations for Watchung residence with a \$25. discount or \$225. per week. Registrations will then be open to the sending district at a cost of \$250. per week.

The following trips have been reserved for the program;

- Week 1 – Jersey Shore Pirate Adventure (Lost Treasure Cruise)
- Week 2 – Powerhouse Studios (Game Show Simulation Studio)
- Week 3 - Tomahawk Lake (Water Slides Paddle Boats & Lake Swimming)
- Week 4 - TBD
- Week 5 – Liberty Science Center
- Week 6 –TBD
- Week 7 – Diamond Gymnastics

Camp staff position will be advertised sometime in April. Returning staff members include the following; Camp Director D. Somerville, Assistant Camp Director A. Burns, Senior Counselor J. Mobus, and counselors H. Salkowski and D. Luna. Three male positions will be available.

Geese Control; The Geese Control program was approved at the last Mayor and Council meeting with the recommendation of the Wildlife Committee. The product was applied on March 2nd and there is a 2nd application scheduled for April 2nd. The product seems to be working as geese have not been seen gathering in any of the treated areas. Six applications were approved for the year at a total cost of \$5995.00. Walking paths at both lakes and the Mobus Field area were approved for the application.

Budget Meeting; A meeting took place on Saturday, February 29th to discuss the Borough's various budgeted line items for all departments. The Recreation budget was discussed in detail and L. Monetti mentioned the Recreation budget is offset with approximately \$70,000. in revenue. A total budget of \$127,360. was requested which includes the full cost of the Summer Camp and all program costs without the inclusion of any donations or revenue. As costs, donations and revenue are difficult to predict the 2019 costs and revenue were calculated to come up with the budget request for 2020. An increase of \$29,400. was requested to cover additional costs of the picnic, camp, salaries, the Harvest Festival, general supplies and contracted services.

Respectfully Submitted By,
Linda Monetti
Recreation Coordinator/Secretary