

**RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes**

**March 4th, 2020**

**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 ( P ); C. Zaikov ( P ); S. Black ( P ); J. Pennett ( P ); M. Onuska ( P ); M. Weber ( P ); S. Stiles ( P ); A. Baitel ( P ); D. Mobus ( A )

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The minutes of the February 12, 2020 meeting were approved by J. Pennett, seconded by M. Weber. All were in favor.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** Attached

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Snow Sculpture Contest Entries  
Letter for donations and sponsors  
Reference Information for discussion for a Yoga Program  
Mr. B's Fishing Camp & Volleyball Program Registration Information

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Commission made decisions on the first, second and third prize winners for the Snow Sculpture Contest.

The Commission discussed the logistics of running a Yoga program at the park or possibly the Art Center. S. Black mentioned the weather wouldn't be an issue if planned inside the Art Center. Also mentioned was running a Tai Chi program for Senior's to help with their balance. M. Weber suggested running a Tai Chi program at the Exempt Hall immediately following the senior's meeting. M. Onuska suggested running a fitness program for kids at the Art Center.

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS:***

The Commission discussed the details of the Easter Egg Hunt, Community Picnic and Music in the Park events. L. Monetti mentioned that the Lion's Club wanted a table again at the egg hunt and will help out with the egg distribution. As the food truck did not do well at last year's Music event the Commission agreed to only have an ice cream truck at this year's event. S. Stiles mentioned she would see if the Boy Scouts would like to sell hotdogs as a fund raiser during the Music event.

The Commission mentioned the Summer Camp program and discussed the possibility of the program being cancelled due to the Corona Virus. L. Monetti mentioned that 5 out of 7 trips have been set up and she will wait and see how this situation plays out in the next few weeks before planning the last two trips or ordering any supplies.

***REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE: No Report***

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

***VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:***

Warren Township Recreation – Coaches Training	\$106.50
Jersey Shore Pirate Adventure – Camp Trip Deposit Week 1	\$134.00
Powerhouse Studio's – Summer Camp Trip Deposit Week 2	\$500.00
Tomahawk Lake – Summer Camp Trip Deposit Week 3	\$530.00
Diamond Gymnastic & Rock Wall – Camp Deposit Week 7	\$100.00
ARF Temporary Restroom Mobus	\$500.00
Tynisha Sims – Referee Reimbursement	\$300.00
James Williams – Referee Reimbursement	\$300.00
Scott Shiffman – Referee Reimbursement	\$305.00

***ADJOURNMENT***

As there was no further business B. Jacques made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm, C. Murphy second the motion, all were in favor.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 8th, 2020 at 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 11<sup>th</sup> 11:00am – 12:30pm Phillip's Field  
Community Picnic – May 16<sup>th</sup>, Noon to 3:0pm  
Memorial Day Ceremony – May 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am - Texier House  
Music in the Park – June 6<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup>- June 14<sup>th</sup> & June 29<sup>th</sup> – Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> (9am -12)  
US Sports - Youth Soccer, Mobus Field, June 27<sup>th</sup> – August 9<sup>th</sup> (9 – 5)  
Little League – March – November Phillip's Field (Opening Day - April 18<sup>th</sup>)  
Operation Pride – Town Clean-Up Day – April 25<sup>th</sup> 9am - Noon  
Mr. B's Volley Ball Camp, Valley View School – July 13 – 17 & July 27 – July 31<sup>st</sup>  
Mr. B's Fishing Camp - June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 3<sup>rd</sup> & Aug. 17 – Aug. 21<sup>st</sup>

***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 29<sup>th</sup> through August 14<sup>th</sup>. The last day of school is scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The start of camp registrations is expected to start March 15<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and there is a 2<sup>nd</sup> application scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup>. 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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