

RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes

September 4, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:37 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); S. Black (A); J. Pennett (P); M. Onuska (P); M. Weber (P); M. Candiloros (A); A. Murad (P)

CONSENT AGENDA: M. Onuska made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2019 meeting, A. Murad second the motion.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: See Attached

CORRESPONDENCE:

Summer Camp Registrations & total cost breakdown
Movie Night & Ice Cream Social flyer
"Music in the Park" flyer

NEW BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed using Messina's Animal Stopper treatment to control the goose population at the park and walking paths around Watchung Lake. All were in favor of trying the product at Mobus Field first to see if it is effective.

The Commission discussed purchasing new picnic tables for Mobus Field and consolidating the tables that are in good condition with the tables at Phillip's Field as some tables are now rusting and need to be replaced as they could cause injuries to the residents. M. Weber and A. Murad made a recommendation to replace the picnic tables as they are becoming a safety issue. All were in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed the details of the past programs and events. See the attached Coordinators report for details of each program.

M. Onuska suggested using a program called the Survey Monkey to ask residents for their suggestions on how we can improve the summer camp program.

C. H+C, JD, MDR - 10/25/19

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (Continued)

J. Pennett mentioned we should caution off the area in front of the movie screen at Movie Night & Ice Cream Social event as the children were running across the wire and it could be a trip hazard. L. Monetti reported that volunteers are needed for the event and mentioned that M. Candiloros and A. Murad offered to help out. M. Onuska offered to lend his cotton candy machine to the P.T.O for their portion of the event.

L. Monetti mentioned that waters will be available at no cost at the "Music in the Park" event and volunteers are not needed as DPW will be there for the set up and break down of the event.

J. Pennett suggested asking the Mayor to start the fishing derby with the sound of an air horn. L. Monetti mentioned Ron Jacobson will be donating 50 catfish during the event, tossing them into the lake as the children fish. Karl Baumle a former Optimist Club member was contacted for his involvement but he has not yet responded. L. Monetti reported that Dave Mobus offered to give out the trophies. J. Pennett suggested having R. Jacobson give instruction to the children on fishing techniques.

L. Monetti mentioned the details of the Harvest Festival are in place and that the Municipal Alliance has offered to sponsor the event donating \$3240. for some of the amusements and healthy food options like the apples.

L. Monetti mentioned approvals are needed from Mayor and Council for planting Swamp River Birch at Mobus Field playground area to help with ground water issues and as a shade option. The Commission agreed to discuss this again in the spring.

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

Summer Camp;

The Brooklyn Press – Camp Shirts	\$662.77
Oriental Trading Camp Supplies	\$356.50
Turtle Back Zoo	\$300.00
Fred Dealaman Bus Service – Camp Trips	\$2537.60
Amazon – Crafts and Games	\$293.94
The Brooklyn Press – Staff Shirts	\$562.34
Tree Top Adventure Course	\$810.00
WB Mason – Supplies	\$189.25
Oriental Trading – Games & Crafts	\$456.99
Amazon – Tent Mats	\$83.93
Aramark – Trip Lunch	\$324.00
Round Top Swim & Tennis – Facility Use (1 st Installment)	\$2500.00
Round Top Swim & Tennis – Facility Use (2nd Installment)	\$2500.00
Round Top Swim & Tennis – (Final Payment & Wed. Lunch)	\$8580.00
D. Sommerville – Camp Snacks	\$82.20
Liberty Science Center Tip	\$1223.15
Amazon – First Aid Cold Pack	\$29.98
The Fun Plex	\$961.01
Powerhouse Studios	\$1300.00
Fun Services – Balloon Artist	\$300.00
Woodbridge Community Center – Rain Day Activity	\$720.00

VOUCHERS (Continued)

Cinemark Theatre & Yestercades – Rain Day Activity	\$895.50
D. Sommerville – Misc. Expenses	\$251.77
Jersey Lanes Bowling	\$240.00
Bounce Factory	\$700.00
L. Monetti – Movie, Popcorn, Waters, Camp Snacks	\$359.96
D. Sommerville – Misc. Expenses	\$81.23
Fred Dealaman Bus Service – Rain Day Trips	\$1591.25
Jersey Lanes Bowling w/lunch	\$520.00
Sports Engine, Inc. – Staff Background Checks	\$200.00
C. Malsonado – Camp Refund	\$450.00
S. Jain – Camp Refund	\$500.00

Movie Night;

Fun Services – Projection & Sound & Screen Rental	\$850.00
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Misc.;

Amazon – Tennis Net Replacement	\$189.98
Hoops Inc. – Replacement Backboard and Nets	\$1020.92
Assembly Wiz Pro – Install of Backboard and Nets	\$527.00
ARF Rental – Temporary Restrooms 6/1/19 – 6/30/19	\$47.88
Somerset County Park Comm. – Therapeutic Recreation	\$1450.00
ARF Rental – Temporary Restrooms 7/1/19 – 7/30/19	\$47.88
Thor Guard – Lightning Detection Battery	\$14.80

Harvest Festival;

Amazon – Leather Bracelet Craft & Popcorn	\$356.58
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REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:

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

B. Jacques reported that there is a pile of infield mix on Grant that has not yet been spread.
M. Onuska mentioned Mobus Field is in need of infield mix.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business B. Jacques made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM.
M. Weber second the motion. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, Oct. 2nd, 2019 7:30 PM at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted By;

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator/
Recording Secretary

WATCHUNG RECREATION
COORDINATOR'S REPORT
October 23, 2019

Field / Facility Use; Mr. B's summer camp programs have now concluded. Totals fees collected for all of his summer programs came to \$1020.00.

A total of \$2030. has been collected to date for field and facility use for all programs and events for the 2019.

Movie Night & the PTO Ice Cream Social; The event was held on September 13th from 6:30pm to 9:15pm at Phillip's Field. Approximately 300 residents came out to enjoy the festivities. The PTO supplied an ice cream truck and gave out around 350 ice cream cones during the first portion of the event. Recreation then supplied the popcorn, waters and juice packs during the movie portion. The PTO also sold cotton candy as a fund raiser for Duchenne Awareness and raised approximately \$750.00.

"Music in the Park"; The band "River of Dreams" a Billy Joel tribute band performed at Phillip's Field on September 21st from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. Two food trucks were at the event, a BBQ and an Ice Cream truck. Approximately 120 people came out for the event but it was very hot that day so most people sat in the back of the field in the shade. The band was great and the food trucks were really good but the crowd may not have been enough for them to return if we decide to do another "Music in the Park" event next year. We were all expecting a larger crowd.

Fishing Derby; The event was held on September 28th at Watchung Lake from 9:00am to Noon. Blue Ridge Sportsmen helped out again by measuring the fish and supporting the residents with bait and tackle. They also supplied the event with about 15 prizes that they gave out as a special give-a-way at the end of the event. About 120 people came out for the event which was a beautiful morning. Recreation supported the measuring process and kept track of the size and count of the fish as well as the registration for the event. We also supplied coffee, donuts, waters, and juice packs for the event. 55 children were registered and 224 fish were caught, 222 Blue Gills, 2 catfish and 1 large turtle. Ron Jacobson from Fish & Wildlife gave a presentation and donated 80 catfish that he released into the lake during the event. 18 trophies were given out at the end with three age groups and several categories.

Harvest Festival; The event was held on October 19th from 1:00pm – 4:00pm at Mobus Field. Approximately 600 people came out for the event. We went through a total of 600 hot dogs, 480 slices of pizza or 60 pies, 100 lbs. of apples, 270 bags of chips, 750 pieces of candy, 20 lbs. of popcorn, and 36 lbs. of dough for the Zepoles and funnel cakes donated by the Blue Ridge Sportsmen. Also supplied were 10 cs of soda, 5 cs of juice packs and about 600 bottles of water. The Municipal Alliance donated \$3240.00 to the event which covered the purchase of the pumpkins, the obstacle course and the 5 in 1 bounce house along with the generators and operators to run the amusements. They held the 5K Pumpkin Run prior to the start of the Harvest Festival and had a table in the parking lot for any families that wanted to participate in the Family Fun Walk that was being offered from 1:00pm to 3:00pm during the towns event. The town covered the petting zoo, the mechanical bull, the inflatable axe throwing, the face painters, the DJ, arts and crafts, and the food and supplies at a cost of \$6550. A new craft was added to the event. We supplied leather bracelets in two sizes with snaps for adjusting to the size of your wrist. The children could stamp their names and add designs with a mallet as well as color them with a variety of fine tipped colored markers. The summer camp director D. Somerville ran the table and would like to add this as a new craft idea for the 2020 summer camp.

Recreation and Travel Basketball; Registration is now open for the 2019/20 basketball season and watchunghoops website is now up and running.

Programs and Events Recap;

As this concludes the Recreation Commissions programs and events for the 2019 we now hold six town events and run three programs as follows;

The Egg Hunt, Community Picnic, the Movie Night, Music in the Park, the Fishing Derby and the Harvest Festival. Programs include a seven week, full time Summer Camp program, Travel and Recreation Basketball and a Spring Tennis program.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator/Secretary