

# **RECREATION COMMISSION**

## **Minutes**

**April 14th, 2021**

**Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

<https://zoom.us/j/3331540373>

**Meeting ID: 333 154 0373**

Dial In # - 1 (646) 558 - 8656

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:32 pm by Bill Jacques, Chairman of the Recreation Commission who determined the meeting had been called in accordance with the N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 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 ); J. Pennett ( P ); M. Onuska ( A ); M. Weber ( P ); S. Stiles ( A ); A. Baitel ( P ); F. Hayeck ( P ) T. Sims ( P )

**CONSENT AGENDA:** M. Weber made a motion to approve the March 3rd, 2021 meeting minutes. C. Zaikov second the motion. All were in favor.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:**

The Borough has received several inquiries about the Summer Camp program. The program was approved by the Mayor and Council but we are still waiting for the guidelines from the CDC before we can implement a program.

The Spring Craft event in conjunction with Operation Pride, the town's cleanup day, has been approved and an online signup link has been added to the Borough's website. Three half hour time slots will be available to accommodate 20 children at one time with 10 available tables. Only 40 participants will be allowed to use the craft tables at one time limiting the area to 50 people at one time including volunteers, the CERT Team and commission members as stated in the executive order according to the Board of Health and OEM. Also the Environmental Commission will have tree saplings to give out during the event along with food trucks that will be supplied by the PTO. The Recreation commission will supply a spring craft for children 2 – 13 yrs. painting terracotta pots and planting flowers or seeds.

Juneteenth which is Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> of June the school would like to have a celebration focused on culture with music and food trucks and again have the Recreation Commission supply some type of cultural art project for the children. They would like to include the Art Center for the music, the PTO to supply the Food Trucks and the school would supply a speaker. This program is still in the discussion stages.

C: M+C, JD, EG - 6-7-21

### ***Field Use;***

At this time and until further notice all field requests for Phillip's Field will be handled by the Board of Education. The Recreation Commission will need to apply for the field use for the *Music in the Park* event. The band *Lost in Place* is not available on May 22<sup>nd</sup> as originally planned but they would like to have the event on June 5<sup>th</sup> instead. The Mayor and Council has approved the event for May 22<sup>nd</sup> so a date change approval has been submitted.

### ***UNFINISHED BUSINESS:***

The commission discussed the details of the Spring Craft Day. L. Monetti mentioned that two people from the Environmental Commission will staff a table with free tree saplings that will be given away with directions on how to plant them. T. Sims mentioned that the details of the Juneteenth event are still being planned and that she should have an update once more detail are available.

### ***NEW BUSINESS:***

The commission discussed the idea of having fireworks in town for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. L. Monetti mentioned that the Rescue Squad has fireworks every year on the first Friday in December as part of the Tree lighting ceremony. F. Hayeck reported that the event was cancelled this year due to the pandemic but that he would talk to M. King from the Rescue Squad to discuss the possibility of holding firework on July 4<sup>th</sup> this year since it was not possible in December. D. E. Kneigten suggested having a parade on July 4<sup>th</sup> and T. Simms mentioned extending an invitation to all town organizations to participate.

### ***VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:***

### ***REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:***

Recreation Basketball  
Boys Traveling Basketball  
Somerset County Activities

Special Events  
Girls Traveling Basketball  
Adult Basketball

Volleyball  
Tennis

J. Pennett reported that Little League has started practices and are in place at Phillip's Field. L. Monetti mentioned that the lightening detection system was inspected and approved for the season.

### ***ADJOURNMENT***

As there was no further business B. Jacques made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm. J. Pennett second the motion. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, June 2nd, 2021, 7:30PM and will be held virtually until further notice.

Respectfully Submitted By,

*Linda Monetti*

Recreation Coordinator/  
Recording Secretary