

RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

Oct. 19th, 2022

(Date Change)

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

CALL TO ORDER;

The meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:33 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 (P); A. Baitel (A); F. Hayeck (P) T. Sims (A)

CONSENT AGENDA; M. Weber made a motion to approve the Sept. 7th, 2022 meeting minutes. J. Pennett second the motion, all were in favor.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT; See Attached

CORRESPONDENCE; Harvest Festival Flyer

UNFINISHED BUSINESS;

The Commission discussed the details of the following combined event; Harvest Festival, Chili Cook Off and New Playground Ribbon Cutting. For details of the planned event see the Coordinator's Report.

NEW BUSINESS; The Commission discussed additional activities that could be added to Mobus Field and updates to the Capital Budget. F. Hayeck mentioned that Pickle Ball, Bocci Ball, Volleyball and adult workout equipment were all mentioned in the past. M. Weber suggested adding a small water park.

The Commission discussed options to utilize any remaining funds in the recreation budget. F. Hayeck suggested offering a trip to a sports game. M. Weber suggested Disney on Ice. Other suggestions were the Nutcracker or the holiday light show at the PNC Art Center. L. Monetti mention a bus could be upwards of \$1000. B. Jacques stated that a bus may not be necessary. The Commission dicussed getting discounted tickets and paying a portion of the amount with the remaining budget in order to reduce the admission costs to the residents.

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL;

Summer Camp;

Fred Dealaman – Summer Camp Bus Transport	\$3,845.25
Meeker Sharkey – Additional Trip Insurance	\$362.00
Round Top – Final Installment including Wednesday lunch	\$7,802.00
Sports Engine, Inc. – Background Checks	\$61.50

Movie Night;

Movie Night Banner	\$91.02
Criterion Pictures – Movie License	\$350.00

Fishing Derby;

Costco – Misc. Supplies	\$359.12
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Misc;

Project Graduation WHRHS	\$500.00
Amazon – Misc. event supplies	\$98.65

Harvest Festival;

Amazon – Crafts & Prizes	\$221.14
Apex Media – Banner & Signs Scarecrow & Harvest Festival	\$440.00
Fun Services –Deposit - Inflatables, Game Trailer, Grill Rental	\$3,310.00
Oriental Trading – Sand Art Supplies	\$261.19

REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE;

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

C. Zaikov reported that two (2) Watchung Travel Basketball teams were established for 6th & 7th grade students. C. Zaikov mentioned that Recreation Basketball will be run by Warren Township for all other grades except the high school Youth Basketball program which will be offered to high school Juniors and Seniors through Watchung Recreation and held at WHRHS in January and February of 2023.

L. Monetti mentioned that Valley View School is now running an Adventure Education program in the evenings and that the school no longer has a night available for the Women’s Volleyball program. C. Zaikov offered to give up the Monday reservation at Bayberry School for Travel Basketball in order to make room for Women’s Volleyball.

ADJOURNMENT;

As there was no further business B. Jacques made a motion to adjourned the meeting at 8:27pm, M. Weber second the motion. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, Nov. 2nd, 2022, 7:30PM at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted By,
Linda Monetti
Recreation Coordinator/Recording Secretary

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

October 19, 2022

Movie Night; The Movie Night held on September 9th at Phillip's Field was well attended with approximately 120 residents who came out for the event. The PBA partnered with Recreation by supplying (2) ice cream trucks for one hour prior to the movie with free soft serve ice cream for all residents. The event was scheduled from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Since it wasn't dark enough until about 7:20 the movie started a little late and went on until 9:15pm. All prior movies have been animated and geared to a younger crowd but since the movie "The Greatest Showman" was a musical it was well received by all ages. Residents were offering to make donations to offset the cost since it was a free event. John Pennett put out a contribution can and we were able to collect \$40.00 in donations. MaryAnn Weber and John Pennett made the popcorn during the event and helped with the distribution of refreshments. The Mayor, Council, Police, Fire and Rescue Squad came out to support the event.

Fishing Derby; The Fishing Derby was held on September 17th from 9:00am to noon at Watchung Lake. Several students volunteered to help out at the event with bait and tackle from Mr. B's fishing camp. Mr. B supplied the borough with bait. Only 14 students registered in the Derby but with parents and grandparents that accompanied their children we had a good amount of fishing lines in the water for the event. Many of the fish caught were Sunnies or Blue Gil with a couple of Bass and one 23" Catfish which was the highlight of the event. Noah Baitel did a wonderful job keeping up with the flow of measuring the fish. Suz Stile along with Allison Baitel handled the registrations and the scoreboard. Council President Jubin gave out the trophies and Councilwomen Ead supported the event by taking pictures to share on our website.

Field Use; Mr. B's Fishing Camp was held at Best Lake from June to September. There were 117 students who were enrolled in the program. The Borough collected \$1755.00 for the field use with registration fees at \$15.00 per person.

Harvest Festival; The event is scheduled for October 22nd from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at Mobus Field. The event will include a Chili Cook Off contest as well as a Ribbon Cutting for the new playground. Since the playground has just been completed the grounds are not ideal for this event as the grassy areas have all been disturbed in many places. The DPW will do their best to cover areas that are compromised with hay and most of the festivities will be located on the tennis courts and black top.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator/
Recording Secretary