

**RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
December 7, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:35 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); D. Mobus (A); J. Pennett (P);
M. Onuska (P); M. Weber (P); D. Devine (P)

CONSENT AGENDA: The minutes of the November 2, 2016 meeting were approved by M. Onuska, seconded by M. Weber.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: See Attached

CORRESPONDENCE:

Revised Capital Budget
Meeting Schedule for 2017
Program Insurance Cost Quotes
Bus Transport Cost Quote for Devil's Game
Devil's Game Schedule
Summer Camp Proposal Outline

NEW BUSINESS:

L. Monetti mentioned the changes made to the Capital Budget reflected the items that were in need for replacement or repair at Phillip's Field according to D. Nunn a representative and former president of Little League. Other additions to the Capital Budget included resident concerns mentioned on the Recreation Survey that included lighting in areas around Watchung Lake for those that utilize the walking path after hours, adding shade in and around the playground area and connecting a walkway from the Library to the walking path at Best Lake.

The Commission discussed running a Summer Camp program at Brook Hill Swim Club. Discussed were issues like whether a not to run the program when it rains and to ask Warren how they handle rain if it starts in the middle of the day. Also mentioned was that Green Brook owns their busses and the possibility that we might be able to negotiate a price with them if their residents were included in the program. Also discussed was a per-person, per-day cost to Brook Hill. M. Onuska mentioned that Sunburst Gymnastics was in the process of putting an addition on to their building that could be utilized as a rain location for the Summer Camp program if approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed running a trip to the Devil's game. M. Onuska mentioned that he would look into dates and costs for a trip.

Also discussed was running a teen program as requested by residents in the Recreation survey. As Sunburst Gymnastics runs a program for this age group and it has been successful at their facility the Commission has decided to run a program at Sunburst Gym. with bus transport from Watchung to the gym in Union and back. The program is run from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm so the bus will be scheduled to leave the police parking lot at 4:30 pm and return at 9:30 pm giving parents a safe place for their children to be on a Saturday evening. Discussed was that the program will run with a minimum of 15 students and a maximum of 40. The program will be offered for \$30.00 with the Borough paying for the bus transportation.

REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:

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

Basketball; C. Zaikov reported that 3rd & 4th grade boys basketball and 5th & 6th grade boys and girls basketball started Saturday, December 3rd. He also mentioned that second grade games will start after the new year.

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

Dee Lightning & Safety, Inc. – Preventative Maintenance	\$350.00
O2 Sports – Travel Basketball Uniforms	\$1838.00

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business M. Onuska made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm, D. Devine seconded the motion. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, January 4th, 2017, 7:30PM at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Linda Monetti

Linda Monetti
Recreation Coordinator/
Recording Secretary

WATCHUNG RECREATION
COORDINATOR'S REPORT
December 7, 2016

Donation; Weldon Materials, Inc. donated \$1,000.00 to Recreation which will be used in 2017 for activities offered at our annual Community Picnic event.

Mr. B's Holiday Camp; Mr. B ran a holiday camp at Valley View School in association with Watchung Recreation as a requirement of the Board of Education and so Watchung Recreation received \$320.00 as a facility use fee.

Temporary Restroom; The Porta John is no longer available at Phillip's Field and the water has been shut off at both parks for the season.

Summer Camp Program; After the Borough was contacted by the Warren Township Recreation Director informing us that their Summer Camp program is no longer available to Watchung residents, C. Zaikov mentioned that Brook Hill Swim Club would be interested in working with the Watchung Rec Commission. Brook Hill was then contacted to see if they would be willing to allow Watchung Recreation to run a summer camp program at their facility. The Brook Hill board of directors discussed the option at their last meeting and all members were in favor of such a program. The Hurley Insurance Agency has also been contacted and they supplied us with an insurance estimate of \$167.00 for a 29 day camp if the program was run from June 26th thru August 4th for 40 students from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. That would be a six week program with a day off for the July 4th holiday. L. Monetti spoke with a Marianne Candiloros from Brook Hill and gave her an outline of what the Rec Commission might like to propose including the possibility of running one trip per week to an outside facility like Bridgewater Sports Arena or Bowling. L. Monetti mentioned we could offer activities like volleyball, badminton, bocce ball, tennis, swimming, ping pong, arts and crafts and board games. The Delaman bus company has also been contacted for quotes on trips and a one way transport from Mobus Field to the camp in the am only. It was mentioned that parents could pick up their children at Brook Hill at the end of the day. A director would need to be hired as well as an assistant and counselors for each age group with junior counselors as volunteers. After an approval from the Mayor, Council and the Administration cost factors can be determined based on what is financially needed to run a program that can be self-sustained. Also discussed was offering the program to children ages 5 years to 13 years old. Warren mentioned that 60 students took advantage of the Warren Summer Camp program from Watchung last summer. No cost factors have been discussed.