

**RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
January 4, 2017**

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 (P); D. Mobus (A); J. Pennett (P); M. Onuska (P);
M. Weber (P)

CONSENT AGENDA: M. Onuska made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2016 meeting, M. Weber second the motion.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: See Attached

CORRESPONDENCE:

Summer Camp Proposal
"Kids Night Out" event forms

NEW BUSINESS:

L. Monetti mentioned that there are two alternate member positions available on Recreation. M. Weber suggested asking members of the Youth Service Commission or BOE to see if any of those members would be interested in a position on Recreation. J. Pennett suggested asking parents involved in the Boy Scouts or Girl Scout.

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

Mike Onuska Devil's Game Ticket Deposit	\$200.00
Commercial Popcorn Machine	\$219.99
Meeker Sharkey & Hurley – Insurance for "Kids Night Out"	\$447.00
Craig Zaikov – Wilson Basketballs	\$102.64

C: M+C, TEA, MDR - 2/2/17

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed the "Kids Night Out" program. L. Monetti mentioned that a bus chaperone was needed and M. Weber offered to chaperone the bus to and from the event.

The Commission discussed the Summer Camp program proposal outlined by L. Monetti. The proposal included estimated costs for a director, assistant director, 8 counselors including trips and 44 campers at a cost of \$250.00 per person. Costs were also estimated for training, crafts and special events. C. Zaikov mentioned that there may be weeks that the camp would not be full. M. Onuska suggested offering the camp for two week intervals hoping to fill most weeks. M. Onuska mentioned including an early enrollment discount and a deadline. M. Webber mentioned that the director should schedule the counselors based on the enrollment for each week. M. onuska mentioned that the camp should be offered for full days and 2 weeks only with no options for a half day program.

The Commission also discussed the Easter Egg Hunt event. B. Jacques mentioned that he will start the egg hunt for the younger children inside the fencing of Ost Field as it will allow everyone the same opportunity to hunt for eggs as last year it took time to get everyone through the gate and so the first ones through ended up with most of the eggs. M. Weber suggested setting up a photo opportunity with a chair for the rabbit to sit as it was difficult for the rabbit to navigate because it's hard to see in the costume. Also mentioned was ordering more eggs and asking the school to use their parking lot for extra parking. L. Monetti mentioned the possibility of using the grassy areas at Mobus for additional parking.

The Commission discussed future improvements to Camp Endeavor and the Ness property. M. Onuska suggested using Camp Endeavor for hiking trails including grills for cookouts and maybe Frisbee golf. C. Zaikov suggested building a Recreation center at the Ness property and looking into county grants to help fund it. M. Onuska suggested installing a soft play water park at the Ness property with a multi-use field and snack shack and holding future summer camps at the property. M. Weber suggested using the Ness property for a community garden.

REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:

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

Travel Basketball; C. Zaikov mentioned that due to low enrollment in the program travel basketball will be looking into running a program as the Watchung Hills Travel Basketball program and would include surrounding towns including Watchung, Warren, Green Brook and Long Hill Township.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business B. Jacques adjourned the meeting at 9:20 PM.
The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 7:30PM
at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted By;

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator/
Recording Secretary

WATCHUNG RECREATION
COORDINATOR'S REPORT

January 4, 2017

Devil's Game Trip; The Rec Commission had planned to run a Devil's game trip on Feb. 3rd, 2017 and had put down a deposit of \$200.00 to reserve tickets. Before the bus was secured we learned that the PTO had purchased tickets to the Islander's game on February 18th and tickets were already available for purchase. The representative was contacted and informed us that the deposit is not refundable but can be used for any future games within a year. Plans will be made for a trip to utilize the deposit in the future.

Member Resignation; On January 3rd, 2017 we received the unfortunate resignation of Debbie Devine who can no longer serve on the Recreation Commission but she plans to help out at events whenever she is available. She was very appreciative of the opportunity to serve the Borough.

Capital Improvements; The Drainage improvement project at Mobus field is planned to start within the next few weeks according to Tom Herits the engineer. Also the deck replacement project at Phillip's field should be completed before the start of the Little League season. We are also waiting for a proposal on the railings and step repairs at Phillip's that go from the parking lot to the snack shack as the estimate for the decking came in under budget we are hopeful that the steps and railing can also be repaired and replaced within the budget allocated for the decking.

2016 Donations; The total amount of donations collected in 2016 comes to \$4420.00 compared to 2015 where we received \$4500.00 in donations. That is a difference of \$80.00 and with a decrease of \$500.00 in the Lion's Club donation for the Easter Egg Hunt event we were able to increase the Community Picnic donations to make up some of that difference.

Field Use Fees for 2016; Field Use fees collected for 2016 with programs such as Mr. B's summer programs and holiday camps as well as our tennis programs, US Sports camps and park rentals the Borough was able to collect a total of \$4655.00, up by \$1915.00 from 2015.

2017 Event Schedule;

- 1.) "Kids Night Out" 2/04/17 – 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- 2.) Easter Egg Hunt 4/08/17 (Rain Date 4/09/17) 11:00 am– 12:30 pm
- 3.) Community Picnic 5/20/17 (Rain Date 5/21/17) 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
- 4.) Movie Night Event (To be determined)
- 5.) Fishing Derby 9/16/17 (Rain Date 9/17/17) 9:30 am – 12:30 pm
- 6.) Harvest Festival 10/28/17 (Rain Date 10/29/17) *Changed* to 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- 7.) Devil's Game Trip (To be determined)

Respectfully Submitted By,

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator