

RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes

April 5, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:40 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 March 1, 2017 meeting minutes, M. Weber 2nd the motion. All were in favor.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: See attached.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Summer Camp Director Resume Submission
Summer Camp Registrations to Date
Tent Prices and Information
Girls Field Hockey Flyer
Watchung Hills Warriors – Tackle, Flag Football and Cheerleading Flyer
Mr. B's Program Flyers

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Commission discussed the Easter Egg Hunt event. B. Jacques suggested leaving 1000 eggs aside for any children that might miss the egg hunt portion of the event. L. Monetti mentioned that the Girl Scouts would like to attend the event. She mentioned they are working toward their Journey Badge of "It's your story, Tell it." Their story is to help protect the environment and their theme is "Solute to NOT Pollute". The girls have created a visual display as well as written piece they would like to display at the event as well as sell Girl Scout cookies. The Commission discussed the involvement of organizations that might be interested in a table at the Easter Egg Hunt event if it comes up again in the future. They felt that this particular event is not one that should have more than one organization or committee attend. J. Pennett suggested that only one service group should be allowed to attend the event each year. All were in favor.

REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:

Recreation Basketball
Boys Traveling Basketball
Somerset County Activities

Special Events
Girls Traveling Basketball
Adult Basketball

Volleyball
Tennis

J. Pennett mentioned that Men's Basketball held at Bayberry School on Friday evenings has out of town attendance again this year which compromises the play time for residents. He mentioned the use of an attendance sheet that requests the address of all attendees. M. Onuska mentioned purchasing a Recreation ID for players that can be used yearly that would discourage out of town attendance.

M. Weber mentioned an issue that was discussed previously about the shade issue at Mobus Field. She suggested planting more trees in and around the playground area to create more shade for the children and families. She suggested planting trees with a smaller root system near the benches so that when parents are supervising their children and resting on a bench they could be sitting in the shade. Last year was an exceptionally hot summer and that's when parents had made complaints on the survey about not having enough shaded areas near the playground equipment.

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

Project Graduation Donation	\$300.00
<i>Recreation Basketball Referee Reimbursements</i>	
Jeralyn Lawrence -	\$600.00
Joli Tormey -	\$200.00
John Tormey -	\$600.00
Shelle Sepe -	\$300.00
Todd Smith -	\$400.00
John Mazzuca -	\$400.00
Doyle Hunsinger -	\$400.00
Maria Dahl -	\$200.00
Curtis Dahl -	\$550.00
Scott Shiffman -	\$350.00
Craig Zaikov -	\$440.00
Tracy Zaikov -	\$440.00
Craig Zaikov – Showcase Event Prizes & Supplies	\$364.95
D & M Trophies	\$939.75
<i>Easter Egg Hunt</i>	
Linda Monetti – 4000 Filled Easter Eggs	\$576.21

NEW BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed the Summer Camp enrollment. As there were many spots still available the Commission felt we should open the early discount enrollment to surrounding towns. All were in favor. Also discussed was offering a 50% discount to the camp director's children for their enrollment in the program. B. Jacques made a motion to allow for a 50% discount for the director's children, J. Pennett second the motion. All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 7:30PM at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted By;

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator/
Recording Secretary

WATCHUNG RECREATION
COORDINATOR'S REPORT

April 5, 2017

Easter Egg Hunt; The Watchung Lions Club donated \$750.00 to Watchung Recreation for the event and offered to help distribute eggs prior to the start of the egg hunt. Mike Finne also made a personal donation of \$150.00 that he requested we use for prizes. 8 Gift cards were purchased with his donation, 2 /\$25.00 movie gift cards for the 10 thru 13 year olds, 4 /\$20.00 and 2 /\$10.00 Toys R Us gift cards, 3 stuffed animals for the younger children and 3 paddle board games for the 6 to 9 year olds. 54 Small prizes were also purchased to give out for games such as the sack race, egg and spoon race, and freeze frame. 4000 eggs have been purchased for the event vs. last year's 2000 eggs purchase, so that some eggs can be put aside for any children that might miss the egg hunt portion of the event. The DJ was asked to play games from 11:00 am, the start of the event, until 11:30 am when the Mayor will announce the start of the egg hunt with an air horn. Coffee, hot chocolate, waters, juice packs and Munchkins will be available as refreshments. K – 2nd grade Girl Scout troops are working on a badge to bring awareness to pollution and will have a table at the event selling Girl Scout Cookies. DPW will set up the tables and cones with caution tape to separate the areas for each age group. Children will be grouped as follows; 2 – 5 yr. olds will hunt in Ost Field. 6 – 9 yr. olds will hunt in the Barrett Field area and 1- 13 yr. olds will hunt in the Grant Field area. We will also have a picture op set up for the Easter Bunny.

Community Picnic; Donations letters were sent out a few weeks ago. So far we have received \$300.00 from Forest Lodge, \$400.00 from Meeker Sharkey and \$300.00 from the PTO as well as the \$1,000. donation from Weldon a while back. I received a call from the manager of Stop and Shop who is supporting a donation from their corporate office in the amount of \$1,500. which I needed to apply for and have not heard back from yet. Colorado Café offered to make a monetary donation as well as donate the ice, Wilson Memorial offered to donate the popcorn and Performance Rehab offered to donate the waters. I have been in contact with Fun Services about supplying the amusements including the DJ, face painter and balloon artist. I have ordered 150 pretzels with a warmer and a cotton candy machine but have not made a final decision on the amusements to date. I asked Fun Services about other food options we can include at the event and they mentioned that they could provide Italian Ice and a cart for \$300.00 so I reserved that as this is something Caldwell Banker had always supplied in the past.

Summer Camp; So far there are 24 children enrolled in the program with week #4, July 17 – 14 having the most enrolled at 19. The first week June 26 – 30 has the least enrolled at 6. The administrator, clerk and I met with a candidate for the directors position. She found our ad online as she was checking town websites for available camp positions. She is the only applicant that has applied for the position so far. She gave us all a good impression of her experience and we all felt that she would be a strong candidate. The administrator plans to make a final decision for the director's position within the next 2 weeks. After the position of the director is filled we will open up the counselor positions and advertise in the Echoes, WHRHS, and Watchung Rescue Squad for an EMT. Three trips have been scheduled so far, Land of Make Believe for week #1, Liberty Science Center including the Imax Theater on week #2 and The Bounce Factory in Warren for bounce and laser tag for week #7. Brook Hill gave us permission to place a 20' x 40' tent on the property for shade and as a meeting place and suggested using some smaller pop up tents in front of the tennis courts for shade when in the pool area. They also mentioned they would like something in writing from the Borough about the terms of our agreement.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator