

**RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes**

**March 6, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Watchung Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:36 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 ( A ); S. Black ( P ); J. Pennett ( A ); M. Onuska ( P ); M. Weber ( P ); C. Taylor ( A ); A. Murad ( P )

**CONSENT AGENDA:** M. Onuska made a motion to approve the February 6, 2019 meeting minutes, A. Murad second the motion.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** See attached

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Playground Shade Information  
"Music in the Park" – Price Quotes  
Field/Facility Use Information

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

L. Monetti mentioned that she had received three quotes for installing shade at the Mobus Field Playground. She reported that the lowest quote for the installation was \$9,900. She mentioned that she could see if it was possible to have the DPW do the installation. B. Jacques suggested asking the Aldrich Brothers for a quote.

The Commission discussed different options for the "Music in the Park" event. L. Monetti mentioned that she inquired about several tribute bands but their cost was about \$5,000 which was more than the budget would allow. M. Onuska suggested using a band called "FOG" (Four Old Guys) which is a local band that plays on occasion at Rolf's and plays music from the 70's and 80's.

The Commission discussed the Easter Egg Hunt. A. Murad, M. Weber and B. Jacques reported that they were available to help out at the event. L. Monetti mentioned the 2018 donation from the Lion's Club for \$500.00 will be used for the event and they will also help distribute the eggs.

The Commission discussed the Summer Camp program location options. The Commission agreed that Round Top Swim Club would most likely be more favorable to the parents as the children would be able to swim daily. L. Monetti mentioned that if the camp was held at Bayberry School the children would have to be transported to offsite locations more often which is a lot of transitions and more difficult for the Director and Staff to coordinate as well as adding to the cost to run the camp. L. Monetti mentioned that the staff will only be hired if they are available for the entire seven week program and so far we have a director and one staff member from last year's program committed to working at the camp.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: CONTINUED:**

The Commission discussed the lightening detection system. L. Monetti reported that she got a quote from Dee Lightning Systems for \$4400. to replace the computer and sensor. The Commission decided to look into newer systems to compare the cost of the replacing the existing unit. B. Jacques mentioned that a new unit may be less expensive and a better option than replacing parts on the older unit.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Commission discussed the request from the Mayor to add the “Mayor’s Regatta”. L. Monetti mentioned that canoes were borrowed or rented from Camp Riverbend for the event. S. Black mentioned that the lake needs to be dredged and that it may be a good idea to wait until that is done before we hold the event.

**REPORTS OF CHAIRPEOPLE:**

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

C. Zaikov reported the Basketball Showcase will be held at Valley View School on Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> which concludes the Basketball program for this season. He mentioned that the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Boys team made it to the championships. Reimbursement requests are now being made for the Travel team referees for coaches that paid for the service. C. Zaikov reported that last year’s trophies were recycled for this year’s program.

**VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:**

Watchung BOE – Facility Use for Recreation Basketball	\$3052.50
Warren Township – Coaches Clinic Reimbursement	\$71.00

*Basketball Referee Reimbursements;*

James Williams	\$550.00
Jennifer Shiffman	\$350.00
Scott Shiffman	\$400.00
Tynisha Sims	\$600.00
Todd Smith	\$400.00
Troy Sims	\$150.00

**ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business B. Jacques adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 7:30PM Borough Hall, 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully Submitted By;

*Linda Monetti*

Recreation Coordinator/  
Recording Secretary

**WATCHUNG RECREATION**  
**COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

**March 6, 2019**

***Summer Camp;*** A meeting was held with the Mayor, Council Liaison S. Black, the school Superintendent S. Bilenker, the school administrator, the BOE and I on February 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss the possibility of running the Summer Camp program at one of the schools. As other programs are already being scheduled at Bayberry School during the first 4 weeks of camp, it was suggested that we run the program there. The school is willing to allow the summer program to run free of charge while other programs are being offered at the school. Custodial fees will only be charged if the camp is the only program being run at the school. As we would need to enter the school around 8:00am and the after program ends at 5:00pm custodial fees could add up to over \$11,000. The School offered to allow us to use the gym, the All Purpose Room and the Playground.

Lisa Young a board member from Round Top Swim and Tennis Club met with A. Murad and I on Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss the possibility of running a summer camp at their location. The location was very similar to Brook Hill with the same options and the addition of a Recreation Center that could be used in case of a rain event. Also available would be the Temple next door which has a large gym. L. Young suggested sending in a quote for the use of their facility and it would be discussed at the next board meeting. After sending in a quote of \$50.00 per child, the quote was approved and they are looking forward to working with us.

***Easter Egg Hunt;*** The Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 13<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 to 12:30 at Phillip's Field. A DJ has been scheduled through Fun Services for the music and games. 4000 eggs will be purchased for the event and Karen Pennett has agreed to be our Easter Bunny Mascot. Members of the Lion's Club and the Rec Commission will distribute the eggs and participate as volunteers. Coffee, Hot chocolate, waters, and Munchkins will be offered at the event along with games and prizes.

***Community Picnic;*** The event has been scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of May 19<sup>th</sup>. An application has been submitted for a grant from Stop & Shop in the amount of \$1500.00 to help offset the costs of the food for the event. Local businesses will be contacted with a request for support and involvement to add to the festivities.

***Lightning Detection System***; John Dee from Dee Lightning and Safety contacted the Borough to inform us that the computer and sensor of the unit at Phillip's Field is not working and needs to be replaced. He quoted us a price of \$4100 for parts, \$100 for shipping and \$400 to install the parts.

***Music in the Park***"; Several agents have been contacted for prices on the bands for the event. As there are many to choose from the Commission will have several choices. Prices vary but prices can be upwards of over \$5000 for a three hour event. We will not need to rent a stage as we can now use the new deck at Phillip's. A. Murad is looking into options for the food trucks.

Respectfully Submitted By,

*Linda Monetti*

Recreation Coordinator