



RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes

February 5, 2025

7:30p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:32pm in the absence of Chairman Bill Jacques, by the present members who determined that this meeting was called in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. Notice of this meeting was given by way of annual notice to the official newspapers, and posted at Borough Hall.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL:

Bill Jacques, Chair Person (); John Pennet, Vice-Chair Person (); Michael Onuska (√); Mary Ann Weber (√); Suzanne Stiles (√); Curt Dahl, Council Liaison (√); Pierce Jubin (); Robert Weck (√); Dámaris Gray, Coordinator (√)

APPOINTMENTS

Chair - Motion was made by Suz Stiles and seconded by Mary Ann Weber nominating Michael Onuska as Chairman. All present were in favor.

Vice Chair - Motion was made by Mary Ann Weber and seconded by Suz Stiles nominating Bill Jacques as Vice Chairman. All present were in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA: Approval of the December 4, 2024 meeting minutes

A motion to approve the September 4, 2024, meeting minutes was made by Suz Stiles and seconded by Michael Onuska, all present were in favor.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: 2025 Events through June (attached hereto)

- Facility Requests – Mike Onuska questioned the management of Phillips Field by the Borough versus the Board of Education. Damaris Gray clarified that since the beginning of 2023 the Borough has processed facilities requests and maintained Phillips Field.
- Easter Egg Hunt – Disc Jockey confirmed and 6,000 plastic eggs ordered.
- Community Picnic – Three companies will be contacted for quotes on the entertainment (i.e. inflatables, DJ, face painting, etc.)
- Block Party – Since the Winter Wonderland was canceled, Party Perfect Rentals (credit) will be used for this event. (Flag Day themed – Red, White & Blue) Watchung Education Foundation (WEF) will have their fundraiser. Lost in Place and Disc Jockey for entertainment and food trucks will also be included.
- Summer Camp – Will be held at Mobus Field. We are in talks with Sommerset County for the use of Warren Brook Pool twice a week. Residents will be able to pay online this year through a new module to our payment process strictly for Recreation. Registration fee will not increase.

Damaris Gray informed that the new module will also include a more streamlined scheduling process for the Pickleball and Tennis Courts as well as Field Requests online payments.

CORRESPONDENCE: (Attached hereto)

- Resolution R7 adopted by the Governing Body on December 19, 2024, Endorsing the Watchung Hills Select Boys' Travel Team.

VOUCHERS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

Watchung Rescue Squad (CPR/AED/First Aid Training for Camp Staff)	\$595.00
Ayers Distributing (6,000 Easter Eggs)	\$894.00
Edmonds & Associates (Parks & Recreation Module – Website)	\$4,718.75
Party Perfect Rentals (Winter Wonderland-Deposit)	\$885.00
Banners (Winter Wonderland)	\$44.77
Youth Travel Basketball (Re-Imbursement for League Registration)	\$995.00

Credit Card Purchases

BJ's - snacks for Fishing Derby	\$70.95
Fishing Derby – Coffee/donuts	\$31.96
Fishing Derby - Banners	\$22.38
Fishing Derby – Medallions	\$128.96
Fishing Derby - Worms	\$114.29
Supplies	\$163.13
Harvest Festival - snacks	\$355.44
Harvest Festival – chili prizes	\$300.00
Harvest Festival - snacks	\$92.98
Supplies – banners & paper goods	\$470.34
Somerset County Therapeutic Recreation	\$1,450.00

REPORTS OF CHAIR PERSONS - No reports were given for the following:

Recreation Basketball	Girls Traveling Basketball
Boys Traveling Basketball	Men's Basketball
Somerset County Activities	Volleyball
Special Events	Tennis

OLD BUSINESS:

- Capital Improvement List 2023-2025 (will be provided at the meeting) – Discussion was held regarding items on the list, particularly Camp Endeavor, dredging of Best and Watchung Lakes and improving the sidewalks around Watchung Lake.
- Grants
- Final – 2025 Schedule for both Recreation and Borough Events (attached) – Suz Stiles suggested to ask if WEF would consider to hold they're Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 26th, if not, can we hold the Harvest Festival on that Sunday.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Michael Onuska informed the Commission that he contacted PSE&G regarding the street lights around the lake and passed on the information to DPW Director William McClave for further action.

- Skating/Roller Skating Rink – Discussion was held regarding possible locations for a skating rink activity in the future. Suggestion was made to bring a pop-up Winter Festival sometime in January or February next year.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Curt Dahl and seconded by Mary Ann Weber. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18pm. The next meeting is scheduled to be held Wednesday, March 5, 2025, 7:30pm at Borough Hall, at 15 Mountain Boulevard.

Respectfully submitted by,

Dámaris Quiñones-Gray

Recreation Coordinator/Recording Secretary

Accepted: 3/5/2025