

RECREATION COMMISSION RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

January 28, 2016

Present: Mr. Kevin Bodnar, Vice Chairman (arrived
at 7:51 p.m.)
Mr. Michael Breslin
Mr. Jake Cahill
Mrs. Jan McCabe
Mr. Gerard Sittmann, Chairman
Mrs. Maggie Slawinski

Absent: Mrs. Maureen McEntee

Present: Karleen Leahey, Recreation Director
Councilwoman Laurie Fu

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Sittmann called the meeting to order. He stated that adequate notice of this meeting has been posted and published in accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Law of 1975, "Open Public Meetings Act."

Mr. Sittmann advised that Mr. Breslin is to be re-appointed; he also needs to sign a commitment stating he will remain on the Commission for an additional five (5) years.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Sittmann requested that all members review the minutes of the Commission's December 10, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Mrs. Slawinski moved that the minutes of the December 10, 2015 meeting be approved, seconded by Mr. Cahill. Voice vote. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Councilwoman Fu advised that this Commission meeting cannot proceed without first re-organizing for 2016.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Slawinski nominated Mr. Sittmann for the position of Commission Chairman for the calendar year 2016, seconded by Mr. Breslin . Voice vote. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

NOMINATIONS FOR VICE CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Slawinski nominated Mr. Bodnar for the position of Commission Vice Chairman for the calendar year 2016, seconded by Mr. Breslin. Voice vote. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Sittmann opened the meeting to the public to speak on matters other than those on the agenda. Seeing no one, he closed the public portion of the meeting.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – JANUARY 2016

Mrs. Leahey presented her report.

Mrs. Leahey advised that the Commission must approve the resolution setting the dates for all 2016 Commission meetings.

NOTICE OF RECREATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION
2016 REGULAR MEETINGS

BB IT RESOLVED by the Board of Recreation Commissioners of the Borough of Morris Plains in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. During the year 2015 the regular meeting of the Commission will be at **7:30 P.M.** on the **fourth Thursday of each month** with the exceptions: November, the meeting will be held on the third Thursday and December, the meeting will be held on the second Thursday. No meeting is held in the month of August.
2. All of said regular meetings at which formal action may be taken will take place in the Council Chambers of the Borough Hall, 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, New Jersey.
3. Exact dates of the aforesaid regular meetings in the year **2016** are: February 25th, March 24th, April 28th, May 26th, June 23rd, July 28th, September 22nd, October 27th, November 17th, December 8th, and January 26th 2017.
4. At any meeting where an agenda is to be used, said agenda shall be available at the meeting.
5. **ALL PERSONS ARE INVITED TO ALL OF THE MEETINGS HEREINBEFORE SET FORTH.**

6. The Secretary is directed to post prominently and to maintain posted throughout the year upon the Bulletin Board in the Borough Hall, 531 Speedwell Avenue, a certified copy of this Resolution. In addition, the Secretary is directed to mail forthwith a certified copy of this Resolution, for publication, to each of the following:

- a) *The Morris News Bee* (designated official newspaper) and
- b) *Daily Record*

Also, the Secretary shall submit to the Borough Clerk a certified copy of the Resolution for the purpose of public inspection.

7. This Resolution is being adopted in order to comply with PO 1975, Chapter 231, "Open Public Meetings Act".

8. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

I, Karleen Leahey, Secretary of the Morris Plains Recreation Commission, in the County of Morris, and State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the said Morris Plains Recreation Commission on the 29th day of January 2015, at a meeting duly convened by said body.

Mrs. Slawinski moved that this Resolution be adopted, seconded by Mrs. McCabe. Voice vote. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Mrs. Leahey confirmed that this resolution will be published as required in the *News Bee* and the *Daily Record*.

Pool Badge System – Mrs. Leahey advised that she and Councilwoman Fu recently spent an afternoon together to work on the installation of this

system. All appears to be working well. It was not necessary to purchase a new camera. Mrs. Leahey provided some additional information with regard to this.

Pool Membership Form/Application –New membership form designed with the 2016 Season Membership Fee; late fees have been omitted. On March 1, 2016, the necessary information will be placed on the website together with the updated Pool booklet. She contacted Chrissy Chase in connection with some possible Friday night events; she has not yet heard back from her. She hopes everything will be able to be finalized by the Commission’s February meeting.

Summer Camp – Mrs. Leahey advised she will be providing an informative flyer for Kindergarten Registration Packets for incoming kindergarten students and their families alerting them to their eligibility for the camp. She explained the information included on the flyer (camp, pool, summer events). Seventy-five flyers will be provided to Mountain Way School.

Summer Concerts – Mrs. Leahey advised of a flyer/information received from a resident expressing interest in being involved in the Summer Concerts. There will be five bands contracted to provide concerts; this event will need to be discussed in the relatively near future. The Morris Plains Band will be the first concert on Sunday, July 3, 2016. There was also discussion about the “sitting out” situation. Kevin Johnson who “sat out” last year should probably be a “given”. She mentioned several other bands that performed last year/recent years.

Cross discussion about the summer concert series, including could one or more bands perhaps play at the Pool if this is feasible and reasonable under Pool circumstances and could there be one or more concerts in June and/or around Labor Day Weekend in September.

Mrs. Leahey stated she can look into these additional suggestions and plan to have a report at the Commission's February meeting.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt – Mrs. Leahey advised that all the entertainment for this event has been contacted and is arranged. The eggs have been ordered. The ticket amount in 2015 was \$6 for both adults and children and the event was sold out with the 200 maximum participants. In 2015 this event made money.

Cross discussion relating to logistics of this event, including that all publicity advertising this event will state there will be pre-sale tickets only – no tickets available at the door, and should the ticket price remain the same.

The consensus was to maintain the ticket price at \$6 and a total of 200 tickets to be available for sale. This event is a rain or shine event.

Fee Schedule Issues – Mrs. Leahey reported the following:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Commission Recommendation</u>	<u>Final Fee</u>
Summer Camp per Child	\$180	\$185
Summer Camp per Child Late Fee	\$250	\$245
Swim Team Pool Membership	\$160	\$170
Swimming Lessons (2 days/week)	Free	\$ 50

Councilwoman Fu advised the \$5 of the Registration Fee goes toward the Pool.

Summer Theater – Mrs. Leahey stated she will place this subject on the agenda for the Commission's February meeting.

Mrs. Slawinski commented on the Summer Theater activity advising that in connection with vacation plans Joe wishes to do theater for four weeks, Monday through Friday. However, she and Mrs. Leahey do not think this is a good idea for a variety of reasons; for example, being in camp all morning and then in theater all afternoon and missing out on other enhancements and trips. She is planning to offer Joe the opportunity to take this summer off from this activity –meaning there would be no summer theater this summer. She has sent him an e-mail, but plans to call him shortly. By the Commission’s next meeting, she hopes she will a complete update on this activity.

Cross discussion about possible alternatives for the summer theater activity, including is there anyone else available who can substitute for Joe and costs related to offering this activity and presenting the play.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

PRESENTATION OF COUNCILWOMAN FU

Councilwoman Fu advised of the Council’s Re-Organization Meeting on January 7, 2016. Councilman Cecala and she were sworn again for three years at this meeting. John Boudreau who retired as the Fire Inspector after 25 years was recognized at this meeting. The new Community Service Award recipients are David and Barbara Visscher and they will serve as the Grand Marshals for the 2016 Memorial Day Parade. This year’s parade will be the Borough’s 30th parade. She also updated on the affordable housing project’s progress, specifically commenting on the modular units. It is anticipated that applications will begin to be taken in the spring and hopefully move-ins can start in September or October 2016. There will be a total of 56 units, with 19 being age restricted (55 & older). She also commented on the assisted-living project at the former Bretton Woods site and the high-end apartments to

be built on Johnson Road. The M & M property and project is still in litigation. Investors Bank will be constructing a new bank at the corner of Dayton Road and Speedwell Avenue (across from Friendly's). She advised that the Council approved the work needed in connection with the computerized chemical controls at both Pools (\$7,000), but not the tanks at this time.

Mr. Sittmann reported that he and Councilwoman Fu met with Lacrosse and Morris United Soccer to discuss issues relating to turf time at Greystone. He believes that everyone is satisfied with how the time and use was divided up. He also advised of an e-mail from Jeff Emge about the lights at Simons Park; his request must still be further researched as well as decisions that need to be made in connection with costs and cost efficiency and who will be paying as well as exactly why these lights are necessary at this time.

Cross discussion about this request, including players being on one field in less than good weather or condition (for example, muddy) and then moving onto the turf field; wear and tear on the grass at this park; does this request relate to Morris Plains Soccer or Morris Plains Travel; how far lighting will extend; possible complaints from nearby neighbors about the lighting; and related concerns.

Mr. Sittmann stated that if Mr. Emge and his organization are willing to pay the costs associated with his request, then he could proceed to investigating the details of this request. He will speak with Sal to obtain additional information.

Councilwoman Fu stated that if the soccer organization will be paying for this lighting, then it will be up to Recreation and soccer to do the investigation/oversee the investigation. She also expressed concern about the one field possibly becoming a "mud hole"; it would have to be

on a trial basis and if it does not work out, it would have to be shut down.

Mr. Sittmann stated this request will require additional discussion.

VOUCHERS

Mrs. Slawinski moved that the vouchers as presented be approved, seconded by Mrs. McCabe. Voice vote. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

None presented at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Sittmann read the necessary Resolution allowing the Recreation Commission to open an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters in closed session.

Mrs. Slawinski moved to allow the Commission to convene in a closed session; seconded by Mr. Bodnar. Voice vote. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Mrs. Slawinski moved that the Executive Session be adjourned.

Seconded by Mr. Bodnar

Mrs. Slawinski moved that the Re-Organization Meeting be reconvened.

Seconded by Mr. Bodnar.

Mr. Sittmann moved that the Recreation Commission Secretary will publish the proper notice of a Special Meeting of the Recreation Commission to be held on February 11, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and other matters that may concern the Recreation Commission, seconded by Mr. Bodnar. Voice vote. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mrs. Slawinski moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mr. Bodnar. Voice vote. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Karleen Leahey
Commission Secretary

Maureen Sullivan
Recording Secretary