

RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

June 23, 2011

Present: Mr. Michael Breslin (arrived at 7:48 p.m.)
Mr. Salvatore Cortese, Chairman
Mr. Gerard Sittmann, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Maggie Slawinski
Mrs. Janelle Swift

Absent: Mr. Kevin Bodnar
Mrs. Jan McCabe

Councilwoman Suzanne McCluskey
Karleen Leahey, Recreation Director

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Cortese 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."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Cortese and the Commission members reviewed the minutes.

In the fourth paragraph, page 1, Approval of Vouchers, a change should be made to indicate Mrs. Slawinski moved and Mrs. Swift seconded.

Mr. Sittmann moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mrs. Swift. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – June 2011

Summer Camp Programs

Mrs. Leahey reported on the Camp Counselor orientation meeting that was held today. Camp begins on Monday. The Teen Camp has 113 participants enrolled and 226 are enrolled for the Super Kid Camp for a total of 339 participants. She

advised that several enhancements will have to be cancelled; Aviation was cancelled today. Overall, everything is looking well. A spreadsheet was prepared to track revenue and late fees. She also reviewed some of Katie's plans and information such as salaries. She also met with Dave Banks today to go over some of the expenses, especially some of the higher ticket items. She discussed the program to be offered by Dave Gilles, an aerialist. His program will last 45 minutes.

Cross discussion on certain programs and whether they are approved, prepared vouchers, meeting with Katie next week, possible cost overruns, paperwork sent out and not sent out, and the goal of cutting costs to the Borough by 50 percent.

Councilwoman McCluskey reminded that it the goal has to be to "hit" zero; it has to be neutral.

Mrs. Leahey advised that profit will be made on activities such as cheerleading and exercise as the cost is \$25 per child.

Summer Concert Program

Mrs. Leahey advised that all vouchers are in and all checks will be ready on the nights of the concerts. She specifically included on the contracts and in her cover letter to all performers that if it rains on the rain date, the concert is cancelled.

Mr. Cortese asked about the holding of an extra concert.

Mrs. Slawinski explained that \$700 will be taken to use for music at the Splash Party.

The consensus of the Commission was to not push any additional concerts later into August and to adhere to the decision that if it rains on the rain date, the concert is cancelled.

Family Day

The paperwork and the vouchers are complete for the entertainment on Family Day; all but Bo-J the clown will be approved tonight. The checks should be available late morning on Friday. There was discussion about access to the Community Center to move tables out for various uses and allowing access to restrooms toward the end of the event.

Summer Exercise Programs

Mrs. Leahey has spoken with the instructors of the Summer Yoga and Summer Boot Camp classes. The instructors would like to conduct these classes for the four weeks of July. She agreed as long as the classes are both held on the same night. There are sufficient funds to pay both instructors with additional left over. The cost is \$25 per participant.

Brief cross discussion regarding that the space may not be as clean as usual because of the summer camp activities.

Mrs. Leahey has advised the instructors of this fact.

Fall Schedule of Events

Mrs. Leahey has prepared a preliminary schedule of these events. A new item is Zumba. She also discussed the Knitting Club and Charlotte Lamm's Book Club. The Book Club is now held in the afternoon. She would like the Knitting Club to also move to the afternoon.

Cross discussion about the fact that the knitting group is a club versus a class, including the costs associated with this activity.

Mr. Cortese suggested that she ask the Knitting Club to move to an afternoon.

Community Park Pool

Mrs. Leahey advised the revenue is over \$100,000; she believes it is at \$102,000 as of today. Last year's total was \$120,000. A heat wave will be needed to lure more of the public to registering for the Pool.

Mr. Sittmann provided additional information about the opening of the Pool and the Pool in general, including approval of vouchers.

Other

Mrs. Leahey advised she currently is receiving many calls about the Pool, signing up for the various Summer Camp programs, Family Day, and what time the fireworks are. She also mentioned the Paint the Town activity that starts on Monday.

Commission members suggested that perhaps a message can be placed on the Community Center telephone to provide callers information about whether certain activities will or won't occur, times of events, and the like.

Councilwoman McCluskey suggested speaking with Karen since she puts this kind of message on the telephone in connection with the Memorial Day Parade.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Cortese opened the meeting to the public to speak on matters other than those on the agenda.

Mr. Thomas Bergeron, 4 Druetzler Drive, Morris Plains, commented on the circumstances of the Knitting Club as discussed by the Commission members.

Mrs. Swift reminded that this activity is grandfathered.

Mr. Bergeron stated he was stunned to learn about the amount of the late registration fee for the summer camp when registering several of his children. He believes the amount is too much.

Mrs. Slawinski explained the need for the late fee; that it is a planning tool for the hiring of staff. It is critical to know how much staff is needed; this must be known reasonably in advance of several days before the start of camp.

Cross discussion as to alternate ways to deal with late registration, caps on the amount of the late fee, establishing a "family late fee amount", and how other groups (primarily sports groups) handle late fees.

Mr. Cortese presented his thoughts on this matter, both from a personal standpoint and from a municipal standpoint. He advised that the Commission will discuss this matter at its October meeting and thanked Mr. Bergeron for bringing his concern to the Commission's attention.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Mr. Cortese provided Commission members an opportunity to review the vouchers for approval.

Cross discussion concerning several of the vouchers, particularly for the cupcake activity.

Mrs. Slawinski moved to approve the vouchers, seconded by Mrs. Swift. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Family Day

Mr. Breslin presented his report on this event. He advised that everything is good to go and that everything is set. The last piece he needed was the vouchers which is now done. Mr. Bodnar and he will be at the park at about 2:30 p.m. Start time is 5:00 p.m. and Commission members who will be helping should be there between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. All rides will be delivered on Friday night. Port-a-Johns will also be delivered.

Mr. Cortese asked that the driver bringing the rides be met so that the rides are located in the proper site.

Mr. Breslin provided information regarding parking which generated a cross discussion about what the parking regulations will be. Signs will be put up by the Police Department. Certain safety matters have been requested by the Police and Fire Departments.

Mr. Cortese stated he will speak with Chief Thompson about the parking issues.

Mr. Breslin requested to know who will be able to assist at this event.

OLD BUSINESS

Brief cross discussion about who will assist as cooks at the Senior Picnic. The Splash Party on July 16 will be catered by Ronnie's, there will be a DJ, and possibly the movie Jaws will be shown, too, if the necessary equipment can be obtained and all the logistics resolved.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Mr. Cortese advised the Commission will be going into closed session.

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

Karleen Leahey
Commission Secretary

Recording Secretary
Maureen Sullivan

