

RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

November 15, 2012

Present: Mr. Michael Breslin
Mr. Salvatore Cortese, Chairman
Mrs. Maureen McEntee
Mrs. Maggie Slawinski

Mrs. Karleen Leahey, Recreation Director
Councilwoman Laurie Fu

Absent: Mrs. Jan McCabe
Mr. Gerard Sittmann
Mr. Kevin Bodnar
Mrs. Katie Bezold

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

Mrs. Leahey explained there are no Minutes due to time constraints in preparing them.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Joseph Barlotta, 35 Sun Valley Way, Morris Plains, stated he is attending this meeting in connection with a school project.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – October 2012

Mrs. Leahey presented her report.

Community Center – She advised that the Community Center was used for various purposes as a result of the recent storm, such as for warming and charging, providing a report on what the process was, numbers of people coming

to the Center and other related issues. Food was not provided, but coffee was as outlets were available.

Cross discussion about the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) being available in Morris Plains to assist those who need help.

Halloween Parade and Party and Bonfire – She prepared a joint spreadsheet covering these two events. However, she pulled it at the last minute since the Cub Scouts had not come with their receipts, thus making the spreadsheet incomplete. She will provide at the December meeting.

Recreation Spring Programs – She provided information on a finalized program.

Kids Helping Kids – She provided updated information on this program and also advised that there will soon be a new Executive Board.

Holiday Ideas – She provided information on ideas she and Mrs. Bezold had talked about. Possible Kids Helping Kids activities were also discussed. The holiday decoration contest will be held again this year. Mrs. Bezold will provide area maps for the Commission members.

Cross discussion about these ideas. The consensus was that there would not be sufficient funding available to do many of the plans this year, specifically due to the costs of and damage caused by the storm. The discussion included possibly linking in to the Santa coming to town/tree lighting event that is held each holiday season and providing food and/or other “gifts”, such as the glow sticks.

Basketball – Mr. Cortese spoke about changes that will probably have to take place with this program due to the storm issues.

Cross discussion about items that can be tabled until the December meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

Councilwoman Fu advised she has no communications for the Commission. She did provide information in connection with the FEMA personnel needing occasional assistance.

Cross discussion about progress being made at the Morris County field areas at Greystone. This included an update report by Mr. Cortese. Apparently, the second phase funds still need to be approved.

Councilwoman Fu explained the work that is being done by Morris County on sports fields at Greystone to the public.

Mr. Cortese also provided commentary on the Greystone field work and also discussed work at Simon's Park.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Slawinski stated the Commission has to decide what it plans to do in connection with the Volunteer Thank-You event that will be scheduled for March. She cautioned that this time the Commission must work to get the word out. She also asked if this is an event the Commission wants to continue to plan for 2013. Additionally, she wondered if anyone might have any different idea(s) for an adult-oriented event than the events held over the past several years; she believes there is a need for an entertainment activity for adults.

Mr. Cortese cautioned that the Commission needs to not "step on the toes" of the Rotary Club who will be holding a dance in February.

Mr. McEntee mentioned an HSA event that would be held during the first quarter of 2013.

Mr. Cortese commented on the importance of Executive Committees.

Continuing, Mr. Cortese advised of a spreadsheet prepared by councilwoman Fu, the importance of Commission issues, especially regarding things that are needed, being placed on the Council's Consent Calendar in a timely manner, and using the aforementioned spreadsheet in the future.

Councilwoman Fu commented on two meetings that were held, what each was for and what was discussed.

Mrs. Slawinski suggested that a meeting be held in January 2013 to discuss in further detail some of what was discussed at the meetings Councilwoman Fu advised of. This meeting has to address issues such as summer recreation employment, the voucher process, the various summer recreation program registrations, bus trip sign-ups, appropriately-timed registration timeframes for the various recreation programs and activities, and related other matters.

Cross discussion about the various issues that have to be worked on and worked out preceding the start of 2013 summer recreation season, including a number of thoughts and concerns about the bus trips and when people should sign up for these trips.

Mrs. Slawinski asked about the matter of a trust regarding excess money in connection with the bus trips and possibly other activities, too. She wondered if there was not another way to address this situation.

Mr. Cortese advised he and Councilwoman Fu will meet with Ana, the Borough Treasurer and report back to the Commission members.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Cross discussion about the vouchers presented for approval.

Mrs. Slawinski moved that the vouchers be approved, seconded by Mr. Breslin. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

Karleen Leahey
Commission Secretary

Recording Secretary
Maureen Sullivan