

RECREATION COMMISSION RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

January 31, 2013

Present: Mr. Kevin Bodnar
Mr. Michael Breslin (arrived 7:55 p.m.)
Mr. Salvatore Cortese, Chairman
Mrs. Maureen McEntee (arrived 8:00 p.m.)
Mr. Gerard Sittmann, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Maggie Slawinski

Present: Mrs. Karleen Leahey, Recreation Director
Councilwoman Laurie Fu

Absent: Mrs. Jan McCabe

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."

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

John Carlin, Morristown Colonial Hockey, came forward to speak regarding financial aspects and participation levels for this organization.

Mr. Cortese and Mr. Sittmann advised the speaker as to what should be done next in connection with what he was speaking about. They also asked a number of questions concerning number of volunteers, number of participants from Morris Plains and related questions.

Mr. Cortese asked Mrs. Leahey to be sure the Commission has all the necessary contact information for this organization. He stated the organization would be receiving a contribution amount; he also raised the need for the organization to assist at the Commission's Family Day event.

Mr. Bodnar provided more specific details about Family Day.

Mr. Larry Hoey, Morris Plains Soccer Association, came forward to speak regarding financial aspects and participation levels for this organization.

Mr. Cortese commented on issues relating to the soccer organization, including needing to have a meeting with this group and needing to know what slots they need. The Commission will work with Morris United and with other recreation sports. He wants to work with them on a quarterly basis. He also commented on the need to preserve the grass.

Mr. Sittmann added comments with regards to lacrosse and related issues.

Mr. Cortese recommended that anything to do with change can be called a "pilot program." This relates to a possible merger. He also included comments relating to his uncertainty as to whether or not everything will be able to be done, specifically as it relates to the fact that additional funds will need to be used in connection with damage resulting from super storm Sandy.

Stephanie Crowley came forward to speak representing Morris Plains Swim Team.

Mr. Cortese commented that the Pool will need work this year and also commented on other Swim Team data that was presented. He asked Stephanie to provide estimates (for chargers and other items) to Mrs. Leahey some time next week.

Brian Mandel, Morristown Babe Ruth, came forward to speak regarding financial aspects and participation levels for this organization.

Mr. Cortese commented that their use of the field has become less and less over time. The Commission wants the fields occupied. The Vo-Tech school is being allowed to go there now. He explained that to arrange for use of fields, he should contact Karen Coffey in the Borough Annex to indicate when they need fields. Vo-Tech uses the field from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. They would be finished by 6:00 p.m. He provided Mrs. Coffey's telephone number. It would probably be a good idea to have a meeting with this organization and Vo-Tech, and perhaps the Department of Public Works (DPW). He advised about the shed and the equipment that is available at the field. The Commission will assist in making it work for what each organization needs. He needs a contact from this organization so that if there are any field closures issues that person can be contacted. He is happy that this organization is back in town and the fields are always open to them. He also asked that he provide all their information to Mrs. Leahey.

Cross discussion about this organization, including how many participants are actually from Morris Plains, when is registration for Babe Ruth, participation in clean-up activities, and making sure that certain information "gets out."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Cortese requested that all members review the minutes of the Commission's November 15, 2012 meeting.

A revision was requested in these minutes – the fourth paragraph on the first page.

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

Mr. Cortese requested that all members review the minutes of the Commission's December 13, 2012 meeting.

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

Mr. Cortese requested that all members review the resolution indicating the meeting dates for the upcoming term. A motion is needed to approve this resolution.

Cross discussion concerning the dates on which meetings are currently scheduled to determine if any dates need to be changed.

Mrs. Slawinski moved that this resolution be approved, seconded by Mr. Bodnar. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – January 2013

Mrs. Leahey presented her report:

Presented proposed dates for Recreation Events for approval by Commission.

Updated progress for March 23, 2013 "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny"

Presented proposal for "Strength and Agility" Summer Enhancement Program

Requested verification of opening date of Community Park Pool

Provided a copy of February, 2013 submission to "Plains Talk"

Referred to conversation with Dave Banks regarding his moving forward to investigate the possibility of the Borough's use of credit cards.

Borough will be closed Thursday, July 4th and Friday, July 5th; how does this affect camp? Camp will not be scheduled on either July 4th or 5th.

A discussion Chief Thompson regarding Background Check forms is necessary as soon as possible so that new forms can be created.

Mr. Cortese commented on something making reference to Malapardis Road and Whippany Road. He inquired as to how many participants a person would be able take up to \$75 an hour. The response was 15.

Mr. Cortese commented that Mrs. Slawinski would be coordinating the Senior Picnic.

Mr. Cortese stated that if a ticket is bought for "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" before this event, the cost would be \$5 and "at the door" the cost would be \$8. He believed that offering such discounted tickets for events is a good idea. He also reminded that vouchers must be in two to three months in advance of an event.

Cross discussion about the pros and cons of being able to use PayPal, including that it may be available at some time in 2014.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

NOMINATION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr. Sittmann moved that Mr. Cortese be nominated for the office of Chairman of the Recreation Commission for 2013, seconded by Mr. Bodnar. Voice vote. All in favor (with Mr. Cortese abstaining). Motion carried.

NOMINATION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr. Cortese moved that Mr. Sittmann be nominated for the office of Vice Chairman of the Recreation Commission for 2013, seconded by Mrs. Slawinski. Voice vote. All in favor (with Mr. Sittmann abstaining). Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A report relating to basketball was provided. There were references to volleyball, summer league, courts, a major drain, and a waterfall.

Mr. Cortese thought that there should be a meeting with the Mayor and perhaps others to discuss the items of concern. He also mentioned the need to be able to pre-fund certain projects.

Cross discussion about the work that the Commission hopes will be able to be done, including approaching the Vo-Tech school to assist with the construction of certain items.

Mr. Sittmann provided information in connection with the Pool.

Mr. Cortese commented on some of the work needed at the Pool, such as a certain type of board, the painting, and work in connection with a door. He said there is a request for three loads of clay for Vo-Tech under shared services.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

VOUCHERS FOR APPROVAL

The Commission members reviewed the vouchers presented for approval.

Mr. Sittmann moved to approve the vouchers; seconded by Mr. Bodnar.

Roll Call

Yeas: Mr. Bodnar, Mr. Breslin, Mr. Cortese, Mrs. McEntee,
Mr. Sittmann, Mrs. Slawinski

Nays: None

Absent: Ms. McCabe

Motion carried.

Mr. Cortese commented that he had heard there was another water main break and also a sink hole.

Mr. Cortese read the resolution allowing the Commission to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters.

Mr. Sittmann moved to approve this resolution, seconded by Mr. Bodnar. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Mr. Sittmann moved that the Re-Organization meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mrs. Slawinski. Voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Karleen Leahey
Commission Secretary

Maureen Sullivan
Recording Secretary

