

# RECREATION COMMISSION

## REGULAR MEETING

**March 14, 2013**

Present: Mr. Kevin Bodnar  
Mr. Michael Breslin (arr. at 8:00 p.m.)  
Mr. Salvatore Cortese, Chairman  
Mrs. Jan McCabe  
Mrs. Maureen McEntee (arr. at 7:45 p.m.)  
Mr. Gerard Sittmann, Vice Chairman  
Mrs. Maggie Slawinski

Present: Karleen Leahey, Recreation Director  
Councilwoman Laurie Fu

### **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.

Mr. Anil Jhaveri introduced himself to the Commission members. Mr. Jhaveri voiced concerns regarding the condition of the tennis courts at Morris Plains Community Park. Mr. Jhaveri frequently plays tennis on the Community Park tennis courts. His concerns included cracks on the court, insufficient lighting, improper drainage, dirty courts, and gaps in the surrounding fence. Mr. Jhaveri produced a bag of dirty tennis balls; evidence of the dirty courts.

Mr. Cortese commented on the dirty courts: specifically that it was March and that area in the Borough is used for snow removed from the streets.

Cross discussion about this person's concerns and whether or not he has spoken to certain people who may be able to provide assistance with his concern.

Mr. Cortese also spoke about there being a double light at a certain location, on two poles, one does the basketball side and the other takes care of another activity. He wondered how many additional lights the Mr. Jhaveri might be seeking. He requested that the Mr. Jhaveri look into what the cost would be to

comply with his request. He told Mr. Jhaveri that when people come to speak to the Commission, it does everything it can to help with whatever the specific need is. He advised the Commission's budget begins to be prepared in October of each year; there are approximately seven months from until this work begins. There is no surplus funding from the 2013 budget. He also stated he will talk with the Department of Public Works (DPW) staff to determine if the area can be power washed or if the DPW has another plan.

Cross discussion about the issue being discussed, including whether that pole would be able to take the weight of any added lighting and a parking lot.

Mr. Cortese provided information concerning the existing lighting, including that basketball pays for it from their budget and special fund raising efforts. He again promised to investigate this situation for this person.

Mr. Jhaveri then raised an issue relating to resurfacing and macadam.

Mr. Cortese asked about sweeping off a certain area, asking the question "It will dry up, won't it?" He advised he will visit the area after the next rainstorm to see what he observes in the area as to possible problems. He stated he will get back to Mr. Jhaveri at some time next week after he meets with the head of the DPW.

Mr. Cortese introduced Susan Carey, 2013 Morris Plains Recreation Camp Coordinator. Commission members introduced themselves to Susan.

Ms. Carey presented the Borough of Morris Plains 2013 Summer Recreation Program Flyer. Ms. Carey said she was working on an outline for camp activities and trips.

Mr. Cortese made reference to there being a shared services arrangement with the school and the school bus. He also discussed the schedule for upcoming Council meetings over the next several months in reference to having approval for vouchers.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Cortese requested that all members review the minutes of the Commission's February 28, 2013 Regular Meeting.

Mr. Sittmann moved that the minutes of the February 28, 2013 Regular Meeting be accepted as circulated, seconded by Mrs. McCabe. Voice vote. All in favor.  
**Motion carried.**

### **RECREATION DIRECTORS' REPORT -**

Mrs. Leahey presented the Recreation Director's Report:

In addition to the Summer Camp and Enhancement Programs, Mrs. Leahey will offer Summer Fitness Programs: Tuesday Evening Yoga and Boot Camp, both six week sessions through July and "Power Walking and Cross Training" every Wednesday at 9:30AM.

The 2013 Morris Plains Community Park Pool "reminder" post card has been ordered through Staples and is scheduled for mailing early April.

Mrs. Leahey discussed Summer Enhancement program "Paint the Town". Instructor, Mrs. Kirstin Howie, Borough School Art teacher, has two locations in mind: The new Art/Music Room at Mountain Way School and Health Room/Cafeteria at Borough School. Mrs. Howie will seek Board of Education approval to paint at these locations.

Mrs. Leahey presented an estimate for \$120.00 to purchase "quick release belts" for use by the Yoga Class. Mrs. Leahey explained that the class participation exceeded what was required to pay the Instructor; therefore, adequate funds remained to pay for this purchase.

Mrs. Leahey provided the Commission with an update on the details relating to the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt event such as tickets purchased to date, maximum number of tickets to be made available, who will volunteer and in what role, table set-up, logistics of the event itself, best time to assemble prior to the start, and members who will not be able to be present at this event.

### **VOUCHERS FOR APPROVAL**

The Commission members reviewed the vouchers presented for approval.

Mr. Sittmann moved to approve the vouchers; seconded by Mrs. McCabe. Voice vote. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Councilwoman Fu presented her message to the Commission.

Mr. Cortese referred to the generators that are available for events.

Cross discussion relating defibrillators: a safety course for use, doctor has to sign off on certain items, recommendation to the Council, insurance issues, pro and con arguments, the need for someone to be responsible for the items, and other related matters

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Cortese advised that he and Mr. Sittmann went to Home Depot and had some architectural drawings done to refresh the concession stand/snack bar. He reviewed these drawings. He stated the Council is providing \$5,000 to make these upgrades and there may also be a generous benefactor who has pledged an additional \$5,000. This project will be under budget. The back portion will be where the kitchen is. The refrigerator that was to be obtained from the firemen is no longer available to the Commission.

Continuing, Mr. Cortese advised he spoke with Mike Lopez who told him that if the concession stand/snack bar would carry Pepsi, he can arrange for a new 48" sliding- door refrigerator at no cost. It will be on the back wall; there is no funding for the freezer; that will be next year. He needs to know if it is acceptable to carry Pepsi and would like to know the answer tonight.

Cross discussion about the architectural drawings for the concession stand/snack bar, the Little League, the volleyball court becoming another basketball court that the basketball association will contribute to and do, the special basketball hoops on the new court that can be adjusted with a crank (the basketball association will cover the cost of these hoops), lighting, various costs, the request of the man who spoke during the public comments period, donations made toward the soccer organization, and related matters.

Mr. Cortese advised that the Greystone project is moving along on schedule.

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

Karleen Leahey  
Commission Secretary

Maureen Sullivan  
Recording Secretary