

Minutes of the Borough of North Plainfield, Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Date: January 18, 2011

Overview

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.
 Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Distributed to:

All recreation members and copy to Municipal Clerk (Richard Phoenix, RMC)

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Statement of Compliance:

This meeting is held in compliance with NJSA .10:4-6 etc. St. Adequate notice of this meeting was provided by transmitting notice to the official newspaper of the borough, the Courier News, on or about **Dec 28th, 2010** and by posting a copy of this notice on the bulletin board in the municipal building reserved for such purpose.

In attendance:

√	Chris Tarver	√	Dennis Passe	√	Van Dickerson
√	Angelo Costello	√	Thomas Allen	√	Kimberly Carter
√	Elizabeth Brumbaugh	√	Doug Spontak	√	Mark Tighe
√	Joanne Pierre	√	Tammy Guevara		Derek Haley

REORGANIZATION

Mr. Tom Allen made a motion that was seconded by Doug Spontak that Van Dickerson be appointed the Parks and Recreation Chairman. Angelo Costello is Vice Chairman and Mark Tighe is Secretary for 2011. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Open Session

Commission Chairman Van Dickerson opened the meeting, and opened the public session. There were no members of the public present and the public part of the meeting was closed.

Closed Session

Director's Report

Director Tarver shared his report with the commission.

BASKETBALL

- a. The basketball festival is scheduled for March 12, 2010. Ball U Man will run a clinic for the children. There will be rides and free gifts given out during the evening.
- b. The Canuck Basketball Tournament will start on Friday, February 18th, and be completed on February 20, 2011. Games will start on Saturday at 8 AM at Somerset school. The North Plainfield Education Association is sponsoring the tournament and has agreed to pay the costs for referees. Eight teams have committed to date. Director Tarver indicated that twelve teams would be ideal. Chris will update the board members on the final details as we get closer to the event.

FISHING DERBY

- a. The time of the derby was discussed, it was agreed that the fishing derby would take place on Saturday, April 30th 2011 from 8:30 am to 11:30 am. This will allow for baseball games to be played at 1:00 pm. A flier will be prepared and be ready to be distributed during the Basketball festival and will also be distributed in the schools in mid-April. Prizes will be awarded for the biggest fish and most fish caught, in each age group.
- b. Director Tarver indicated he is trying to find sponsors for the Fishing Derby and will write letters to local business to ask for prizes and donations.
- c. It was agreed that we would not stock the lake with large quantities of trout. After some discussion, the board decided to allocate \$700 to stock the lake with various species of fish that could be purchased for this amount.

BASEBALL

- a. Baseball sign-ups will begin on January 19th, 20th and 21st, 2011 and again on March 1st 2nd and 3rd, 2011. Assistant Director Passe requested that all commissioners be available to help with sign-ups, and on the night of the sign-up encourage the parents to check the pants and shirts sizes of their children.

- b. Assistant Director Passe informed the board that this year Global Chevy will be a sponsor of the Recreation baseball and softball leagues. This is part of a national program that Chevy offers to nonprofit organizations. Chevy will donate the value of \$1,500 dollars in points that will be used to purchase new helmets and balls for the leagues. In return, Global will be given a banner on the outfield fence at Stony Brook and the Chevy Logo will be printed and be visible on the helmets and on each of the balls.
- c. To comply with a new state law the girls' leagues will be required to wear face masks.
- d. There has been limited interest in purchasing pictures by parents in the middle school. After some discussion, pictures will be offered to children in grades K through 3 and the "C" league players. If anyone wants a picture they would only need to show up for the photo.
- e. Assistant Director Passe has completed the baseball rules and they will be issued to the league coordinators at their meeting on March 7, 2011. Coaches will be pitching in grades 1 and 2. The leagues will be instructional in nature. Kindergarten children will be playing T-ball. The amount of children on each T-ball team may be reduced depending on the amount of children that sign up.
- f. C and B league teams will play weekdays and A leagues teams will play on Saturday. Ralph Dunhamn will be responsible to coordinate and schedule umpires for the games.

SUMMER CAMPS/PLAYGROUNDS

- a. Because of public feedback from last year, the recreation commission has decided to offer both a summer camp program as well as a summer playground program. Summer camp will be offered from 9 am to 3 pm daily at the Stony Brook School, Middle School and the community center. The summer playgrounds program will be offered at East and West End schools from 9 am to 12 pm only.
- b. Summer camp is a structured environment where trips will be offered on a weekly basis. Children will be expected to attend daily. Most children in this program have working parents. The fees for this program are approximately \$225 for the summer. Playground camp will be a service available to parents for a fee of \$25 for the summer. At this program children will be supervised at the schools, but there will be no trips associated with the playground program.
- c. Mrs. Q has been appointed the director of summer camp. She will be responsible for coordinating the day trips and the daily operations of the camp.
- d. Trips for the summer camp program will be prepaid at registration for the entire summer.
- e. Registration sign up will be March 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 2011.

TENATIVE SCHEDULE DATES FOR RECREATION EVENTS

February 18-20, 2011	Canuck Basketball Tournament
March 1, 2 and 3, 2011	Baseball Sign-ups
March 7, 2011	Baseball Coordinators Meeting
March 12, 2011	Basketball Festival
March 19, 2011	Basketball All Star Games/Trophies
March 22, 23 and 24, 2011	Summer Camp Sign-ups
April 9, 2011	Baseball Opening Day Parade
April 23, 2011	Easter Egg Hunt
April 30, 2011	Fishing Derby
June 11, 2011	Baseball/Softball Picnic and Movie
June 21, 22 and 23, 2011	Soccer and Archery Registrations
June 27, 2011	Summer Camp opens
July 28, 2011	Playground Olympics
August 12, 2011	Last Day of Summer Camp
August 14, 2011	Coaches Appreciation BBQ
August 29, 30 and 31, 2011	Soccer/Archery Registrations
September 10, 2011	Soccer Day Clinic
September 17, 2011	Soccer Season Starts
October 18, 19 and 20, 2011	Basketball and Wrestling Sign-ups
October 23, 2011	Halloween Parade
November 19, 2011	Soccer Complete
December 3, 2011	Basketball Clinic
December 4, 2011	Holiday Lightning
December 10, 2011	Basketball Practice
December 17, 2011	Basketball Begins

OLD BUSINESS

Park and Recreation By-laws and policy concerning unregistered and out of town participants using fields and gyms is being reviewed by the Borough Administrator and Attorney.

Commissioners were asked to write proposed policy revisions and submit them to the sub-committee chairperson, Angelo Costello.

Board chairman Dickenson reminded the commissioners of the Member in good standing policy requesting an e-mail or phone call notification if you are going to be absent from a meeting.

Major capital projects to be undertaken in 2011 include the refurbishment of the basketball courts at Green Acres Park and the construction of a Skateboard Park in partnerships with the municipalities of Dunellen and Greenbrook.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Tammy Guevara raised an issue regarding the 3rd thru 5th grade girls basketball league. As a coach in this league, she has been getting negative feedback from parents in the league that the 3rd grade girls do not have the skills to play with 5th graders. She suggested that games be discontinued, offering a training league where skills could be taught. After some discussion, it was agreed that the hours recreation occupies the gym would be extended from 8am to 12pm allowing for practice session between 8-9 and 11-12pm. Coaches will be able to use this time to reinforce basketball skills.

The above meetings minutes are my interpretation of the topics discussed, please contact me if you have any corrections or additions to the minutes.

Mark Tighe

