

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

JANUARY 21, 2015

The Wednesday, January 21, 2015 meeting of the Recreation Commission was held in the Public Safety Building - 2nd floor Conference Room. Recreation Director Bobbi Conway called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.

Present: Commissioners: Jim Teehan, Chris Ilg, Chris Lau, Pete Smith, Bob Smith, Alicia Armental, Ken Krautheim Director Bobbi Conway **Absent:** Carlo Rebosio, Lauren Cerullo

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the November 11, 2104 meeting were approved. Motion by J. Teehan - second by C. Lau All members present in favor

Open Public Session-Visitors: 8:00pm Opened to Public

Matt Monaghan of 344 Valley Road was present to discuss his concern regarding the take down of the mini hoops at Brookside Park. Matt had sent a letter to the Commission (which the members received in their correspondence packet prior to the meeting), detailing his concerns of the effect of the loss of these hoops on the youth of the community. Matt reiterated these concerns in his presentation and offered a petition of support that he would be willing to pursue. The Commission explained the original purpose of the mini hoops within this small neighborhood park and the recent use and resulting serious injuries which caused the Commission to make the decision to take down the mini hoops. The Commission complimented Matt for his well-thought out - presentation, his passion and the time he has given to this matter. Matt was told that the Commission would discuss the issue and get back to him within a few days.

Lisa Pols 690 Westview Court, Nicole Florio 842 Bogert Road, Linda Courin and Adelina Burgija were present to speak of their children and the need for sport activities.

Lisa Pols spoke of the reason for attending the meeting- she and the other mothers would like to see a special commitment to the needs of the challenged children who attend New Bridge Center Program. While the children can physically play - they find it hard to follow rules of organized sports. There are about twenty children in this particular group who would love to play sports like their brothers and sisters. This group had a wonderful experience with Challenger Soccer- organized by Chris Caslin, Soccer President. This program was successful with the help of over 30 High School volunteers. The children need a one-on-one assistance when playing sports. This group has participated in a Basketball Program in Ridgewood at the YMCA with some success. It is a difficult travel and time commitment. The mothers are looking for a broaden offering of sports in town as the children are more comfortable in their own surroundings. Each mother spoke of their experiences (both good and bad) with trying different sports for their children. This group of mothers had already been invited to attend the Central Athletic Council Meeting on January 22nd where all of the sport league presidents will be able to listen to the request for assistance. The Commission supported the development of league sponsored youth sports for the children and the reestablishment of the Challenger Baseball Program. The Commission stated that the key to starting these programs was within the individual leagues and that the assistance from middle-school high school students was crucial. The Commission will monitor the progress and be of any assistance to the leagues in developing programs for this group of children.

The Recreation Director welcomed the newly appointed members of the 2015 Recreation Commission – Ken Krautheim Alternate #1 and Lauren Cerullo Alternate #2 And welcomed those appointed to a full Commission position - Bob Smith and Carlo Rebosio

Re-Organization Elections/Appointments:

Nomination of Commission Chairman: Nominated Jim Teehan – motion to approve –A. Armental second by C. Lau All present in favor

Nomination of Commission Vice Chair: Nominated Alicia Armental – motion to approve C. Ilg, seconded by J. Teehan All present in favor

Re- Appointment of Director -Bobbi Conway - motion to approve – J. Teehan; seconded B. Smith All present in favor

Director's Report – The Director stated for the record that the meeting is recorded and available to the public. Also at 8:00pm the public session will open to visitor presentations - visitors should be asked to take five minutes for presentation -next a question-answer session. The Director then handed out the 2014 Annual Director's Report for review for the next meeting approval to submit to the Mayor and Council. This annual report includes the Recreation Policy Document. The Director also asked the members to list their best contact email - phone. The Director reviewed the written report received by the Commission via mail. Any pertinent discussion and/or decisions are covered under the agenda subjects.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. 2015 Recreation Commission official member list
2. Memo from A. Negreann to the Recreation Commission- RE: Open Space Public Hearing
3. 2015 River Edge Run info for the website and emails
4. Letter from Alice Chin to the Recreation Commission Re: Memorial Bench for Hoy Chin - location
5. Email from John Orth and Geoffrey Orth - Re: Support for Hoy Chin Bench location
6. Resolution to establish 2015 Recreation Commission Fees
7. Rive Edge Recreation Events draft for discussion and approval
8. Flyer detailing a proposed Bus Trip to the Cloisters Museum co-sponsored by Friends of the Library , River Edge Cultural Center and River Edge Recreation Commission
9. Flyer for Recreation Commission Casino Bus Trip - Bethlehem Pa. Sands Casino - March 8 2015

10. Email from Lisa Pols to Recreation Director - detailing special needs program request for basketball and other sports - will attend Commission Meeting of 1-21-15
11. Email from Matt Monaghan and Mike Leuzzi to Recreation Director - re: Brookside Park mini hoops removal - will attend meeting of 1-21-15

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. 2015 Budget - Capital- Open Space - Operating - The Director reviewed the Commission's requests submitted for consideration and covered the date and time for the Open Space Public Meeting with a request for Commissioners to attend on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 8:00pm.
- B. Cherry Blossom Park Project - The Director reported that Tom Miller ppd, has begun to work on the construction plans and will plan a site visit when the weather gets better - A July - August construction time frame is anticipated.
- C. KBG Field Light Project - The director handed out the ppd engineer estimate for review. Previously, the Commission had been notified of the Bergen County Open Space funds shortfall. The total amount of funding being requested is \$1,095,277. Presently, only funding in the amount of \$476,393 is available in this Subregion. Therefore, there is a shortfall of \$618,884. The municipality's request cannot be met in full at this time. It will be necessary for most of these park improvement funding requests to be revised, modified, or reduced in order to accommodate the amount of available funding.

Mayor Mosaritolo responded to the notification from Bergen County that River Edge is fully committed to proceeding with the entire project as proposed even if it does not receive full funding from County Open Space. "The Borough has already committed partial funding from our 2013 and 2014 Municipal Open Space Trust Fund for the proposed project. Some additional funding can be obtained from our 2015 Municipal Open Space Trust Fund and/or Capital Improvement Fund in the event of a shortfall."

The Director requested of Liaison Anthony Cappola and Ken Krautheim, Budget Committee member, to request the receipt of funds for the geotechnical study and permits (\$12,500) for the project as soon as possible as this testing and permit process could take months to complete. The project requires these tests and permits and to get started on this process now would save several months of time in the future.

- D. AED Project update - J. Teehan brought the Commission up to date on the AED Committee meetings and the concerns of accessibility, maintenance, training, police response and the request for legal opinion from the Borough Attorney. J. Teehan reported that the Borough Attorney, Tom Sarlo, did respond at the January 19th Mayor and Council with an apology for the late report but he was waiting for a proposed state policy that was in the works but has not to date been completed or published. Tom Sarlo, stated that there are no official protocols available for the use, maintenance and accessibility. The biggest issue is the need for CPR training and AED training procedures. If an AED is on the field, the coaches must be trained in the use and CPR. The legal opinion from the Attorney will be made available to the AED Committee for review at the next AED meeting. J. Teehan also informed

the Commission that an email blast through New Jersey Recreation And Parks Association was sent out to all state members asking Recreation Departments of their experience with AED's - use - protocols-etc. The responses were varied across the board. These responses will be reviewed by the Committee at the next AED Committee meeting. This topic will also be discussed at the Central Athletic Council meeting on January 22nd.

- E. 2015 River Edge Run - the director updated the Commission with the following information: The USATF-NJ Certification has been approved for the 2015 Run. The major sponsors to date are: River Edge Diner, Applebees, Optimum Otrhopedics - the Race Forum Ad was reviewed along with the 2015 Sponsor Letter . The Commission looked at four different brand t-shirts and colors selection and determined that the Sport-Tek in Neon Yellow will be the 2015 5k Run shirts with the Volunteer shirt - Sport Tek- in royal blue. Quote proposals will go out to vendors which will be reviewed at the February meeting. It was requested that more staff shirts be ordered and in larger sizes.
- F. CAC RE-Organization Meeting- January 22, 2015 The director stated that the CAC meeting is set for a 7:30pm start - C. Ilg requested that he be able to attend the CAC meeting as he is on the AED Committee and this issue is being discussed Commissioner J Teehan and the Director approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Memorial Bench request - Chin Family- The Commission members approved the placement of a Memorial Bench near the Little League Fields as requested by Hoy Chin's Family and supported by the Orth Family. C. Ilg suggested that the bench could be placed along the east side path - outside of the path - in view of the north field - prior to the new playground.
- B. 2015 Fee Ordinance - the Commission approved the 2015 fees for Men's Softball Spring -Summer Fall, River Edge Run 2015 (also approved in December 2014), Tennis and Casino Trips - The members tabled the Women's Softball fee for 2015 until a future meeting.
- C. 2015 Events - Program Dates - The Commission reviewed the draft of Recreation Commission Events and Programs for 2015- some dates were revised - J. Teehan is organizing a Mets Baseball Trip in June - date and time to be announced - The Events and Programs form will be updated for the next meeting.
- D. Museum Tour - Cloisters Bus Trip - This potential trip is being organized by the adult librarian, Jennifer Keleman, with the sponsorship by Friends of the Library, River Edge Cultural Center and the Recreation Commission. The details of the potential trip were given to the Commission by way of a flyer from Jennifer. The Commission decided that they would support this trip by administrating the registration, fee collection and coordination of the Saddle River Tour bus transportation by motion of C. Ilg and second by B. Smith - all voted in favor.
- E. Creative Arts Summer Program - This program was reviewed for possible addition to the summer recreation offerings. The Commission felt that this would be a popular program for our 7 to 10 year old residents and more than the one week

session may need to be considered. The Director will ask the company for the maximum number of students allowed for each session. The Commission approved the Art Tech Solution Proposal with the understanding that the user fee be added to the registration fee of \$80 per student.

- F. Casino Bus Trip- March 8th – Sands- Bethlehem Pa. - the enclosed in correspondence -casino trip flyer will go out to the Bus Trip list and the trip will be advertised in the Town News.
- G. Field Scheduling Meeting- the Commission Field Scheduling committee - Chris Ilg and Bob Smith set the date of Thursday February 19th at 7:30pm in the second floor conference room-Public Safety Building

Public Session Discussion: The Commission determined that a letter would be sent to Matt Monaghan complimentary of his presentation and desire for the return of the mini hoops at Brookside Park. The letter is to explain the history of the planned park facilities and the justification for take down of the basketball goals at Brookside Park. The letter would include the Commission's decision that the mini goals would be replaced but with the standard size goals (10 feet). Proceeds from the 2015 River Edge Run will be allocated to the purchase and installation. Quotes for this purchase will be made available at the next meeting.