

**Byram Township Recreation Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes: June 17, 2009**

**I. Call Meeting to Order**

- The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chairperson, John Pappalardo at 7:30 PM. Flag salute and moment of silence followed.

**II. Roll Call**

- Present: John Pappalardo, Tracy Church, Steve Koreivo, Kathleen Walsh, John Hebble
- Absent: William Schilling, Donna Griff, Charles Kranz, Bob Nosenchuk, Tim Connery, Shawn Armstrong
- Note: Scott Olson from the Township Council was present at the meeting.

**III. Approval of Minutes, May 2009**

- Steve Koreivo made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 2009 meeting. John Hebble seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passes.

**IV. Committee Reports**

**Andover/Byram Chamber of Commerce**

- The chamber is moving forward with a Taste of Andover and Byram and would like to hold the function in the parking lot of the Andover Firehouse. The chamber is soliciting restaurants in the area to be involved in the program. The owner of Salt has agreed to head up the function.
- The goal of the chamber of commerce is to get businesses to understand that they are part of the township and they need to get their names out there.
- One way to advertise for the event would be to put up a banner on 206 announcing A Taste of Andover and Byram. If this is not feasible, perhaps there can be signage on the side of 206 in Byram. The date for the event is 10/12/09. The mayor of Andover is working on signs for Andover.

**Board of Education**

- No report

**Buildings and Grounds**

- Everything is going okay thus far.
- Coaches of girls' softball put mud in the grass at Neil Gylling. Fields are being destroyed because they need to be playable (note – there was a significant amount of rain in June and July and the fields had a lot of water on them). Depending on weather we may need to increase the amount of time that fields are closed because some of what is being done to the fields to make them playable – ex. Putting mud in the grass – can cause long term damage to the fields. This happens at CO 2 and 3 too.
- The grass on CO fields 1 and 2 still have lips on the ball fields that are pretty bad along the baseline. Field 4 is starting to get a lip. Janet will e-mail Adolf asking to have the lips at CO fields 1, 2, 3 and 4 managed this fall.

- There is a safety issue with the fencing up at CO Johnson. The bottoms of the fences at CO 1 and 2 are sticking out with the edges facing the playing field. This can cause serious injury to one of our players. John Hebble has photos of the fences. Because this presents a safety issue, the fences need to be fixed in a timely manner.
- There are many safety issues with the fields – the baseball fields need screens, etc.
- Someone was injured on the skateboard park and was airlifted out. The child was treated and released.

### **Byram Day**

- Planning is moving along. The primary goal of the committee is fundraising. They are looking into having sponsorships at various levels and there was talk of asking Lynne's Nissan to donate a car to be raffled off.
- Vendors' fees are being raised slightly across the board (except for Byram based non-profit groups). Vendor forms will be on line in two weeks.
- There was a question on the feasibility of fireworks. Money for fireworks has to be raised through sponsorships and other forms of fundraising.

### **Lenape Valley Municipal Alliance**

- A representative from the county was here two weeks ago and met with committee members; financial reports were not to her liking.
- The LVMA can help with funds for Byram Day so long as the funds are being used to promote anti-drugs, alcohol, and smoking. Janet asked about donating funds to Byram Day and there was not too much excitement on the part of the committee.

### **Open Space**

- Scott Olson was present and reported on open space in Bill Schilling's absence.
- The planning board approved the subdivision for Hudson Farms Greenway.
- The dam was approved for Hudson Farms Greenway. The sale will be contingent on dam restoration and conservation of easement. We hold the rights to development. There are limitations on what the space can be used for due to the Highlands Act.

### **Volunteerism**

#### **A. Scouting**

1. Boy Scouts – No report
2. Girl Scouts – Janet and I have been trying to get in touch with Genevieve Pilat with no success. Genevieve is supposed to be doing a theatre program for children in one of the town programs over the summer. We will continue to try to contact Genevieve.

#### **B. Honorariums and Memorials**

1. Moving towards a policy. Janet will fix the changes from tonight's meeting so that the committee members can look at the information again.

We are moving towards having the policy be presented to the township manager and the council for approval.

2. There are several different levels of Honorariums and Memorials including donations of park benches, trees, and picnic tables. There is also an Honorariums/Memorials awards system starting with monuments and tablets and going up as far as naming of facilities.
3. We are also working on the Volunteerism proposal which has various levels of Donations of time, work, and labor.

### **Sports Council**

- The committee met last month so there was no meeting tonight. The council will meet next month.

### **Strategic Planning**

- Will meet next Wednesday at 6:30 PM.

#### **A. Budget Sub-committee**

1. There was no meeting this month.
2. John Pappalardo asked Scott Olson a few questions regarding the cuts in the Recreation Committee budget. Scott said that the council removed the Byram Day fireworks and the mailings from the budget. All other changes must have happened at the township manager's level.
3. Scott went over the process for budgets to be passed. The budgets are presented to the township manager as a recommendation from the committee. The manager will make changes as he sees fit and has the final say as to what is presented to the township council for approval. The council then votes on what is final.
4. If there are questions and/or concerns about budgets, committee members and township resident are encouraged to attend budget workshop meetings.
5. The main problem that the recreation committee members have with the recreation budget is that we were told that there would be budget cuts of 10% across the board. The recreation committee budget that was submitted had cuts in excess of 10% and then the budget was completely changed. There was a lack of communication and feedback with the township manager.

#### **B. Capital Improvements Sub-committee**

1. All meetings are cancelled for the summer. The township manager feels that the committee is not functioning well because it is too large. The committee may be reduced in size or disbanded.

### **Youth Guidance**

- No report. Donna Griff is not seeking re-appointment to the Recreation Committee so we will need to appoint a new liaison.

### **Council Liaison**

- Due to Jimmy Oscovitch's absence, Scott Olson reported that there was one resume to fill Donna Griff's seat on the Recreation Committee.

### **Recreation Director**

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation is tomorrow.
  - The meeting room up at CO Johnson field house has been cleaned. It can now be scheduled for meetings.
  - The township manager has advised that we make alternate plans for our programs due to the probable closure of the Civic Center this upcoming winter.
  - The council will be working with the schools to negotiate space for our programs as will Janet.
  - Art DiBenedetto, Superintendent of Netcong/Stanhope schools will be leaving as of June 30<sup>th</sup> so there is no point in discussing availability of space with them at this point.
  - Janet asked if the Cranberry Lake Community Club would be willing to allow the town to use the stage for Byram Day activities. Kate Walsh will inquire.
- James Oscovitch arrived at 8:48 PM.
- We need to look at our facilities application, it needs to be expanded. People are applying to use our picnic area and fields for family reunions. We need a sub-committee for this.
  - We need to make regulations on Byram residents – pros cannot be giving lessons on public fields/courts without a permit.

#### **A. Facilities Sub-Committee**

1. John Pappalardo and Judy from BARKS will be on the committee.
2. We need to look at a Special events policy with an extension on a permit process.
3. A suggestion was made to Jimmy O to open up the subcommittee to other groups as recreation committee members are getting bogged down with the various sub-committees.

#### **Other Business**

- There will be Antique Market on 206 on 6/28/09 and 7/26/09 at Lynne's Nissan run by the Knights of Columbus. This was approved by the township.
- Janet mentioned to Jimmy O and Scott that we need to change the name of Tomahawk Park to Mountain Heights Park as there is confusion with visitors at Tomahawk Lake Park. The township park is not an extension of the water park.
- There was a mention that there is stone needed in the Riverside Parking lot. Kate Walsh will e-mail Amy Rochette who is doing her girl scout gold award at Riverside Park.

#### **Open to the Public**

- As there were no public residents in attendance, this was closed.

**Adjournment**

- Tracy Church made a motion to adjourn the meeting; John Hebble seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed, motion passes. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM.