

**Byram Township Recreation Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 15, 2017 7:30 P.M.**  
**Agenda/Notes**

I. Call meeting to order, 7:30 PM Flag Salute, Moment of Silence

II. Roll Call:

Shawn Armstrong	Member	
Giovanni DiMeo	Vice Chairperson	
Bill Schilling	Member	x
Diana Fleming	Secretary	X left early, phoned in
Dina Trunzo	Member	x
Len Bicher	Member	x
Charles Kranz	Chairperson	x
Robert Brady	Alternate 1	x
	Alternate 2	
Janet Meisner	Recreation Director	x
Nisha Kash	Council Liaison	

III. Approval of notes from January 18, 2017 - *approved*

*Charlie asked to try to have the notes written up within a week to be sent out to the committee for corrections. Committee members should get any corrections back within the next week. Final copy out to committee and manager week before the next meeting. Agenda items may be sent to Charlie of Janet anytime. Try to get agenda out during the week before meeting.*

IV. Key items for discussion and possible action:

- Byram Day
  - Date Sat Sept 23 or Sept 30? *Sept 9 selected for Byram Day (9/30 Yom Kippur, 9/23 Endorphin 5K, Peter's Valley & Charlie & Bill not available, 9/16 Firemen's Convention, 9/9 Succasunna Day, 9/10 Netcong Day 10/7 Firemen's parade). How was the race last year? The date competed with the Endorphin Run and a run at Pope John. Should we make it a family walk instead? People can and do walk as well as run. There was a sizable group at the start.*
  - Neil Gylling Park
  - Similar to last year except
    - No 2 food vendors may sell the same item
    - Move food vendors to behind regular vendors
    - Move inflatable rides down onto grass so not blocking Touch-A-Truck
    - Other updates? – *send out save the dates to race participants, vendors as soon as it's approved by council. Sponsor letters out asap. Do we have to get the letter approved again?*
  - Standing committee meeting dates - *Tue Feb 28 7:00*
- Review of key components from Sports Council meeting
  - Mohawk Ridge to be closed for spring 2017 for maintenance
    - Repair ruts from car diving over field
    - Remove sand deposited to fill ruts
    - Other maintenance as needed
  - CO8 will be moved as far south (closer to the tree line) as possible while remaining a full size field
    - Irrigation control box will be covered
    - Northern end (nearest CO3) about 1/3 of the field will have additional drainage added
  - CO6 will have the field rotated perpendicularly to provide a field for 9v9 games & practices
    - Not a full field

- Will leave current goal mouths open to be refurbished
  - CO7 will need to close either in the spring or next fall - *Next fall better than spring as soccer loses the use of Mohawk View this spring. Football is working to see if they can schedule without CO7, probably can*
    - Talked to soccer and football about their preferences and how they could fit in games and practices
  - Spring sports facility schedule –*Soccer may want to hold summer practices at Tamarack if open; some changes to be emailed out to Sports heads for final review*
- Football’s application for donation of labor and supplies
  - Trophy case in the field house – *Application submitted. Purpose is to celebrate football’s history in Byram. Football and baseball would each have their own trophy cases. We have 3 other trophy cases in the field house. One is baseball, one football and baseball and one cheer. If other organizations want to use a trophy case, they can ask at the Sports Council and the group will negotiate space and share as needed. Concerns - Donated trophy cases become Byram Twp property. Twp now has to maintain them, replace glass if broken, etc. Kids may run into the glass and get hurt. Same as the other trophy cases. Takes up space in the field house that could be used for activities, including registration. Most registration done online now. Few other activities taking place there now. Twp Council has to accept the donation.*
- Hiking Events
  - No longer hiking and biking program as we’ve had the last several years –*There was public comment saying that the groups needed the consistency of regular hikes and rides. The participants set aside time on their regular schedule and made a point to be there. If they had to miss a week, they knew that they could go the next week and not have to miss it for long. Janet knows where to go and provides information about the places that others didn’t know. No one is going to want to do the weekly emails and figuring out where to go. If we want people to use our trails, we should provide them with the opportunity and guidance to do so. Salt Shakers have weekly walks. Salt walks are faster. Byram hikes for regular middle aged and novice walkers. They provide time to talk get to know other like minded people. Bill made a motion to recommend that the Township reinstate the weekly Wed hikes and Mon and Thurs bike rides as a function of the Recreation Department and to be led by the Recreation Director. Len seconded the motion. Yes votes 6. No votes 0.*
  - May have 50 Mile Challenge
    - No Walkin’ Wednesdays
    - Awards to be given out at Byram Day
  - May have Hiking events once a month or on occasion twice a month –*Janet said that manager wanted hikes to be events rather than regular programs. Bill said that if the twp wants the twp to be known for its trails, then they should be easier to find on the twp website. Currently, we have an interactive site for Tamarack Trail because a twp resident designed it, but you have to go through too many drop down boxes to even find it. Janet said that the website had just been updated and no Recreation online registration was a quick link so that she doesn’t have to write a paragraph explaining how to register. She said that we have an ANJAC grant to update the trail presence on the website. It will include more interactive trails, with pictures and descriptions as you walk along the trail.*
    - May not advertise après hike activities
    - May have a theme
    - Primary goal is to invite people to hike Byram trails and use Byram businesses
      - May invite residents and non-residents
- Events Recreation Committee members are needed to work
  - Learn to Ride Bikes (1- 2 people, can be HS students)
    - Sat April 8 1:15 pm – 4:00 pm
    - Take pedals off bikes & encourage kids
  - Tamarack Park Opening Day Celebration (everyone) – *Bill not available.*
    - Sat May 13 9:00 am – 2:30 pm
    - Various positions from cooking to manning a check station to registration
  - Miss Byram and Royal Court (up to 3 people) –*Probably May 24. Dina and Charlie said would check their schedule. Nisha asked why this couldn’t be done at Byram Day. Dina answered that it was a 2 hour*

*event. It would take too much time and not everyone would want to sit through it. Len and Bob asked why we have a beauty pageant in this day and time. Dina answered it wasn't a beauty pageant. The contestants, both boys and girls, are judged on academics, community service, poise and public speaking. Janet said that Joe had asked for it to be held at Byram Day citing that when his daughter was selected for Byram Princess, they had it at Byram Day and someone just held their hand over a contestant's head and people clapped. The child with the most clapping won. Janet said that wouldn't work, especially for the older contestants who are judged on accomplishments rather than cuteness.*

- One evening in late May or early June
- Judge – system of points is in place
- Kids Tri-Harder Triathlon (as many people as possible) – *Dina and Bill will check their schedules, most likely yes. Others maybe*
  - Sat, June 24 8:00 am – 11:30ish am
  - Manage a check station, encourage kids
- Byram Day (everyone)
- Proposed Operations Plan for Tamarack Park *Plans include hiking from COJ, hot dogs and hamburgers, ribbon cutting. Each of the 3 committees will probably be asked to participate in some way. Might be asked to hold activity at Tamarack Park that people could participate in. Sports have been asked not to have home events at COJ until after 2:00 pm. Bob asked if since the sports groups couldn't have games, would they be asked to hike in uniform and maybe hold a soccer kick at Tamarack or something. Janet said yes, but there would be no goals there. Talked about Velcro targets kicks seen on facebook. Probably couldn't duplicate. But football could do something and baseball or softball could ask Vinny Carlesi to bring his speed gun and people could see how fast they can throw a baseball or softball. Bob said they would have to see what the sports schedule was that day.*
  - (not sure if this is approved yet or not)-
- Committee goals for 2017 –*ran out of time*

#### V. Recreation Director's Report

- Afternoon Advantage – afterschool programs for school students
  - ongoing
- Men's Basketball
  - Spring Session ongoing
    - Usually play indoors on Saturday afternoons. Were given an evening slot and they can't get enough men available to play
    - Would like an earlier time slot – *Bob said they could probably have 11:00 – 2:00 in 3 weeks. He'll let me know for sure. Janet said youth basketball ends about then and they'll get weeknight time.*
- Ski Club
  - Finishing up next week
- Kids Tri-Harder Triathlon
  - Held area meeting, Have dates for events in each of 7 towns
  - Byram's date Sat June 24
- Miss Byram and Royalty Court
  - Working on establishing a date that doesn't conflict with school events, especially for HS students
- NJRPA Conference scheduled for March 5 – 8 in Atlantic City

#### VI. Council Liaison Report

#### VII. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports: - *These reports will be prepared by the lead committee person by the weekend before the Recreation Committee to be distributed prior to the meeting and discussed if there are comments/concerns*

- Buildings and Grounds: Shawn, Bob, Len
- Byram Day Committee: Giovanni, Charlie, Diana
- Lenape Valley Municipal Alliance: Dina

- Open Space Committee: Bill, Shawn - *\$110,00 dedicated for irrigation at Tamarack Park. Water cannon, well, etc. Hopefully will cost less. Additional trees will be planted bot at Tamarack and CO Johnson through the No Let Loss grant. The Open Space Committee made a few changes to the Tamarack Park press release. Maintained Janet and Charlies' statements. Took out part about no tax money.*
- Tri-Town Subcommittee : Dina –*held virtual meeting for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter*
- Sports Council Subcommittee: Len, Bob
- Strategic Planning/Capital Improvements Subcommittee: Bill, Charlie
- Walking/Biking Trails: Diana- *will get together to discuss monthly hike events*
- Council Liaison: Nisha Kash

VIII. Any other items from the committee

IX. Open to the public

X. Adjournment