

BYRAM TOWNSHIP RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

May 20, 2009

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CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson, John Pappalardo at 7:34 PM. – Flag salute, Meditation held.

ROLL CALL

Present: John Pappalardo; Steve Koreivo; Kathleen Walsh; Charles Kranz; Bob Nosenchuk; Janet Meisner (Donna Griff arrived at 7:42 PM)

Absent: William Schilling, Tracy Church, John Hebble, Tim Connery, Shawn Armstrong

Please note: Minutes taken by Kate Walsh prior to “Buildings and Grounds” section below. Remainder of minutes by Donna Griff

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, April 2009

- There were no minutes to approve. (Donna Griff missed 4/2009 – who took minutes?)

Item 1: Sports Council met directly before this meeting. Note that Renee Reilly will forward insurance to Janet Meisner for Women’s Softball

Committee Reports:

Andover/Byram Chamber of Commerce

- Trying to get more people involved and asked if they could arrange something at Lynne's Nissan (non-profit people).
- Restaurants in Andover and Byram are going to run a Taste of Andover and Byram to highlight their businesses.

Board of Education

- No report.

Buildings and Grounds

- DPW Has two openings for the summer: \$10.00 per hour, maintaining fields.
- Discussion re: C.O. Johnson – small jungle gym broken. Janet will be looking into this to get this fixed.

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Byram Day

- At the last Byram Day meeting, the Primary topic = fundraising
- Bob will “pitch” fundraising / sponsorship to pay for Fireworks
 - He is waiting for the “package” to explain the sponsorships available
 - We need to start this ASAP to raise funds to pay the \$5000 to \$6000 necessary to sign a contract for the fireworks.
- Talk about having a raffle to raise money for Township Recreation Programs / PTSA if we share the raffle license with PTSA.

Lenape Valley Municipal Alliance

- The Alliance has money, but needs people to be on the committee
- Anyone interested in being on the Alliance should contact Janet Meisner who can put them in touch with the current chairperson : Fran Ekstein.
- Bob Nosenchuk asked if the Alliance could help to fund the fireworks – we could reach out to them to pitch the drug / alcohol free event. We could have an educational session for drug / alcohol awareness.
- Next Alliance meeting = Wednesday 6/10/09 at 2:00 PM
- The Recreation Committee will have someone present at that meeting

Open Space

- John Pappalardo asked if open space funding through taxes stayed at 2% or was it lowered to 1%? We are not sure. We will look into answering this for our next meeting.
- It was noted that the Jones Lane property is moving forward for Township purchase.

Scouting

- Kate sent Janet Addie Rice’s email
- Status: Addie Rice did not put the tables up at C.O. Johnson
- Genevieve Pilat was emailed; Kate would like to sit with her and Genevieve to discuss her class for this summer’s Recreation Program. This meeting was not held yet, but class is in the Newsletter. Important to have the discussion as soon as possible.
- Bob asked about the purpose of the “Scouting Committee” if the Scouts have to go to the “Volunteering” sub-committee to get approval for their projects
- Suggestion was to make “Volunteerism” a Committee with Scouting as a sub-committee to that committee.

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Sports Council

- Bob N. will set up a calendar invite to notify people ahead of time of all upcoming meetings with RSVP notices built in to improve attendance.
- Football came to the meeting
 - Expecting large flag football program – may require more field space (especially if Soccer has a large sign-up)
- It will be nice if we do get more field space (Jones Lane?)
- Bill Amberg from Soccer has not turned in his soccer rosters. He has turned in all other required materials.
 - Bill's concern may be for child protection.
 - Township Lawyer has notified Janet that this must be collected
 - All organizations have turned in their player rosters at this time. This is the one that's missing.
 - Our insurance requires the rosters be turned in.
 - We need to know who is registered with NJ Youth Soccer.
 - Discussion ensued about how to enforce this policy. Janet will work to resolve, we will work on this next month if information is not forthcoming
- Soccer : Summer program: Will need a tent for the program.

Strategic Planning

- Charlie handed out a spreadsheet with improvements listed; and also categorized by Park.
 - All list items are prioritized to show importance of getting them done.
 - We need to add costs to the spreadsheet and possibly other sources of funding (annotate any projects where grants are applied for, etc.)
 - We also need to add any money that is already allocated for each project.
 - Riverside Park: Telephone poles taken out by Adolf. There are holes in the parking lot as well – this should probably be taken care of by Adolf as well. (Stone parking lot requires repair)
- The Strategic Planning sub-committee is now meeting on a regular basis.

Youth Guidance

- We had our last dance
- After July 1, there will be 2 – 3 positions available on Youth Guidance (currently one opening, expecting 2 people to not re-apply).
- Donna noted that there are still problems with chaperones and volunteers: Would like to work on getting more people for this.
- Also – we have lost the 8th graders for the dance. We need to work on ways to get the older kids involved.

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Recreation Director – Janet

- Things are going well; has interjected her comments into the different topics. Nothing to add in this section.

Budget Subcommittee:

- Report included on current budget allocations vs. 2008 allocations for Recreation Committee.
- Celebration of Public Events cut – 78% cut.
 - All Byram Day money; fireworks, permits, tables, chairs was cut significantly.
 - Cuts out major funding for the Concerts in the Park
 - Possibility that with the remaining \$2500, need to decide how to direct this money.
 - Need to have a Programs sub-committee meeting to figure out how to spread this money out.
- Bob Nosenchuk: Cut all programs by huge percentage, but senior citizen committee received additional funding when this committee clearly didn't allocate money in this manner.
 - There are concerns about the funding of the programs and how budget was decided upon because it is not the will of the recreation committee.
- We are concerned about the budget cuts – and the committee feels that we don't have a regular liaison present from the council. Would be good to have someone reporting directly to the council.
- We need to push to have more money in our capital improvements budget.
- One segment of our recreation budget grew (Senior Citizens - \$500 increase) while other segments were cut significantly.

Memorials and Honorariums

- Document prepared – Steve talked to it. Council likes the document and the ideas.
- Meeting held April 30 by the Committee.
- Town Council had questions on the “Community Plaque”
- Idea was for the town to come up with a process to submit names annually for the “wall of fame”. Every year 3-5 names could be added, once submitted to the Township Council and approved.
- General Opinion of Council was that naming of a park, field, building, playground would not be approved.
- Council would be fine with the smaller categories
- As of today, they would like the Honorariums and Memorials Committee to handle the Boy Scout Eagle awards and the Girl Scout Gold Awards.
- There was discussion about having names put on facilities for donors who request it.

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Volunteer Donations of Time, Work and Funds – document handed out

- This committee needs to review the document
- March 5 draft was handed out; but the latest is an April Document. Janet will send this document out to everyone for review.
- There will be another meeting set up for this committee to get through this document
- Need to get schedules of all involved people to set up upcoming meetings.

Capital Improvements Steering Committee

- Tim Connery needs to resign this committee so that we can recommend Steve Koreivo's appointment to this committee. (Tim has not been attending regularly.)
- Need to set up upcoming meetings.

Programs

- Discussion needs to take place to decide how to allocate the \$2500.00 to the various Recreation efforts.
- Committee needs to talk about the \$120,000.00 funds that are currently in a separate account for programs to fund new / existing. (in Dedication by Rider account).
- Need to discuss what facilities will be used and how to plan for the programs for the fall and how to house them; fund them to pay for the new space.
- Dedication by Rider account: Cannot pay for maintenance of the building, need to understand exactly what the funds can pay for.
- Need to make major use of the school, firehouse, building. Possibly make major addition to the fieldhouse.
- We may be able to have a "facilities manager" to oversee use of the schools to oversee the facilities and the upkeep of them while we use them. This would solve the problem of insuring there is no misuse of facilities.
- Need to set up upcoming regular meetings for these meetings.

Note: For all sub-committees, we need to get regular meeting set up for the long run. For all sub-committees, will require extra effort to get the committees set up with policies, etc.. before we have regular meetings set up.

Visiting other Towns' Recreation Meetings

- Would like to forge relationships to build shared services
- Donna will get local Recreation Commission meeting schedules.

Other Items for Discussion:

- Recreation Committee needs to get all documents ready to present to the new council after 7/1/2009.

Meeting Adjournment:

Adjourn the meeting 9:32 PM