

Byram Township Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes: August 19, 2009

I. Call Meeting to Order

- The meeting was called to order by the vice-chairperson, John Pappalardo, at 7:36 pm. Flag salute and moment of silence followed.

II. Roll Call

- Present: John Pappalardo, John Hebble, Steve Koreivo, Kate Walsh, Colleen Ruth
- Absent: Tim Connery, Charles Kranz, Bill Schilling, Tracy Church, Bob Nosenchuk, Shawn Armstrong
- Also in Attendance: Janet Meisner, Dan Rafferty

III. Approval of Minutes, June 2009

- Steve Koreivo made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 15, 2009 meeting with changes. John Hebble seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passes.

IV. Committee Reports

Chamber of Commerce

- The Chamber of Commerce does not meet in August.
- John did remind everyone that members of the chamber are working on A Taste of the Lakes which will take place this fall.

Board of Education

- Janet and Bill met with Dennis Fyffe, Interim Superintendent of Netcong/Stanhope schools, and Chris Burns, Principal of Stanhope School. They also met with Melissa Bammer, Principal of Netcong School. All meetings took place on Tuesday, 8/18/09. With the possible closing of the Civic Center, Janet and Bill discussed the use of shared facilities with Netcong and Stanhope for our recreation programs and all parties involved seemed receptive to the idea. Janet also met with Jerry Bryant and Gary Smith from Byram schools and they are also willing to work with us to the best of their availability. All parties involved like our programs and are willing to help us out of they can.
- Primary concern is wrestling (number of times per week they practice and have matches, and the storage of their equipment). There are a high percentage of kids from Netcong and Stanhope who are involved in wrestling and it was Janet's hope to house wrestling at either Netcong or Stanhope. However, while touring the facilities, Janet and Bill learned that Stanhope is not a possibility due to lack of storage; Netcong may be a better possibility. With Netcong though, again there is an issue with storage of the mats. Melissa Bammer was going to speak to her physical education teacher about the possibility of losing some space for PE and get back to Janet about the possibility of wrestling being moved to Netcong.
- Byram would allow us to have wrestling on the all purpose room but again, there is an issue with storage of equipment.
 - A. Janet contacted Sean Kelly from wrestling and asked him to do research on mat storage. Sean looked into racks that look similar to A frames which would store up to 2

mats. We would need 3 of those racks at the price of \$5,000.00 each. Sean is going to pursue other options for storage.

- Day Programs (pre-school, parent/child classes) also need to be re-located to other facilities. There are rooms at the London Avenue school that are not being used. Janet asked if we could use some or all of those rooms. We are awaiting their response.
- Janet also spoke to the Fire Chief, Paul Conklin, about using the firehouse. We are awaiting his response.
- Janet spoke to Annelisse Tartell, owner of Creative Kidcare, and she is coming up with a plan of how the town could rent space from her.
- There is also a room available for our fitness programs at Results Fitness.

Buildings and Grounds

- Football fields are starting to be lined.
- The fencing along the RF side of CO Field 1 has been repaired.

Byram Day

- The committee met this evening prior to the Recreation meeting. Plans for the day are moving along.
- The pattern of vendors and activities at C.O. Johnson will be re-arranged this year. The layout will be consolidated as last year everything was too spread out.
- A concert will replace the fireworks.
- The concept for Byram Day is fun for all ages, 2 to 102.
- The communiversy idea was pitched and this idea is to involve members of the community in discussions on topics of interest. These topics would be presented by committees of people. Some possible topics for discussion are: The Environmental Commission giving a talk about all the trails in Byram; The Historical Society giving a History of Byram; an Insurance Agent discussing what people should be doing with their finances prior to retirement; Survival skills if you get lost in the woods, etc.

Lenape Valley Municipal Alliance

- Movies in the Park have been on-going all summer.

Open Space

- Corey Stoner is starting to look at the Jones Lane parcel. He hopes the Recreation Committee members will be involved with some of the work on that.

Volunteerism

- Janet will finalize notes on Memorials and Honorariums and Donations of Time, Labor, etc.
 - A. Scouts
 1. Bob – No report
 2. Kate – Genevieve Pilat completed her Gold Award Project doing a theatre program for youngsters in the town which was a success. Addie Rice finished her project at C.O. Johnson Field; all picnic tables are in. Amy Rochette has raised some money for her project at Riverview and has asked businesses for donations; she is waiting to

hear back from the businesses. Amy will also be soliciting the West Brookwood folks for supplies and tools she will need to complete her project.

Sports Council

- It is a struggle to get coaches. Football needs an additional Rutgers class and Janet will be running that at the Civic Center on Thursday from 6:30pm-9:30pm. If anyone is interested in coaching, Janet will run a Rutgers class for 6 or more people.
- Hobb Engler, Cerbo, and Off the Bench may need to coordinate their schedules for field use. At this time however, Janet only has the appropriate paper work from Hobb Engler.

Strategic Planning

- Tracy will e-mail everyone the sheet with the Recreation Committee's long and short term goals.

Youth Guidance

- Dan Rafferty will forward the minutes from the Youth Guidance meeting to members of this committee as soon as he has them.

Council Liaison

- Dan brought back to the council the information given to him by Bill (how excess monies from the rec committee budget should be appropriated) and the information was also given to Joe Sabatini.
- The name of Tomahawk Lake Park has been officially changed to Mountain Heights Park.

Recreation Director

- Our summer programs are over and probably for the first time did not make money. We had a decrease in participation due to the struggling economy.
- There were 2 special education boys who participated in our summer program for many years and their parents, aides, teachers, etc. said how great our programs were for the boys. The programs were good for socialization and they were more readily accepted by the kids in the summer programs.

V. Other Business

- If anyone is available on Sunday, 8/23/09, to help clear out the Arnell Property, your help would be greatly appreciated.
- It was suggested that we solicit members of INTERACT and the scouts for assistance with projects such as this since they have to perform acts of community service.
- The Antique Market will be open again this weekend.
- We are all needed to volunteer for a few hours at Byram Day; please let Janet know your availability.

VI. Open to the Public

- Since there was no public in attendance this was closed just the same.

VII. Adjournment

- John Hebble made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm. Steve Koreivo seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed, motion passes. Meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm.

Action Plans

All – Let Janet know your availability for Byram Day.

Janet – Finalize Memorials and Honorariums and Donation information.

Kate – Forward Janet the state police contact for a presentation on Internet safety.

Tracy – Excel spreadsheet with projects and their priority