

## RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 19, 2018 – 8:00 P.M.

Len Bicher	Chairperson	x
Bob Brady	Vice Chairperson	
Dina Trunzo	Member	x
Jackie Pellek	Member	
Bob Androsky	Member	x
Jeri Quirk	Member	x
Nicole Halajjian	Secretary	x
Jennifer Kerr	Alternate 1	x
	Alternate 2	
Alex Rubenstein	Council Liaison	x

Also present: Harvey Roseff, Joe Sabatini, Don Bogardus

Call meeting to order, Flag Salute, Moment of Silence

Meeting opened at 8:02pm

- Minutes from November 28, 2018 – Motion by Dina Trunzo, second by Bob Androsky to approve the minutes. Motion passed
- Review of why Alex will speak with county health department regarding food vendors. The Committee feels there are less vendors because the process for a permit is hard to obtain. If the process was more streamlined it would be easier for vendors. The Committee is not asking to change the law to obtain a permit, but would like the process to be more streamlined and easier for vendors to apply. This may increase the draw of people who want to come to the event. Food trucks are inspected differently.
- Rec Trac vs. Civic Plus: The town is not considering any software at this point because there isn't a need for one. Dina suggested looking into Rec Desk which is a basic software and can be used for a short term.
- Greener by Design will complete the plan for recreation assets (facilities, fields, etc.) with funding from a grant from NJ Highlands. There will be considerable focus on feedback from residents and sports groups.
- Bob spoke with John Frisky. The student council met today. Bob will hopefully meet with them in January.
- Len will check with Bob B. to see if he will continue his term. If not Len will ask him for a letter of resignation. Bob is the representative for Open Space Committee so someone new will need to be appointed.

- The “Letters to Santa” event went well. Nicole picked up the mailbox from town hall and returned it after the event. Ginny Lepore wrote all the letters and they were mailed.
- Nicole shared that the fire department made a comment that the Committee should have contacted them sooner and that in the past there was a magician at the event. Len stated Janet handled this in the past and we are going through a learning phase.
- Light Contest was not held but will be planned for next year.
- Pickleball lines will be tabled until spring.
- Cleaning crew for CO Johnson Fieldhouse will be tabled until spring.
- Jenn will schedule a Rutgers Coaches Class for January.
- Rec Department email address (such as recreation@byramtwp.org): Alex stated the town is upgrading the network from G3 to E3 but he will look into this.
- Because there will not be a Rec Director the Committee will have to define a plan going forward and be responsible for set up. The committee will decide what events to implement next year, which must be reasonable and attainable.
- Jeri asked what was going on with the LED sign. Joe stated it’s not a priority with everything else going on.
- Spring trail hike: Jeri asked if there would be liability such as if someone twisted an ankle. Jenn stated they planed one this year and no one showed up. Nicole stated that there is a lot of interest in Waterloo Village hikes. When Waterloo charged \$5 there were 10-15 people but the last month they hosted a free hike and there were at least 40 people. So Alex asked why is there no interest here? Advertising may be an issue – there needs to be advertising on the sign and online.
  - Alex to coordinate. Possible date of May 5, 2019
- Geocaching: same day as hike. Alex to contact David T. Lee
- Garage sale: Held the first weekend in June (6/1 & 6/2/19). At least 30 people signed up. Jenn published a list with addresses and posted a flyer at ShopRite, as well as online sites and Facebook. Harvey asked if a Google map could be published also. No one complained that there wasn’t a fee, instead people made their own signs and bought balloons. Joe stated it’s not worth charging \$5 because administration fees cost more. Will BARKS mind if it is the same weekend as their sale?
  - Jenn to coordinate

- Letters to Santa: partnership with the fire department. It shouldn't be scheduled the same day as the Netcong Parade.
- Holiday Lights: The Committee should budget for gift certificates instead of asking local restaurants to donate.
- Memorial Day parade: the Committee has not been involved. It is more of a fire truck parade. Scouts use to be involved. Committee to discuss with fire department at next meeting.
- Trunk or Treat: partner with PTA
- Walk through Haunted House: Sports teams could decorate and compete. Then every year add on. Would this be an issue from risk management perspective with liability and insurance? Alex also thought this would be a huge undertaking and not obtainable for 2019. Tabled at this time.
- Kids Triathlon: Held the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in June (6/22/19). This is a big event and hard to do without someone in the office. Someone in the office would still be needed to collect money (\$15 each) and monitor registration. Joe asked if Lake Lackawanna could host the event instead of the Committee. Alex and Nicole will discuss with the Board but don't see this as an issue. Issues with this event is low attendance and we don't know how many kids would sign up. Nicole and Jenn expressed that there were complaints with the registration process and that the system is not user friendly. Other costs: lifeguard, shirts, trophies
  - Alex and Nicole to coordinate
- Father/son and mother/son golf outing and father/daughter dance. Alex will introduce Jeri to John Harin – operator of golf course.
- Polar plunge at Lake Lackawanna – great attendance. Committee can plan one.
- Byram Day:
  - Need to approach a non-profit to take over.
    - Education Foundation or PTA, LVR Football, LVR soccer club, Hobb Engler baseball, PTA, LES, PAL, BARKS, YMCA
    - Fire Department: They wanted a beer tent which was an issue in the past.
    - The Chamber of Commerce: is more county focused
    - Mr. Kellogg – partner during Hudson Farm charity hike
    - Salt Shakers – they are not a registered non-profit
  - Talk to athletic groups: field will be closed for at least 3 days
  - If event is afternoon into evening: need to come up with plan and date. Police officers will be OT. DPW is time and a half on Saturday. DPW does not want to work at night

and the Committee feels there is resistance from town employees. Joe stated that they will be there.

- In the past when plans changed there was frustration.
  - Sussex County Day at Waterloo Village instead of Byram Day?
  - Netcong has a certified run and a very active rec committee
  - Reach out to sporting groups who are benefactors of Byram Day. Are they interested? If not why? For example: girl scouts, boy scouts
  - Sparta Day is big. They held it at Station Park with parking at the high school
  - Typically \$2,500 is budgeted (rides, entertainment)
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- Summer program: Joe stated one problem is low attendance. However, Dina stated that we need a demography of this community. The summer program was half day and advertised late. This is a working community and many parents need full day child care or camp. Other families already had plans.
  
  - Miss Byram: Represents the town at the Sussex County Fair. Must be available for Memorial Day parade, handed out trophies at Triathlon, and tree lighting. Little Miss/Jr. Miss/Little Mister judged at Byram Day. Miss Byram was judged on poise and asked questions. There was a dress rehearsal the day before and scoring sheets. Prior events were held at Adam Todd or Bed and Breakfast at Tamarack. 2018 Miss. Byram felt she could not complete at the fair because all the other girls were older and had more experience. There was only one candidate in each category so the competition was canceled. Alex asked if we should continue this event? Nicole stated yes, that is why she joined the committee for events such as this. Joe stated the Committee needs to put together a budget for the event: flowers, sash, crown, photographer, and venue.
    - Nicole to coordinate
  
  - 5 years ago there was shared services with Sparta that did work for awhile. There was also joint services with Mt. Olive. Mt. Olive has stopped doing bus trips.
  
  - It was suggested to send out a survey to residents and ask what they want. This will be included in Ben's scope. It was suggested that Ben should meet with the Committee to come up with questions together.
    - Alex will ask the fire department president and chief to attend the January meeting.
  
  - Jeri asked about donations (such as gift certificates or a scholarship for a local student). For example, if she set up a cotton candy stand and volunteered to run. Joe stated that the funds would have to be kept separate from the municipal funds and a trust fund would have to be set up. If for some reason the funds did not go to that charity then the funds would have to be returned to the donor. This is a complicated process and one that the Town does not recommend. Instead the Committee needs to put together a budget that would then be reviewed by the Council.

- Rec Committee Email list: The Committee email list cannot be created because of the Open Public Meetings act. Sub committees can be formed and email utilized.
- This is Dina's last meeting. Thank you Dina for your service.
- More members are needed to join the Committee. Len will ask the sporting coaches but will explain the purpose of the Committee.
- Mike taking over the responsibility of the fields has worked out well.
- Doris has not received any facilities applications. The next Sports Council meeting is in February. Coaches will be reminded to get their fingerprints done.
- Lacrosse showed up to play on the field but they are not authorized. This was an issue.
- Nicole and Len will write a letter to the Town Council regarding the Rec Director position.

Follow-up:

- See "arrow" bullets above

Motion by Dina Trunzo, second by Bob Androsky for adjournment at 9:56pm – approved by all

The next meeting will be January 16, 2019 at 8:00pm at the CO Johnson Fieldhouse