



## Recreation Meeting Minutes April 9, 2024

Don Bogardus	Chairperson	Present
Nicole Halajian	Vice Chairperson	Absent      Resigned
Danielle Conroy	Member	Present
Lynn Apolarino	Member	Present
Kelly Eller	Member	Absent
Neldon (Joe) Condon	Member	Present
Marla Rodriguez	Member	Absent
	Alternate #1	
	Alternate #2	
Cris Franco	Council Liaison	Present

Also in attendance was Debbie Armeno, Director of Recreation, and Council Liaison Cris Franco.

Recreation Committee Chair Don Bogardus called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and had all stand for the salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Recreation Chair asked for Roll Call by Director of Recreation Debbie Armeno, we had 4 members present, 2 absent and two vacant Alternate spots. It was brought to the Committee attention that Nicole Halajian has resigned and a new Vice Chair will be appointed, The Chair tabled this until the next meeting.

Recreation Committee Chair asked for action on the minutes from March 12, 2024 meeting, Danielle Conroy wanted to clarify her statement to be as follows:

I do not have an issue or concern with reporting to Township Manager Joe Sabatini or the current structure. I was mentioning that what happen with the polar plunge was what some of the previous rec comm members feared would happen with us ultimately reporting to Joe Sabatini.

Danielle Conroy

Motion to accept the minutes with the above correction made by Cris Franco, seconded by Lynn Apolarino all were in favor.

Recreation Chair Don Bogardus asked for the Council Liaison report from Cris Franco. She spoke on the 1<sup>st</sup> reading on the budget, proclamations for Autism Month and Child Abuse Month, 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Noise Ordinance.

Recreation Chair Don Bogardus asked Debbie Armeno for the Recreation Director report. Debbie spoke on the following:

Spring/Summer Brochure update and how the programs are shaping up.

Reported on the 2 Meet the Rec Director Meetings and had 9 people show up in total and had good discussion and took in many ideas.

General Updates in on going programs and some new ideas.

Recreation Director Debbie Armeno introduced Cory Lidell and Cameron Hosler who have approached the Recreation Department about giving tennis lessons. They handed out packets to each member and then gave an in-depth discussion of the program they want to bring to Byram Township. Dina Trunzo brought up Rally Ball for people with disabilities and they had heard of it and can easily add it to the program offered. The Recreation Committee thought this was a great idea and asked Debbie Armeno, Director of Recreation to investigate how we can make this program work for us.

Director of Recreation gave a Byram Day Committee report, date for the event will be August 24 from 4p to 9p at CO Johnson Field Complex. We will have Food Trucks, kids rides, games for adults and kids, craft vendors, non-profit tables, and fireworks at the end of the night. Fireworks went up 5% from last year to \$9,000.00. Howard from Megabyte Events has secured some food trucks already and feels he can supply all we need. We did find out that there are 3 other events in the area, but the Committee feels this will not impact on our event. We will now have Cris Franco, Council Liaison bring this to the Mayor and Council meeting on April 17, 2024, for their approval and once approved we will move forward.

Danielle Conroy gave a report on behalf of the Event Committee, she spoke on the Grandparents Breakfast in September and she got a price from the Stonewood and it is \$20/\$25 per ticket and the committee feels it is expensive, she brought up they will look into Applebees and also a catered event at the Firehouse. She will get back to us at the next meeting. She spoke on Tri-Athlon that will be held at Lake Lackawanna beach, Shaun Higgins will be our contact and Recreation Chair Don Bogardus will give him a call to discuss. This will continue to be a free event and we will discuss the purchase of T-shirts.

Danielle also discussed the Recreation Committee co-hosting a Scavenger Hunt with the Environment Commission in June. There will be 2 age groups and this will be a family event taking place on our trails and pathways in Byram. The prizes will be Ram Bucks provided by the Elementary School, the Rec Committee discussed donating gift cards and water for this event.

Director of Recreation Debbie Armeno stated that the deadline for advertising for the Fall/Winter is our June meeting. If I do not have it by then it will be in the next catalog.

Director of Recreation brought up a few announcements:

Townwide Garage Sale	June 1 & 2
Miss Byram Pageant	June 1 Flyers sent to the schools/web
Miners Game	June 15

She also spoke on doing Senior Activities- walks, bocce, and bird watching.

Council Liaison Cris Franco reported on Crochet and Mahjong.

Recreation Chair asked if there are any topics or items for next meeting on May 14, 2024- there was none brought up.

Recreation Chair opened the meeting to the public-

Dina Trunzo brought up she has worked other Kids Triathlons in other towns and they charge a fee to join and that fee covers expenses and the event was open to the public.

Danielle Conroy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Cris Franco all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Deborah Armeno

Director of Recreation.

