



Recreation Meeting Minutes February 13, 2024

Don Bogardus	Chairperson	Present
Nicole Halajian	Vice Chairperson	Present
Danielle Conroy	Member	Present
Shawn Conner	Member	Present
Kelly Eller	Member	Present
Jim McBain	Member	Absent
Marla Rodriguez	Member	Present
Lynn Apolaro	Alternate #1	Present
	Alternate #2	N/A
Cris Franco	Council Liaison	Absent

Also in attendance was potential appointee Neldon (Joe) Condon and Recreation Director Debbie Armeno.

Recreation Director Debbie Armeno called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and had all stand for the Flag Salute and Moment of Silence.

Recreation Director Debbie Armeno took roll call, all were present except Jim Mc Bain and Council Liaison Cris Franco, (she previously advised us of her absence).

Recreation Director Debbie Armeno began the Recreation Committee Reorganization:

Shawn Connor made a motion and nominated Don Bogardus as Chairperson, Kelly Eller seconded the motion all were in favor- Don Bogardus accepted the position.

Shawn Connor made the motion to nominate Nicole Halajian as Vice Chairperson, Kelly Eller seconded the motion all were in favor-Nicole Halajian accepted the position.

Don Bogardus, Chairperson took over leading the meeting.

Don Bogardus asked for action on the meeting minutes from the January 9, 2024 meeting. Shawn Conner made a motion to accept them, Nicole Halajian seconded the motion all were in favor.

In the absence of the Council Liaison or Mayor to give an update, Recreation Director Debbie Armeno briefed the Committee on the submission of the CIP Playground Grant and that we received 200 letters of support for this project.

Don Bogardus asked Recreation Director Report: Debbie Armeno reported on the following:

1. Flip Builder and Spring programs, asking for help to get the word out.
2. The Launch of Community Pass and the press release.
3. Ski Club, this week is the last week and it all went very well. We will be looking into Shawnee as a new location for next years Ski destination.
4. General updates on programs and the Summer programs we will be running.

Don Bogardus spoke up that at a Council Meeting Council Roseff wants the Recreation Director at a Council Meeting to discuss what she is doing and ask questions, Don asked for support from the Committee and they are on board, they feel Debbie is doing a good job and going off the Survey.

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Don Bogardus asked for any Committee Member updates/Discussions/Reminders/News

Shawn Connor discussed the Good Doc for signing up for events, is this still the way the Committee wished to go? They were all in favor of it and he was going to send it out to the new members.

Jim Mc Bain was also brought up and action was going to be taken as to if he wished to be on or go off based on lack of attendance. Recreation Director Debbie Armeno was asked to draft a letter and send it to him advising him that he was going to be removed from the Committee. It was further discussed that Neldon (Joe) Condon was going to be added to the Committee taking Jim's spot. Debbie Armeno was to advise the Township Clerk, Cindy Church of this.

Don Bogardus asked about next item on Agenda- Budget.

Recreation Director Debbie Armeno spoke on some budget savings due to no events that were budgeted for- Shawn Conner spoke on some other events and how much they would need to be funded.

Due to the weather Howard from Mega Bite Events could not make the meeting to discuss his ideas for Byram Fest.

Don Bogardus moved to Upcoming Events on agenda-

Senior Walks he will speak to the Mayor about taking these on or not.

Shawn spoke about doing Hikes and how much notice he would need to advertise, Debbie stated that a list of dates that can be put into a flyer for Flip Book would be better but will advertise what he has when he has it. He is looking at Mother's Day and Father's Day Hikes, he will advise. The other items were covered in the Recreation Director report. At this point Don Bogardus appointed to the following Sub-Committees:

Events: Nicole Halajian, Danielle Conroy and Lynn Apollinaro

Byram Day: Kelly Eller, Marla Rodriguez, and Don Bogardus. Debbie Armeno rep the town.

Facilities Committee: no longer needed.

Program Committee: no longer needed.

Don Bogardus moved on to Completed Events:

Shawn Conner and Marla Rodriguez gave a brief report on Family Game night, it went well and was well attended. They wish to host this again with the help of the PTA and maybe purchase some new games.

Debbie Armeno asked Nicole Halajian to give a report on Disney on Ice, as she attended, she stated it was a great show, the seats were very good and all who attended want to go again.

Danielle Conroy gave a report on the Coat Drive took in many bags of coats and it was a success. The coats were all well received by the Food Pantry who brought them to Project Self Sufficiency.

Don Bogardus gave the Committee a report from the Open Space Meeting on February 1, 2024 which he is the liaison from the Rec Committee. They spoke on Trials, where do they fall?, Hikes who is doing them?, should the 2 boards, EC, Open Space, and Rec work together? 2023 Goals, the chair wanted to be kept in the "loop" of who is spending the money.

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Don Bogardus asked if we had any Committee Reports:

Nicole Halajian spoke about events that her and Danielle Conroy met about:

Miss Byram- May 18 she wants new judges, Debbie Armeno explained that maybe adding 2 judges would be best, Rec Committee agreed, Debbie also said she was in talks with LVRHS about the Auditorium and maybe changing the time to get more participation. Rec Committee agreed.

Kids Triathlon will be June 8 at Lake Lackawanna, they will be in need of many volunteers.

Grandparents Breakfast will be September 8 location to be announced.

Pet parade will be October 5 maybe at Lake Lackawanna, but they want to charge \$350 for the Club House, she is trying to get O.S.C.A.R. to sponsor. Debbie Armeno suggested using the Kids Kreative Care parking lot or the lot next to Pets Supplies Plus.

Possible Concert in the Park at NG Park with a local band. To be announced.

Don Bogardus asked for any topics for next meeting and it was decided to Ask Howard From Mega Bites back to discuss his ideas.

Don Bogardus asked if there were any items for future meetings there were none.

Don Bogardus opened the meeting to the public: Anneliese stated she will have the bus at the Polar Plunge for any Food Pantry donations.

Don Bogardus reminded that the next meeting will be March 12, 2024 at 8pm

Danielle Conroy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Nicole Halajian seconded the motion and all were in favor, meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Armeno, Recreation Director