

Recreation Committee November 14, 2018 Minutes

FLAG SALUTE: Led by Chairwoman S. Rude at 7:07pm.

ROLL CALL: Vice Chairman Rob Kowalski, Chairwoman Sue Rude, Karen Ruitenberg, Joelle Brownlee, Tim Duvelsdorf, George Hudock, Stephen Fischer, Oscar Fernandez

Also Present: Recreation Committee Secretary Valerie Galizia, Softball Representative A. Pascarella, Basketball Representative V. Kowalski, Little League Representatives B. Anderson & N. Sajdak

Not Present: Katie Rotondi & Scott MacKenzie

STATEMENT: Chairwoman S. Rude stated that this meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of P.L. 1975, Ch. 231, 4 & 13 of the Sunshine Law and that adequate notice of said meeting has been published in the New Jersey Herald being the Daily & Sunday editions as to time, place, and date, and is posted in the usual location of posted notices in the municipal building.

MINUTES: A MOTION was made by R. Kowalski and seconded by T. Duvelsdorf, with all members in favor, to approve the October 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes.

PRIORITY DISCUSSION

1. Art Class Update: K. Rotondi

K. Rotondi was absent from the Recreation Committee meeting so no update on the art classes was given.

2. Mulch Discussion

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that when he originally got the quote for the rubber mulch that it was for 33 tons at approximately \$16,000 but when DPW Manager D. Bayles called in for the quote he was told 55 tons was needed at \$27,500 which was way over the budget that the Recreation Committee was prepared to spend. He stated that D. Bayles also wanted to add in rubber curbing which was an extra unanticipated expense. The issue is that Recreation doesn't have the money available on hand for the rubber mulch.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that there was \$22,500 in the Rec account, \$22,475 in a parks fund, and \$10,000 in appropriation reserves that may possibly be able to be moved to Capital Reserves. He stated that the parks fund is for permanent improvements to the park and mulch is not considered one of them however if it was considered a park restoration that the money may be used to go towards the mulch and a piece of playground equipment.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski suggested that the Recreation Committee approve the full 55 tons of mulch and suggest to D. Bayles to just order the 33 tons this year and to spread it thinly around the outside of the playground so that at least the ground is covered then order the rest of the needed mulch with next year's budget.

A MOTION was made by Vice Chairman R. Kowalski and seconded by S. Fischer, with all members in favor, to approve the full amount of 55 tons of rubber mulch at \$27,500 and to just order 33 tons now, spread out in the park, and order the remainder of what is needed in April along with the new piece of playground equipment.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that he saw what the park looks like now that it's cleared out and the barriers are visible. He suggested talking to local businesses for donations for a paver area or to do a "buy a brick" fundraiser for the pavers with a couple benches and some trees for shade that's located closer to the playground. That would be less area to mulch as well. He stated that there is an area off to the side that has the room to be able to put the extra seating in for parents or grandparents taking their kids to the park to play.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that he spoke with Township Administrator/CFO J. Caruso about the Recreation Committee budget and that she is working on creating a separate account for Recreation instead of a line item appropriation. This will take better account of what is in Recreation.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that there was no representation at the meeting again from the Township Committee.

A MOTION was made by R. Kowalski and seconded by J. Brownlee, with all members in favor, to request to the Township Committee that there be town representation at each meeting.

3. Recreation Bylaws Update: S. MacKenzie

S. MacKenzie was absent from the Recreation Committee meeting so no update on the bylaws was given.

4. Tree Lighting & Holiday Ceremony- Friday, December 7, 2018 at 7:00pm

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that the holiday pub was already being rented out the weekend of the Tree Lighting so he will look into a couple other ideas or just order a new backdrop. J. Brownlee stated that herself and V. Galizia will go get the cookies and refreshments during the week before the Tree Lighting. Secretary V. Galizia stated that she ordered the glow sticks and goodie bag items from Oriental Trade.

T. Duvelsdorf volunteered for traffic parking and A. Pascarella volunteered to take photos throughout the evening.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that he would contact the Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts to see if different troops would want to come together at the Tree Lighting.

A **MOTION** was made for R. Kowalski to purchase \$200 in more lights for the tree lighting and J. Brownlee to purchase \$50 for T-shirts that she will create for the tree lighting to give away.

5. 2019 Budget Discussion

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated to look over the review of the 2018 budget, think of events that are wanted for 2019 and come with suggesting at the January meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence.

OPEN DISCUSSION

A **MOTION** was made by J. Brownlee and seconded by Vice Chairman R. Kowalski, with all members in favor, that KRHS needs to request permission to use the pavilion and walking path since Recreation could be using the park. She stated that she went to set up for the Trunk or Treat event this year to find the pavilion decorated and cars were in the parking lot. It was Kittatinny having an end of the year sports party that was never approved at the Township. It was supposed to be held at Kittatinny but they decided to move it to the park and never got permission to do so.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that next year the Recreation Committee needs to be more organized and have volunteers for specific jobs at events. Then each person with that job can say how many volunteers that they need. That way when someone comes and asks to be a volunteer or what can they do to help we can answer.

J. Brownlee asked if she could have \$100 to put towards totes for the Recreation cage for storage. The Recreation Committee agreed that would be fine.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that he wanted to request to the Township to hire a full time parks employee since the park is being used more in the fields and for events. It needs more attention than it has been getting.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that the softball volunteers were awesome at the Trunk or Treat event.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that on the facebook event pages to have a volunteer sign up on the site. An example would be the Hampton Day event page then having a link to a Google doc for volunteer signs ups with specific jobs and times. The local churches could also be contacted to post the info for community hours.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that the 2019 Recreation Committee meeting dates and times should be posted on the facebook page with reminders for meetings to try to encourage more of the public to attend meetings. It would be helpful to hear from the residents what they want to see done to Hampton Park and what type of events that they would be interested in seeing as a community.

J. Brownlee stated that the Rec cage still needs to be cleaned out in the senior center before the winter but she needs someone with a pickup truck to come help to move the larger items. O. Fernandez said that he could meet her during the day but he doesn't have a truck. Vice Chairman R. Kowalski suggested if it's easier to have it done during the day to see if DPW Manager D. Bayles could have one of the guys come over to grab the stuff from the parking lot and put it in the dumpster in the back. J. Brownlee asked KLL if they could swap cages since they have two. She wants to swap the Rec cage with one of KLL's cages that goes under the stairs which isn't used since it's larger than what Rec has now. Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that he will get in touch with the KLL rep in charge of equipment for permission.

T. Duvelsdorf suggested getting walkie talkies for Rec members to use at events so that it's easier to communicate with each other.

A MOTION was made by T. Duvelsdorf and seconded by Vice Chairman R. Kowalski for T. Duvelsdorf to look into quotes on 4 walkie talkies and email them to the Recreation Committee for review and approval.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that Kittatinny Little League representation was at the Recreation Committee that evening due to a small issue that had occurred. Travel Minors were approved to use the Rec fields. There was miscommunication between the Minors and Little League about their raking machine and lime being used without being asked.

Vice Chairman stated that the issue was that Little League President J. Choma had called DPW Manager D. Bayles asking who gave the code to the Minors for the Little League shed because they raked the machines while the fields were wet leaving them all muddy and returned the raking machine to the shed covered in clay. Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that he spoke with the representative from the Minors and she relayed that a coach from Little League gave the Minors the code to the shed to use the equipment to rake the fields when they were done with them. DPW Manager D. Bayles stated that the fields were fine and the equipment was also fine, that there was no clay on the machine. Vice Chairman R. Kowalski asked Little League President J. Choma to go through the Recreation Committee sports liaison from this point on and not contact D. Bayles with issues.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that there is no issue with KLL, that they were asked to come to the Recreation Committee meeting to discuss proper protocol. J. Choma was unable to attend the meeting so N. Sajdak and B. Anderson were present. B. Anderson stated that in the future if that's an issue or question to contact himself or N. Sajdak as Little League liaisons.

Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that the Minors requested to use the Little League fields again in the spring on Sundays. Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that as long as it didn't

interfere with Rec sports that it should be an issue but that it would need to be worked out with Little League. D. Bayles told Vice Chairman R. Kowalski that if the Minors wanted to continue to use the Rec fields that they would need to supply their own lime. Vice Chairman R. Kowalski also brought up the possibility of charging outsiders to use the field lights if they continue to want to use the Rec fields. The Minors wanted to know when opening day for Little League would be so that they can send Herbie over and some other things to show their appreciation for being able to use the fields and that they realize that KLL comes first for usage.

PUBLIC SESSION

Softball Representative A. Pascarella stated that there is no outlet in the softball cage. She wants to be able to vacuum out the cage. J. Brownlee stated that there should be an outlet by the broiler that she could plug into with an extension cord, if not they could go through the Rec cage.

A. Pascarella asked if a porta john could be put by field 5 for softball so that it didn't take the girls so long during games to go to the restrooms. Vice Chairman R. Kowalski stated that they could put the request in but from personal experience with Little League, the issue is the heavy trucks getting to the porta johns then screwing up the grass and edges of the walking path trying to turn around or driving off the path.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by O. Fernandez and seconded by Vice Chairman R. Kowalski, with all members in favor, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Valerie L. Galizia
Recreation Committee Secretary