

## RECREATION COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 22, 2012

**THE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN FORMALLY APPROVED AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR MODIFICATION AT THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING**

**FLAG SALUTE:** led by Chairwoman Susan Rude at 7:05 PM.

**ROLL CALL: RECREATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS – Present:** Chairwoman Susan Rude, Gene Cotelli, Oscar Fernandez, David West, Eileen Junior, Jim Cutler, Daniel Coranoto.  
**Absent:** Mitch Wilinski, Kirk Kandel.

**Also Present:** Liza Kelly- Soccer, Norm Sellers- Soccer, Robert Kowalski- Baseball, John DeSordi- Baseball, Jackie Santonastaso- Softball, Dianne Rude- Softball, Leon Pollison- Football, Christine Logston- Basketball, Ann Marie Schoelier- Hampton Day, Dawn DeAngela- Hampton Day.

**STATEMENT:** Chairwoman S. Rude stated the 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 locations of posted notices in the municipal building.

### OATH OF OFFICE

#### **SWEARING IN OF RECREATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Gene Coltelli (5 year term)  
Oscar Fernandez (5 year term)

Chairwoman S. Rude swore in Gene Coltelli and Oscar Fernandez. Mitch Wilinski was absent and will be sworn in at a later date.

#### **MINUTES:**

Chairwoman S. Rude noted a correction to be made to the January 25, 2012 minutes. Under roll call; also present, the name should read John Major for Lacrosse not John Klein.

**A MOTION** was made by Committeeman D. Coranoto and seconded by Committeeman D. West, with all members in favor, to approve the January 25, 2012 Minutes with the above noted correction made.

#### **PRIORITY DISCUSSION LIST**

1. **2012 Budget:** The Committee members reviewed what the amounts have been spent each year for Hampton Day, Sports Funding, the Easter Egg Hunt, Miss Hampton/Prince & Princess

Pageant, and what was spent on Movies in Motion. The Board members decided to hold a Work Session to plan the budget for this year to be held before the next meeting.

- Hampton Day Committee:** Chairwoman S. Rude spoke to the Committee members as well as the other people in attendance about having a volunteer committee for Hampton Day. The event is Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012 from 3:00 PM until dusk. S. Rude explained the Recreation Committee is trying to get more volunteers involved this year to bring in new ideas to have a bigger & better Hampton Day.

Dawn DeAngelo stood up and introduced herself to the Recreation Committee. She expressed her interest on helping to organize Hampton Day and feels she would be a great asset to the team with her background in Marketing. Her field of work has given her much experience with organizing numerous events & coming up with new ways to draw people's attention. She stated she would be in touch with Secretary V. Galizia to set up dates for the Hampton Committee meeting.

- Buy-a-Brick:** Committeeman D. West explained the Buy-a-Brick program is to raise money for the Mike Biron Foundation for lighting the fields. People can buy a brick for the substation that will house the electric. There will be three different ways people can donate. As a result of their donation, there would be a plaque on the substation house with their name and what type of donation they made. People are needed to help circulate the information and get donations once everything is completed. Pamphlets will be supplied by D. West. Anyone on the Recreation Committee as well as sports teams or anyone else is encouraged to help try and get the information out there. 100% of the money that is raised will go directly into the trust for the lights; nothing will be going toward the Recreation Committee or the sports teams that help out.

Committeeman D. Coranoto brought up the KRHS Jazz Band performance night over the summer. He said the only dates that the jazz band would be able to perform is July 27<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> which is a Friday or Saturday evening. The Committee members discussed which day would be better to have the event and decided Friday July 27<sup>th</sup> would be a better date due to many family vacations being planned around that time. The time will be announced.

**A MOTION** was made by Committeeman D. West and seconded by D. Coranoto, with all members in favor, to hold the evening with the Jazz Band performance on Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>.

Committeeman D. Coranoto also brought up having a Bocce Ball court installed at the park. He asked Committeeman D. West to see if he could get estimates. Secretary V. Galizia will also look into the catalogs at the municipal office and see if there's anything listed. Once a price is determined it will be added to the budget list to see if it's possible to be completed this year.

**A MOTION** was made by J. Cutler and seconded by D. West, with all members in favor, to look into finding out the cost of the Bocce Ball court.

- Car Show at the Park:** Chairwoman S. Rude stated the car show in the park is one of the fundraisers the Recreation Committee is thinking of having this year. Chris DeVries had spoken to the Recreation Committee about the car show at a previous meeting. Chairwoman S. Rude stated she will attend the Township Committee meeting on Tuesday February 28<sup>th</sup> to have the event approved so the date may be set.

5. **Pavilion Usage:** Chairwoman S. Rude spoke about the idea of having someone come in to sell food at the sports games/practices such as a hotdog truck or lunch wagon instead of finding someone to operate the pavilion stand. She will speak with Township Administrator E. Klose to see if there are any updates regarding having a vendor present during sports practices and games. It will be decided who will be doing concessions before the season starts.
6. **Battle of the Bands:** Chairwoman S. Rude spoke to the Committee members about getting the information for the battle of the bands together so the advertising can start to be put together. Since there won't be electricity to the fields by then, other sources will need to be brought in. Committeeman D. West will be in contact to find out if another source can bring in the portable stages, power, a generator, insurances needed, and reserving a date in July.

Chairwoman S. Rude asked Committeeman D. Coranoto if he had any information regarding the status of the field lights.

Committeeman D. Coranoto stated the Town discussed the power situation and have their funds set aside to run the line that will go out to the substation. The power company will not put the line in until the building is ready to connect it to. The next stage would be to make sure there is enough money to put a power house out there and then the lights go from that point on once the fundraising through the Mike Biron Fund is ready. The Recreation Committee will look into the costs of installing the power house before getting in contact with Mrs. Biron to see how much money the Foundation has available. The prices from the power company have already been quoted and are ready to go once everything else is set up.

### CORRESPONDENCE

1. **Letter to Sports Organizations:** Chairwoman S. Rude went over the letter that Secretary V. Galizia sent to all sports teams' representatives regarding their attendance at meetings to receive their funding and what information is needed to be able to practice on the fields. She reminded the teams again that once the sports teams have their coaches' lists, they must send them in along with a copy of the matching NYSCA card. She anticipates teams being able to get on the fields early this year so encourages teams to get the information together now so they can hand everything in. The information is to be dropped off at Town Hall to have everything on file there. If teams have any questions they can contact Secretary V. Galizia at the Town Hall.
2. **Marian E. McKeown School 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Party:** Chairwoman S. Rude brought up the correspondence for the McKeown dance brought to the meeting that night. McKeown is asking for donations for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade promotion party. The Committee has never donated to this event before.

Committeeman G. Coltelli, whom was absent at the previous meeting, said the Recreation Committee cannot donate money to other groups; they do not have the authority to do so and it is not in the budget.

Basketball representative Chris Logsdon informed the Committee she was the person that brought in the donation requests and only did so because the Committee decided at the last meeting to donate to the KRHS Project Graduation Tricky Tray. KRHS is made up of students from surrounding towns not just Hampton Township.

Committeeman G. Coltelli stated the Committee couldn't donate to one organization then turn away from another one because that's not fair, though we should not have donated to the Project Graduation.

Committeeman D. Coranoto mentioned the Recreation Committee needs to get a budget committee together to see what the budget is for this year. The Committee is way behind this year on deciding what their budget is and it needs to be decided as soon as possible so it can plan everything out for the year.

Committeeman D. West stated his opinion that the Committee members set precedent at the last meeting by agreeing to donate to the KRHS project Graduation so the members would be hard pressed in saying they won't donate to another group. In general he's all for supporting the promotion party's but it's not really a Recreation event within the Town. He's going to vote when the Committee motions it that it's approve for this year but not in future years because it's not recreationally related.

Committeeman D. Coranoto mentioned to Mrs. Logsdon that she can always bring it to the Township Committee to be approved, that it may be supported on the Township Committee as well.

Committeeman G. Coltelli stated the budget is done months before the new year and if sports teams or organizations are going to request a donation or special funding they need to get it in at that time, not a month before their donations need to be in.

Mrs. Logsdon replied she was at last month's meeting and figured since the KRHS Project Graduation Fundraiser got approved that she might as well try and ask.

Committeeman D. Coranoto stated all the information for the donations to the organizations needs to go through the Township Committee first, so the Recreation Committee can make a motion to have it sent on to the Township Committee meeting but that's all they can do. The Recreation Committee cannot technically donate money to other organizations.

Mrs. Logsdon replied that the only difference with this fundraiser is that it's Hampton students only, unlike Kittatinny which is Hampton, Fredon, Stillwater, and Sandystone. That's why she felt it wouldn't be a problem.

Committeeman D. Coranoto stated since it's only Hampton students that he feels the Town would probably donate something to the fundraiser. He stated the Committee members should make a motion to send it onto the Township.

**A MOTION** was made by Committeeman G. Coltelli and seconded by Committeeman J. Cutler, with Committeeman D. Coranoto abstained, to donate to the McKeown 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Party \$75.00, just like the KRHS Project Graduation, for this year then next year it needs to be forwarded straight to the Township Committee.

- 3. Kittatinny Girls Travel Basketball Club:** Chairwoman S. Rude discussed a letter to the members requesting that a \$300.00 donation be made to the KRHS girls travel basketball club. She stated that she knows that they came to the Committee last year asking for a donation but it was turned down because if they donate to them they realize every travel team would be asking for a donation as well.

Committeeman G. Coltelli stated if a team that is not given an annual donation from the Recreation Committee, and wants to come to the Recreation Committee to ask for a donation, they need to come before the budget is set for the following year. The budget for the following year should be prepared in October. The sports teams should come forth to the Recreation

Committee at that point to see if it would be in the budget to donate to them for the following year.

**A MOTION** was made by Committeeman D. West and seconded by Committeeman D. Coranoto, with all members in favor, to table a vote on this until after the Work Session and schedule the Work Session before the next meeting.

Chairwoman S. Rude stated Secretary V. Galizia tried to get in contact with soccer representative Liza Kelly regarding soccer's sponsorship signs being taken down since the season has been over.

Soccer representative Norman Sellers stated the signs were taken down over the weekend, but when he went to remove them they had been destroyed. Mr. Sellers noted he feels the skateboarders are back in the pavilion again and are vandalizing things.

Mr. Sellers also mentioned that soccer cleaned up the boxes & pallets that were left behind in the Senior Center. He noted that everything that was left there was not only from soccer. He stated they were under the impression DPW Manager Danny Bayles was cleaning the Senior Center out and apologized for the miscommunication.

Baseball representative John DeSordi also told the Committee members they have cleaned up the Senior Center as well.

Chairwoman S. Rude thanked the teams for cleaning out the Senior Center and reminded them to please clean up after themselves when they leave; that is it their responsibility to take out anything they take in, not DPW Manager Danny Bayles.

Committeeman D. Coranoto was asked to relay to the Township Committee that the skateboards are back in the pavilion again. Committeeman D. Coranoto responded that the video cameras have been fixed in the pavilion and that he will pass the information along at the next Township Committee meeting.

Chairwoman S. Rude asked Committeeman D. Coranoto for an update on the batting cages. Committeeman D. Coranoto stated that the construction of the batting cages will begin March 1<sup>st</sup>. He was in contact with DPW Manager D. Bayles who is overseeing the batting cage project and that a welder will be coming in to finish up the cages. He believes Danny mentioned the batting cage will be completed by March 15<sup>th</sup> and that everything has been ordered.

Soccer Representative Norm Sellers asked if Danny was going to be using a machine to move the soccer nets on and off the field. Committeeman D. Coranoto responded that Danny will not be maintaining soccer's goals. The machines would always cause the soccer goals to break. Wheels were installed on one side of the goal to be able to tip them over and roll them on and off the fields. It should take two people on each side to help push them.

### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Committeeman D. Coranoto stated it was really great to see so many people at the meeting from the teams. He encouraged the teams to give the Recreation Committee any suggestions, or if they would like to participate with Hampton Day or any other events/projects that are scheduled for this year, to please step up and take part to help out. That's the reason the Committee is trying to get everyone more actively involved so they can get more feedback, new ideas, and participation. He thanked the teams for coming and hopes the meetings will continue to have as many people involved.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Baseball representative Robert Kowalski wanted to thank DPW Manager Danny Bayles for doing a great job with maintaining the fields and hopes they will be able to get out there early if the weather continues to hold up.

Mr. Kowalski said that John Wohlleber had met with Danny the previous day to discuss the batting cage and Danny had mentioned to him that the netting for the cage still needs to be ordered. The batting cage was voted on last year to be repaired. The funds from last year that had not been used have been moved back into general funds as per state law and as stated in the letter Secretary V. Galizia sent to the sports teams. However, the money is going to be taken out of the general fund to finish completing the batting cage project.

Committeeman D. Coranoto stated he feels it has been made very easy for teams to come in and receive their funding now. All they have to do is show proof of their insurance and NYSCA cards and will be given their annual donation. It is not the responsibility of the Town to track down the teams that do not come in to receive their funding. That is another reason why it's important for teams to attend the Recreation Committee meetings and know what's going on. In previous years, teams would have to turn in receipts of what they spent the money on in order to receive funds. The teams also need to make it to the 6 out of 10 meetings in order to receive their funding for the following year.

Committeeman G. Coltelli stated it's not fair to have teams receive their funding for the current year, then not attend enough meetings that year so the following season will be penalized for their mistakes. There may be people new to program there weren't involved the previous year so you may be penalizing people that weren't involved with the program at the time. He doesn't agree with that and feels it's not fair.

Chairwoman S. Rude stated that most of the teams had made all the meetings they could the previous year, but the Recreation Committee will have to discuss in Work Session how to set precedents for giving teams their annual funding and how to keep the teams involved with making it to the Recreation Committee meetings.

Committeeman D. Coranoto stated that he feels it's fair to have the teams attend the 6 meetings or not receive their funding for the following year. Even if someone new takes over, the person currently in charge should be passing the information along to them and they should be informing them of their duties and responsibilities. They're signing up to be a head of the sports organization and with that comes certain responsibilities, one of which making sure to find someone to attend the Recreation Committee meetings when they cannot.

Committeeman G. Coltelli stated that if the sports teams do not come to the meetings, it's not the adult who is going to be hurt by it, it's the kids. Say the current program goes to all their meetings that year, a new program comes in receives their funding and then they don't go to their meetings. That program's kids don't get affected; it's the following year's kids that will be. Therefore it is the Recreation Committee's problem since the kids are the ones being penalized for it. The Recreation Committee's job is not to say the teams didn't attend the meetings so we're taking the money away from the kids. The program that falls short that year should be penalized for it, not the following year.

Baseball Representative Robert Kowalski stated that the bottom line is that no matter which way you put it, the kids are still being penalized. The money that the teams receive goes

directly to the kids. He offered to provide the statements showing what the money goes into for the kids each year.

Committeeman D. Coranoto stated that Mr. Kowalski's point is well taken. He understands the sports teams need the money now. The Township is going to give the teams their funding before they attend the meetings but the Committee needs to get some participation. It's the right of the Township to ask that. The point of all of this is to get participation at meetings between Hampton's sports organizations and the Recreation Committee. He stated he doesn't understand how the sports teams can't find one parent to designate one evening of one month to come to the meeting and relay the information back to the sports team.

Soccer Representative Norman Sellers stated he felt that each sports team could make it to January, February, and March's meeting at least, prior to their season starting. That's already three meetings out of the way. They should then receive their funding and be required to attend one more meeting throughout the year for a total of four meetings.

Committeeman G. Coltelli responded that he understands the problem about the children not getting their money, and as an example, part of a 'Rob's' job as running the sports program is coming to the Recreation Committee meetings, however many that may be. It's part of his responsibilities. If 'Rob' cannot make it to the meeting, and he can't get someone to attend in his place, the town has the right to say someone has to be here to represent you so the program knows what's going on. That's part of his responsibilities as far as saying I'm in charge of this program and I need to find someone to attend that meeting.

Mr. Kowalski asked if it would be possible if a sports team could not make it to a meeting and the Committee needed an update from them, if something was typed up and signed by the President the week of the meeting explaining why they can't make it to the meeting, would be an acceptable absence. If they have any issues, what they are, or that they have no issues to report will be included in the letter. The Committee agreed that sounds like a good idea and is an option.

Committeeman D. West stated it's all great feedback that the teams are giving and that the members need to take into consideration.

Football representative Leon Pollison thanked the Committee for allowing the midget football to use Hampton's fields last year. He stated that they will probably have the same issue with practices again this year and is hoping to be able to use the fields again. He stated he is willing to be at the meetings to get the Recreation Committee's support, and to support the program as well as the Rec Committee because it's also going to benefit the kids in their organizations. If he cannot personally make it to the meetings, he will make an effort to make sure someone is there in attendance.

Committeeman D. West asked each of the sports teams what they feel is an adequate amount of meetings to be required to attend on an annual basis. Leon/Football stated to meet half way at 5 meetings; Jackie/Softball stated 4 or 5; Rob/Baseball stated 3 or 4; Norm/Soccer stated 4; Chris/Basketball stated 5 or 6 meetings.

Committeeman D. Coranoto asked the teams theoretically if the Committee changed it to a required 4 meetings and help at one event throughout the year, such as the Easter Egg Hunt or volunteering at Hampton Day, if they would agree to do that. Therefore it would be like attending 5 meetings. The teams seemed to feel it was a good alternative. The idea will be discussed at the Work Session.

Committeeman D. West thanked everyone in attendance for coming out to the meeting and expressed his appreciation. He stated that he appreciates it because it's for the children, the

adults, and the community as a whole. He wants to get the whole community together regardless of the sport. Recreation needs to be together like a family in order to get things done in the community.

D. West stated he understands that the same people are asked to help volunteer with events. Finding new volunteers is difficult and that is why it is important to pull together as a family. That's another reason why feedback is so essential at the meetings. The Committee wants to make things bigger & better. The town needs participation from the Community for that to happen.

Baseball Representative Robert Kowalski asked if it would be alright to bring a small quad with a trailer on the fields when SLAP goes out to clean up the fields. Chairwoman S. Rude replied that the Township Committee must approve this request. He stated it would be easier than using wheelbarrows and going back and forth. Committeeman D. Coranoto asked Secretary V. Galizia to check with Danny about SLAP being able to use a small quad & trailer by the park fields. Mr. Kowalski also asked where the leaves & sticks that SLAP collects should be dumped; over the fence towards the High School or is there somewhere else that would be better? V. Galizia will also check with DPW Manager D. Bayles for the answer to this.

Mr. Kowalski asked the Recreation Committee if baseball will be able to have two games on Hampton Day as they were going to last year, before Hampton Day was rained out. The baseball team would only be using field #2 which is located in the back out of the way. The games would be finished by around 4:00 PM. The Committee members felt it would be a good idea because it would help bring more people out to Hampton Day since some will already be there for the baseball game. **A MOTION** was made by Committeeman D. Coranoto and seconded by Committeeman D. West, with all members in favor, to allow the baseball team to have two games played on Hampton Day on field #2.

Committeeman D. West reminded everyone in attendance that at the next meeting we will be stuffing Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt on March 31<sup>st</sup>. He asked if everyone could relay the message to see if there would be any other parents or volunteers that would like to come to the meeting to help. He also mentioned to V. Galizia that he would speak to her about receiving a letter from the Mayor thanking the children who helped stuff the eggs.

Softball Representative Dianne Rude introduced herself to the Recreation Committee and other members in attendance. She stated she will be taking over Softball from Jackie Santonastaso within the next few months. She also represents a Girl Scout troop and would like to know if the 6 girls may come to the next meeting to help stuff the Easter Eggs. The Committee members agreed that would be a great idea and would appreciate the help.

Baseball representative Robert Kowalski said to let baseball know if they can do anything to help with getting the powerhouse building built, whether it be doing something to help with putting together the building or donating money to get it on its way. He stated if it's going to be behind the baseball shed that the shed is in pretty rough condition. Baseball can kick in some money for blocks for the building. He asked if they could make the building large enough with a wall in between dividing the space. Baseball could then have a new storage shed & share it with the powerhouse if they chip in money. Committeeman D. Coranoto responded he wasn't sure if we could make that decision; the regulations are through the power company about what type and size building they would need. Mr. Kowalski stated he doesn't need an answer right away he just wanted to offer the idea to think about. Within the next year or two baseball is going to need a new shed anyway and it would look a lot nicer to have one building than two different buildings. He doesn't expect the township to pay for it; baseball would chip in for their portion.

**ADJORNMENT**

A **MOTION** was made by Committeeman G. Cotelli and seconded by Committeeman O. Fernandez, with all members in favor, to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 PM.

Respectively Submitted,

Valerie L. Galizia  
Administrative Assistant