

RECREATION COMMITTEE

MAY 22nd, 2013

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 S. Rude at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL: Jeff Calvani, Eileen Junior, Daniel Coranoto, Kirk Kandel, Susan Rude, Jim Cutler

Also Present: Township Administrator Eileen Klose, Educational Foundation Representative Tim Dooley, Liza Kelly: soccer/basketball, Rob Kowalski: baseball/football, Diane Rude: softball

Absent: Gene Cotelli, David West, Oscar Fernandez,

STATEMENT: Chairwoman S. Rude stated this meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of P.L. 1875, 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.

MINUTES: April 24th, 2013

A **MOTION** was made by K. Kandel and seconded by D. Coranoto, with all members in favor, to approve the April 24th 2013 Minutes.

PRIORITY DISCUSSION LIST

1. Hampton Township CFO Jessica Caruso Recreation Committee Budget Discussion

Chairwoman S. Rude stated the Recreation Committee Budget Discussion was put on the agenda due to many questions asked at previous meetings. Township Administrator Eileen Klose stated that over the years the recreation budget has been a complicated issue. The Township Committee, as well as the township as a whole, has tried to establish an account for the Recreation Committee. The Recreation Committee wanted to have the opportunity to be able to save money from year to year and do special fundraisers to save money to put towards a specific project. A Trust Fund was created, and approved by the State of New Jersey in 2011 for this purpose.

The Township Committee adopts the township's budget and includes a line item for Recreation based on the budget that the Recreation Committee submits annually. Over the last several years the budget line item for Recreation has been \$30,000.00. This amount is spent

after careful consideration of recreation budgetary needs and special events. Just because \$30,000.00 is in the line item, it doesn't give the Recreation Committee to spend those funds without authorization from the Township Committee.

In addition to this line item budget, a new Recreation Trust Fund was developed to give the Recreation Committee the opportunity to be able to hold fundraisers for specific projects that they wanted to save for such as a walkway around the park, or other recreational long term projects. As of December 31, 2013, there was \$14,000.00 in this account due to the savings that were appreciated from cutting the sports team's donations from \$1,800.00 to \$900.00 in 2012, and other budget savings from the previous two years. This amount is designated for the current year's budgetary expenses and does not include fundraising dollars from the Recreation Committee because no fundraising events have occurred yet. The Recreation Committee now has the ability to raise funds and keep them in the Trust Fund as intended. However, it is important to note that the State will not allow this Trust Fund to grow to an amount that they would deem unacceptable and would expect that as the fund grows, it must either be used or transferred into a Capital Fund for a future capital expenditure.

In December of 2012, the Township Committee transferred \$30,000.00 into a Capital Fund for Recreation that could be used for a walking path if they determine that to be the best use of these funds. In addition, the Recreation Committee can add to these funds annually and continue to save through their own fundraising efforts. The dollars raised by recreational fundraisers can be separate from budgetary line item funds and a spreadsheet should be kept to account for these funds.

Township Administrator E. Klose stated the two key things that everyone should understand is that all of the money in the township budget is taxpayer money, and cannot be spent without the authorization of the Governing Body. The line items are set up annually for the purpose of being able to budget properly, but at the same time if the funds are not spent, they can be cancelled to surplus or transferred to another line item if it is needed for other things. Sometimes the town has to transfer money from one line item to another just so that they can maintain the clean budget that they do.

Chairwoman S. Rude asked if the Recreation Committee wanted to allot a certain amount for a specific project in the future, would they need to allot the money in the beginning of the year from their budget? E. Klose replied that the Recreation Committee can raise the money throughout the year on their own and save it in the Trust Fund, or request that the Township Committee allocate some of the recreational line item budget to support a specific capital project such as the walking path. However, this would reduce the amount that would be spent on recreational events throughout the year unless other funding was added by recreational fundraising.

There is another fund in the General Capitol Account in the amount of \$50,000.00 that was given to the township by Lowe's as an award for a beautification project. That amount of money is being used by the township to support a three-phase construction for electricity for future expansion of the park. The total cost for this power upgrade is \$43,000.00 and the

Township Committee is in the process of transferring this money by Ordinance in order to enter into a contract with Jersey Central Power and Light.

Chairwoman S. Rude stated that last year's Car Show was made possible by donations that were received through the Educational Foundation. Those funds are being donated to the Mike Biron Field of Dreams Lighting Project.

Chairwoman S. Rude Can Recreation asked if there is another fundraiser to support the Lighting Project and vendors and/or participants write checks to the Recreation Trust Fund could the Rec. Committee donate that money to the Education Foundation? E. Klose replied no, that the Township is not permitted to make donations. The lights are a completely separate project that is being donated to the township by the Educational Foundation and any money they raise for this purpose through fundraisers must be paid directly to them. The township is not involved in that aspect of it. Chairwoman S. Rude stated the Recreation Committee was questioned on turning the money over, \$2,000.00 cash, from the Car Show to Mike Biron Jr. instead of giving him a check. Township Administrator E. Klose stated they should always give a receipt for cash.

Township Administrator E. Klose stated that at the end of each year the Recreation Committee should show an accounting of what they have earned for their own projects through fundraising. They can also request that if there is any money left in the Recreation Budget Line Item in general appropriations, some of the money be transferred into the Capital Fund for Recreation for specific improvements.

Township Committeeman Tim Dooley stated that to be clear, all funding is going through the Educational Foundation for the car show and golf outing. As of right now, the Educational Foundation has \$71,000.00 in the lighting project fund. The township is in the process of signing a contract with JCP&L for \$42,000.00 by using a donation from Lowe's that was given to the Township to use for a recreational program or a beautification project. Recently, Lowe's donated the block for the building, which will be constructed this summer and will house the electrical components for the field lights. There is a commitment by the Hampton Rotary to provide money towards the expense of the building. Once the building is up, JCP&L would need about 20 days to install the wires. The rest of what gets done all depends on money. There is an estimate of \$17,500.00 for lights to be installed and a \$60,000.00 cost for its components. The cost for additional labor to support electricians and masons, materials, wiring, etc. has yet to be determined. At this point in time, there isn't enough money to complete the project.

Township Administrator E. Klose stated that it is extremely difficult to raise \$70,000.00 and she feels there have been a lot of questions from the public as to whether or not the field lights are going to ever happen. She stated a that member from another township asked why little league baseball isn't involved in helping to fundraise money for the lighting since it's really going to benefit those youngsters. It might be possible that the kids aren't engaged because they are unaware this is happening on their behalf. The sports teams need to support the project by talking it up and getting involved in fundraising efforts. If they do, it will happen much sooner.

T. Dooley stated that in order to try to raise more money there will be a raffle at the golf outing this year. The prize is for four (4) individuals to receive a two night stay in a Villa, at an

exclusive and private golf resort in Florida, which includes golf lessons and meals. The tickets will be \$25.00 a piece and will be given to the sports teams to sell. However many tickets people can sell will be a big help to reaching the financial goal. The winner will be drawn at the golf outing being held Friday, September 13, 2013 at Skyview Golf Club in Sparta.

There was a brief discussion on the miscommunication of little leagues offer to help raise money for the field lighting project.

2. Hampton Day: Volunteer needed to run egg toss and pie eating contest.

Chairwoman S. Rude stated Hampton Day is quickly approaching on June 8th. She stated a volunteer is needed to run the egg toss and pie eating contest. She told members to contact Secretary V. Galizia regarding what time to do the events.

3. Roman Oben Football Curriculum & Kickz Soccer Flyer

Chairwoman S. Rude stated the Roman Oben Flag Football Curriculum and Kickz Soccer Flyer were included in the packets for the Recreation Committee members to view.

4. Town Wide Garage Sale

Chairwoman S. Rude stated that she had a friend ask her about having a town wide garage sale. Participants would pay \$10.00 to get on the map for the town wide garage sale and she will be taking care of all the advertising. A map is printed of where the garage sales will be happening in Hampton Township on a specific day so people can bounce around the township shopping at the different garage sales. So instead of paying about \$30.00 to the NJ Herald to do your own advertising you can pay \$10.00 and have it go to the Recreation Committee to put towards park improvements/ projects. They are looking to doing this in September. Her friend will try to make it to the next Recreation Committee meeting with all the specifics. Chairwoman S. Rude stated that she received approval from the Township Committee at the May 14th meeting to go forward with it.

A MOTION was made by J. Cutler and seconded by K. Kandel, with all members in favor, to approve moving forward with the town wide garage sale.

5. Fall Fest at Hampton Park (Potential Event)

Chairwoman S. Rude stated Secretary V. Galizia thought of planning a fall festival type of event at Hampton Park. Ideas for the afternoon would include carved pumpkin contest, paint a pumpkin, a costume contest, crafters from Peters Valley, hay rides, a band like Snake Oil Willie, etc. It would be another event for the children in the community to come out and be a part of. The Committee felt it would be something good to look further to and to try and make it happen this year.

A MOTION was made by D. Coranoto and seconded by K. Kandel, with all members in favor, to look into having the Fall Fest as a new possible event at Hampton Park.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Chris Carroll, Director of Athletics, Kittatinny High School requesting to use two Hampton athletic fields for the next 2013 fall season.

Chairwoman S. Rude stated a letter was sent to Township Administrator E. Klose from Chris Carroll asking to use two of the township athletic fields in the fall season 2013 for the soccer team as well as the girl's field hockey team. She stated there is only one extra field open in the fall because the rest of the fields are being rested. There will be a conflict with recreation soccer; it will delay them by getting on the fields by 5:00pm. The Committee agreed it would be best to talk with DPW manager D. Bayles to see if fields will have enough time to re-coop being used in the fall when they should be rested.

A MOTION was made by D. Coranoto and seconded by K. Kandel, with all members in favor, to have a meeting with Chris Carroll, D. Bayles, and S. Rude regarding when the teams would be starting and ending practice, how long the field would be used, and when the frost would probably be coming in before making a decision.

OPEN DISUSSION

J. Calvani asked for an update on the defibrillator. Chairwoman S. Rude stated they have the defibrillator and at the last meeting the teams were offered the free class to get certified to use it but no one called to say when they are available. Township Administrator E. Klose stated the defibrillator has to be put inside the pavilion when it's in use, it can't be left outside the pavilion. There isn't a case that would be protective enough to keep it from being vandalized if it's left out in the open. J. Calvani stated there are going to be times when people are using the bocci ball court, walking path in the future, or even just on the playground that may need it but the pavilion won't be open at those times. Sports start practicing before Keith has the pavilion open and Coaches need to have access to the defibrillator in case of an emergency. Township Administrator E. Klose stated she understands that but that the vandalism is very bad in the park and it is going to have to be worked out somehow to prevent it from being damaged or stolen. She stated maybe coaches could have a key to the pavilion before Keith opens the stand for the season. Having a combination lock could help so multiple keys do not need to be distributed and can be changed year to year.

J. Calvani stated he had the idea of having the sports teams charge an extra \$5.00 to players and that money could be donated toward the field lighting project to help raise money. People would have the option to donate the extra \$5.00 with their registration. The Committee members agree that would be a great idea.

J. Calvani stated he has parents complaining to him about Kittatinny Lacross parents moving the soccer benches and nets and not putting them back. He stated the DPW person in charge of mowing the fields also does not put nets back when he's finished mowing. Chairwoman S. Rude stated there is a new employee that does the mowing that she will let D. Bayles know to ask him to put the nets back afterwards.

J. Calvani stated he wanted to speak with the Committee before going to L. Kelly. J. Calvani coach's 7th and 8th grade boy's soccer. He stated they're playing travel kids teams and getting pummeled by them due to their level being higher than recreation's level. He stated the kids are frustrated and humiliated, parents on the other teams laugh at them, and it really hurts the kid's confidence in playing. He wanted to know if there would be any way to not play the travel teams? Chairwoman S. Rude replied that would be an in house problem, they would need to settle it in soccer. L. Kelly stated it should be in the rule book saying there shouldn't be any more than three travel team players on each Recreation team. K. Kandel suggested soccer sending the other towns a letter stating it's been brought to their attention that they're bringing higher level kids to a recreation game. The kids are out there to have fun and not to be unfairly beaten by the other advanced teams and have parents laugh at them.

D. Rude stated she has the same issues for softball. She stated it's in their rule book no travel kids allowed. She stated the kids shouldn't suffer; they're paying money to go play and have a good time not hang their heads low because other teams are sneaking in travel players. D. Coranoto stated before the Recreation Committee gets involved, the sports teams should try and settle this among themselves.

J. Cutler asked how to handle putting the signs out for Hampton Day. Township Administrator E. Klose stated the signs can be put on private property with owner's permission but not in the road right of way.

D. Coranoto stated if anyone can find people/businesses to donate money towards the fireworks it would help out greatly. He was able to get a \$500.00 donation from Frank Allocka last year.

J. Cutler asked if there would be an ad in the NJ Herald and if it was noted that the Boy Scout would be doing a food drive. Chairwoman S. Rude stated Secretary V. Galizia has taken care of that.

PUBLIC SESSION

D. Rude asked about doing a 5K fundraiser to raise money that could be done in conjunction with the fall fest. Chairwoman S. Rude stated she has thought of that in the past but someone needs to volunteer to be there the day of the event, map out the event, get permission to close the roads, etc. She stated they can get sponsors for the event, have donations made, and charge for registration to participate in the 5K run. T-shirts can also be made up to sell for additional income.

ADJORNMENT

A MOTION was made by K. Kandel and seconded by J. Cutler, with all members in favor, to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 P.M.

Respectively Submitted,

Valerie L. Galizia
Administrative Assistant