

READINGTON RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 27th, 2016 7:30pm

A. Sharon Bobnar-Becker called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

B. Attendance:

1. Committee Members: Bill Quinn, John Hunt, Mark Toman, Sharon Bobnar-Becker
2. Township Officials: Gabrielle Bolarakis, Patti Marcine. Betty Ann Forte

C. Minutes Approval:

1. Minutes were not approved because there was no quorum.

D. Old Business

1. Annual Report Gabrielle gave a presentation on the year 2015. She reported that the revenue was up 21% and the annual activities increased by 20%. There were 606 more registrations this year than 4 years ago. Recreation gave out \$17,500.00 in scholarships this year for all our programs. Some of the goals that were met this year were: evaluate all programs, increase fees as needed, have an annual maintenance plan, expand programs and services, have a 5 year plan and keep it updated, and implement online registration. Gabrielle went over our priority action items for 2016 which are: annual park facility inspection, update the 5 year plan, update the scholarship policy with some possible limitations through a subcommittee, plan a subcommittee to work on the memorial benches and trees and to take our draft and formalize it for recreation committee approval. Sharon, John and Mark volunteered to be the subcommittee for this. Also we need to identify an Assistant Director for our Holiday Basketball Tournament as this will be Melissa Adams last year.

2. Facility Update. All fields are closed for winter. Blankets laid on the fields.

3. Online Registration –Gabrielle said once the company gets its last payment first week in February we should be able to go online second week of February. Everything is set up to go but expect changes needed to be made and glitches we might come across.

4. Baseball- Gabrielle contacted the President of Baseball about payment for field use and he asked to meet with her. The concern is they want us to maintain Cornhuskers and Pickel Park (which they use total 4 fields) at our expense. There are 400 baseball players and about 100 of them are from Tewksbury. Gabrielle is trying to set up meeting with them and Sharon to meet in her office in the next 2 weeks.

E. New Business:

1. Capital Request 2016- Gabrielle went over the spreadsheet and stated that the priority project should be the Summer Road reconstruction of basketball courts. Recreation will apply for a capital budget for reconstruction of Summer Road basketball courts, new chain-link fence replacement and a commercial wide area batwing turf mower (which will bring return investment in saving time and money). The main expense coming out of recreation trust is to restore the ball fields at Pickel Park and Summer Road Park and Field 2 at Hillcrest Park. It was suggested recreation seeks out DPW to split the capital budget for the turf mower. The budget will be discussed in February in the Township.

2. Holiday Tournament-Gabrielle reported it was a success and had 96 teams and made \$16,000.00; a little less than last year, but we had fewer teams. Having fewer teams made it much more manageable for everyone involved. The money will go to travel teams and also help pay the gym fees.

3. Lacrosse-Ken spoke with Gabrielle earlier and said there will not be any 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade teams this year. There were not enough players to make teams. Lacrosse will offer clinics for grades K-5th on Sundays in spring. Girls' Lacrosse registration is still open so don't have team status from them.

4. Readington Community Theatre- They approached recreation to request some funds, which would require them to be a Readington Recreation program. The theatre group does plays with adults and children and has them at the Polish American Club. Recreation could let them run the theatre club, but help them with registration and marketing. The Theatre Group will explore their options and meet with Gabrielle when they have a proposal.

5. Dog Park- A dog park committee member came into see Gabrielle about recreation taking over the dog park. They just cannot do it anymore. Recreation would maintain their budget, do registration online, marketing for them and they would still have a dog park committee to supervise the program. Recreation will get a code or key made for security for members. After some discussion Mark made a motion: **Readington Recreation will incorporate the Dog Park located in Hillcrest Park as part of Readington Recreation. Recreation will take responsibility for the dog park and will work with their board.** John seconded it. All were in favor. Gabrielle and Betty Ann will meet with Marsha on Thursday morning to discuss details.

6. Save the Date: Volunteer Dinner Monday, May 2nd at La Casa Bianca. Gabrielle asked everyone to start thinking of volunteer nominations. She will get the survey out.

7. Next meeting February 24th, 2016.

F. Other Business - Question was asked about Memorial Day Parade. Betty Ann asked Tom Auriemma to do it again and she is waiting for a response from him.

G. Closing- Mark made a motion: **Readington Recreation meeting for January 20th is adjourned at 9:40 PM.** Bill seconded it. All were in favor.