

March 10, 2014  
19:00

Chairman Anthony Pizzigoni called the monthly Recreation Commission Meeting to order noting the Open Public Meeting Act has been honored with notices sent to The Burlington County Times and The Camden Courier Post for this and all meetings scheduled for the Year 2014. A notice of meeting dates has been posted on the official bulletin boards in the Municipal Complex on Old York Road and the Recreation Building on Lake Avenue. A copy is also on file with the Township Clerk.

Commissioners present at start of meeting were Gene Camm, Mickey Foltiny, Anthony Pizzigoni, Matt Senni, Jim Angelillo, and John DiDonato. Commissioners Tina Carpenter and Chris Sabatino entered late. Commissioner Lisa Clotter was not present.

Councilman George Kozub was in attendance, as was Recreation Director Stephen Fazekas.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Recreation Director Fazekas indicated there was no correspondence.

After a review of the February 10, 2014 meeting minutes, a motion was made by Commissioner Foltiny to accept the minutes. Commissioner Senni seconded this motion. A unanimous supporting vote followed.

## **PUBLIC PORTION**

**Carl Budden**, Member of the Burlington Township Sports Club Foundation (BTSCF), thanked the Philadelphia 76er's organization for donating 500 game tickets, which the Foundation sold for \$5 per ticket. Thanks also to all those who purchased tickets and for everyone's support.

**Lawrence Ramiscal**, owner of Fitness Integrated Therapy (FIT) introduced the facility's Sports Performance Coach Louis Shaw and advised the facility is now in full swing. Mr. Ramiscal once again invited all to come and look at the facility and indicated he is working with the BTSCF on different ideas. Mr. Ramiscal also advised the Commission the facility is working on a comprehensive concussion program, which should probably be completed by the end of summer.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Commissioner Camm** reported travel basketball ended this week and all teams qualified for the playoffs. The girl's travel team made it to the championship game after a rocky start but, unfortunately, lost. Special thanks to the travel coaches: Darren Rice, Will Felder, Rob Ray, and Don Enoch. Recreation basketball also concluded this week with the Academic All-Star games. There were very good turn-outs for all the games. Thanks to Mayor Carlin and Rec. Dir. Fazekas for attending the games. The non-travel basketball regular season concluded last week with championship games. There was an incident following the boys minors' championship game that resulted in a few suspensions. The BTPD is still finalizing their investigation. The girl's division was won by the Rockets (red team) coached by John DiDonato. The team went 7-2 during the regular season and won the rubber match in a close 6 point victory. The boy's division was won by the Kings (purple team). The team went 9-2 during the regular season and won the championship game by 4 points. The two teams that played in the championship met three times and the combined score differential was 3 points for the season.

Regarding softball, the program will be fielding a 10U travel team. All the girls will also compete in the Recreation league. Tryouts were held on March 9 with 17 girls trying out. The team will roster 13. Meetings were also held with the softball coaches to discuss the upcoming season. At this point, there are 40 girls at the Rookie Division (Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade), 58 girls at the Junior Division (3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>), and 50 girls at the Senior Division (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>). The Commissioner is anticipating starting practice the week of Monday, March 24 with games beginning the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April. The BTSCF and BTHS are doing a joint Softball Clinic Fundraiser on Saturday, March 22 and registrations are still open.

Regarding the 76er ticket fundraiser, special thanks to Steve Macrae and Carl Budden for spearheading the efforts. Additional thanks to the 76er's organization and Coach Derrick Hayes for donating the tickets.

**Commissioner Senni** advised that Week 1 of travel soccer games was rescheduled from March 1 to Week 11, Week 2 or March 8 was cancelled, and Week 3 or March 15 will, hopefully, be the start. The Commissioner advised the U17 Girls team folded due to low participation numbers. Regarding the Friendship League, rosters and game schedules are being finalized. The League is hoping to start 3/29/14.

**Commissioner Angelillo** advised that participation for baseball is an estimated 325 players. This season will include a new 13U travel team participating in the Tri-State Elite League. The design of the 13U team is to retain players in Burlington Twp. and bridge the recreation program with the high school program. Teams for baseball have been created, players and managers assigned, and all practices scheduled. The practice schedule has been uploaded to the baseball website with a confirmation from softball to avoid conflicts. At this time, there are less than five players on the wait list but, unfortunately, accepting more players would un-balance the wait list players' divisions.

Thank you to Barb for continuous communication regarding registrations and securing an indoor facility for two older divisions and the 13U travel. Indoor practices began March 10 with 2-3 teams practicing per night in the high school back gym. All managers have been informed that all fields are closed until further notice. Comm. Angelillo indicated gears boxes would be equipped with balls this season as opposed to all coaches receiving ball bags. The Commissioner stated games will begin on March 31 with Opening Day Ceremonies and picture day being April 5 starting around 9 am.

Comm. Angelillo requested a Section 8 to discuss a Code of Conduct matter.

**Commissioner Sabatino** advised the Street Hockey program concluded on March 8. The Commissioner thanked Mayor Carlin, Councilmen Cantwell, Kozub, Schoenborn, and Jung, and Rec. Dir. Fazekas for coming out to support the program and attending the final games. Thanks also to the BTSCF and student volunteers for setting up and working the snack shack. Thanks to Charlie Nicolini for emceeding all the games. The Squirt Division's Winter Classic game's final score was 3-1. Thanks to Mike Cantwell, Ryan Hale, and Matt Stahl for refereeing. The Bantam Division's championship game was won by the orange team coached by Paul Stahl. The final score was 1-0. The Pee Wee Division's Mayor's Cup was won by the grey team coached by Matt Addiego. The final score was 2-1. Comm. Sabatino also thanked the following:

- Pat Kinsley, Chris Liberatore, and Paul Cannizzaro for officiating all season. It was the first time the program had consistent referees for the entire season.
- Coaches and Asst. Coaches for dedicating their time.
- Kevin Triplett, Brian Stevens, Todd Bailey, and Jason Ciarlante for all their help with the program. They did a lot of behind the scenes.
- Matt, Blair, and Brian from the Recreation Dept. for getting the rinks playable, especially with the crazy winter.
- Chairman Pizzigoni and Rec. Dir. Fazekas for all their help and support, especially Dir. Fazekas for daily communications regarding rink conditions.

Regarding the upcoming roller hockey program, approximately 70 children have registered, ages 7 to 17. Registrations will continue for the next few weeks. The program will hopefully start early April.

**Commissioner Carpenter** advised the indoor track season ended with their meet at Harvard. 23 athletes attended with 18 receiving medals at least once. Out of a total of 30 teams, Burlington placed tenth and out of the 5 teams from New Jersey, Burlington finished first. The outdoor track season will begin on March 19 at the Hopkins Building gym. There will also be a parent meeting that night as well.

Regarding cheerleading, Comm. Carpenter indicated the 85# and 95# squads went to a competition in Maryland. The 85# finished 4<sup>th</sup> and the 95# finished 3<sup>rd</sup>. At the State Championships, the Unlimited and 95# squads placed first. The 85# squad did not place but made a good showing.

**Commissioner DiDonato** reported he reached out to the previous field hockey coaches and four out of six will be returning for the fall season.

**Commissioner Foltiny** indicated the indoor soccer program finished on Saturday, Feb. 22 and it was another successful season. There were some new referees who are still learning and they did a great job. The Commissioner will be submitting a voucher for their fees shortly. Thank you to the coaches and Comm. Senni for helping to make the program work. Thank you to the Camms for helping on numerous occasions with breakdown and clean-up of gym. Thanks to the BTSCF for stocking the snack shack.

Regarding the upcoming non-travel soccer program, a wait list has been started. However, the Commissioner may open registrations for another week since people are still in “winter mode” and have not thought about spring activities. Email pushes increased the numbers significantly from where they were a month ago, but are still lower than normal. Hopefully, the program will start the end of March, beginning of April. Dates for the Pre-K clinic will be coordinated shortly with Brian Carlin. Hope to start sometime in April.

Comm. Foltiny informed the Commission of the following soccer camp information:

- Challenger Sports-Tetra Brazil – June 23-27, 2014 from 5 to 8 pm
- Challenger Sports-Freestyle Camp with John Farnsworth – July 28-30, 2014

Comm. Foltiny then congratulated John Giletto, Coach of the Boys U11 Burlington Charge who was nominated by his peers for the Sportsmanship Award in the South Jersey Soccer League.

Comm. Senni advised that Comm. Foltiny was also recognized.

**Chairman Pizzigoni** reported 25 new football helmets would be ordered this season to keep in line with the long term helmet replenishment plan. He will also review funds to continue to upgrade shoulder pads and uniform pants.

Regarding wrestling, it was a great season. The kids were very competitive and he hopes to keep all of the young wrestlers involved in the program. Thank you to Coaches Ed Cook and Kevin Arline and to Team Mom Sandy Cook for their efforts during the successful season. Thanks again to all of the wrestling parents for all of their work at the matches. Burlington Twp. High School is attempting to begin a middle school wrestling program. The Commissioner is not sure if it will launch due to the pending budget cuts that are necessary. There is a proposal to possibly cut freshman sports. The Commissioner is talking with the high school coaches about other options to help the advancement of the wrestlers through interaction with the high school program.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Stephen Fazekas advised the Recreation Commission of the following:

- The Rec. Office will be open Saturday, March 29 from 10 am to 2 pm.
- Mayor & Council passed the resolution for the new lighting at the Skimmer Complex to be done by PSE&G. The contract was signed on Feb. 13, 2014.
- As soon as the weather breaks, repairs to the steps at the Recreation building will begin.
- At this time, it was decided no additions to the Rider Fees would be requested, so no ordinance change will be necessary for this year. All will wait and see how the BTSCF is doing.
- Letters were placed in all the Commissioners' folders regarding the conclusion of the girls' basketball investigation. If anyone has any questions, please discuss in Section 8.
- The Department is making progress with background checks. To date, minimal checks have been done on approximately 120 names.
- Congratulations to the High School cheerleaders on their National Championship. They will be honored at the next Council meeting.
- If any student volunteers need letters signed indicating community service, please let him know, as he will gladly sign off.

Rec. Dir. Fazekas then thanked the Commission for their patience and understanding with the Rec. Dept. regarding the fields and weather. The Dept. is trying to get them ready for the upcoming season. Please keep the lines of communication open.

## **COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

In Council Representative Mike Cantwell's absence, Councilman George Kozub advised the Commission that Mayor and Council would be honoring the High School Cheerleaders at 7 pm on March 11 at the Council Meeting. March 8, 2014 proved busy for Mayor and Council as they tried to attend the many functions around town, including hockey games, basketball games, and the opening of the new housing at the old Springside school. Councilman Kozub indicated the 2014 budget would be introduced at the Council Meeting on March 11, then giving the public 30 days to comment. Hopefully, it will pass on April 8, 2014. April 26, 2014 will be Clean-Up Day. Last year approximately 700 residents helped out so, hopefully, this year's turnout will be as good. On March 13, 2014 from 4 to 6 pm, Moonbeam Construction will hold a press conference regarding Burlington Center which will now be known as the Market at Burlington. The developer seems to have an aggressive plan to revitalize the mall area. Last, but not least, Chick-Fil-A will officially open on March 13, 2014.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Pizzigoni advised the Commission that the Committee working on policies and procedures should have information for the April meeting. The Budget Committee will also send the Recreation Director their info for distribution.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Rec. Dir. Fazekas advised the Commission he would like to purchase enough AED's to be placed at GA I, II, IV, and Skimmer in the snack shacks. The cost with child pads would be approximately \$3,000.

Comm. Foltiny inquired as to whether training could be given to use the AED's.

Rec. Dir. Fazekas indicated the Endeavor Squad would offer free training, so something could be worked out.

Comm. Sabatino stated how informative the seminar by Dr. Manno was for the baseball coaches and wondered if it could be provided to all the programs and if it is something that should be required.

Comm. Angelillo indicated it could be done three times a year in conjunction with the three registration periods.

Rec. Dir. Fazekas wondered if this seminar and information regarding concussions shouldn't be a combined training session.

At 19:55 Chairman Pizzigoni asked for a motion to go into Section 8 to discuss code of conduct issues. Comm. Foltiny made the motion, seconded by Comm. Sabatino. A vote was taken and tabulated as follows: Comm. Camm – aye, Comm. Carpenter – aye, Comm. Foltiny – aye, Comm. Sabatino – aye, Comm. Senni – aye, Comm. Angelillo – aye, and Chairman Pizzigoni – aye. Motion passed 7-0.

At 20:38 Chairman Pizzigoni asked for a motion to come out of Section 8 after discussing code of conduct issues. Comm. Foltiny made the motion, seconded by Comm. Sabatino. A vote was taken and tabulated as follows: Comm. Camm – aye, Comm. Carpenter – aye, Comm. Foltiny – aye, Comm. Sabatino – aye, Comm. Senni – aye, Comm. Angelillo – aye, and Chairman Pizzigoni – aye. Motion passed 7-0.

Comm. Foltiny then made a motion to reopen the meeting. Comm. Sabatino seconded the motion. A vote was taken and tabulated as follows: Comm. Camm – aye, Comm. Carpenter – aye, Comm. Foltiny – aye, Comm. Sabatino – aye, Comm. Senni – aye, Comm. Angelillo – aye, and Chairman Pizzigoni – aye. Motion passed 7-0.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Commission was informed that \$14,350.00 was turned over to the Township Treasurer during the month of February 2014.

Commissioner Angelillo then made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Comm. Carpenter. A unanimous supporting vote followed.

Meeting adjourned at 20:39.

Meeting minutes recorded and submitted by:

Barbara A. Dooley

cc: Mayor and Council  
Administrator  
Clerk's Office