

December 9, 2013  
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 2013. 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 Mickey Foltiny, Anthony Pizzigoni, Chris Sabatino, Matt Senni, and Jim Angelillo. Commissioners Tina Carpenter and Lisa Clotter arrived late. Commissioner Gene Camm was not present.

Chairman Pizzigoni noted Council Representative Carl Schoenborn was not in attendance. However, Recreation Director Stephen Fazekas was.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Recreation Director Fazekas indicated there was no correspondence.

After a review of the November 18, 2013 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**, 11 Bunting Ave., Burlington, NJ thanked the Commissioners for the time and energy they put into running the programs. It is very much appreciated and, unfortunately, you usually only hear the negative. Mr. Budden also thanked the Recreation Dept. as well. He then wished everyone Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Safe and Healthy New Year!

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Commissioner Senni** had no report at this time regarding the travel soccer program.

**Commissioner Angelillo** advised the winter youth baseball clinic is going well and thanked the high school for making repairs to nets. The Baseball Coaches Association will be holding a meeting on Thursday, Dec. 12 at 8 pm to discuss the upcoming season. Comm. Angelillo informed the Commission that as of the 2014 season, Babe Ruth will be requiring any coach that will be on the field to have a background check. The company doing the background checks will charge \$2.50 per person. The Commissioner is waiting for more information. However, the Recreation Director will probably receive all the information and make the decision to clear or not clear someone to coach. The information will then be disposed of. The Commissioner also informed the Commission that on Jan. 11, 2014 at 8:00 pm, Dr. Manno and Athletic Director Pete Teifer will be hosting a seminar instructing on how to teach sports programs. The seminar is open to all and is free; however, anyone interested in attending should RSVP by the end of December.

**Commissioner Sabatino** indicated street hockey teams have started practicing with games starting Dec. 21. Weather pending, the season should end on March 8, 2014. There are four teams in three divisions, ages 7 to 16, and the Commissioner is working to place everyone presently on the wait list. The 5 and 6 year old clinic started this past weekend and 24 children showed up. The clinic will run every Saturday, as well as six Mondays in a school gym. It was also well attended by parents. The Commissioner thanked high school students Dylan Farnan, Matt Mellin, and Colin Smalley for helping out with the clinic, as well as Coaches Kevin Triplett and Troy Seeton. Comm. Sabatino advised the Hockey Association is looking to possibly change the age cutoff from 17 to 16 for street hockey in the future as participation is too low. The Commissioner then thanked the Recreation Dept. for all their help with uniform/equipment handout and prepping the courts. The street hockey program will be holding a roller skate fundraiser on Dec. 29, 2013 at Holiday Skate Rink. He then wished everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

**Commissioner Clotter** reported all cheerleading squads are doing well and at their last competition in Gloucester all squads placed first and were Grand Champions. The Unlimited Squad received a bid to Nationals and is preparing for their trip to Florida in February. Comm. Clotter indicated fundraising finances have been tabulated and it appears approximately \$2,025 was raised. She will forward the information to the Recreation Dept. as soon as it is complete. At the request of the Recreation Director, she will also forward any upcoming competition schedules, as well as outcomes, to him so he can relay to Mayor and Council.

**Commissioner Carpenter** indicated indoor track will be starting Wednesday with a parent meeting. She then inquired if the Rec.'s adult basketball program was free or if the participants had to register. She was informed there is a fee of \$30 and everyone needs to register through the Recreation Dept.

**Commissioner Foltiny** reported the Fall non-travel soccer program concluded on Nov. 17, 2013. Thank you to the coaches and Recreation for another positive season. Indoor soccer will start on Dec. 14 with a ten week season. Comm. Foltiny is hoping to have rosters finalized by Tuesday evening. Finding coaches continues to be a problem; however, he believes the issue is resolved for this season. There are currently 191 children registered for the program. There will be 18 teams in three divisions. The first weekend of indoor soccer will be for the coaches to meet parents/players, have a practice game, and work the kinks out. Games will start at 8:30 am and finish by 4:30 pm. Happy Holidays and New Year to everyone!

On a side note, Comm. Foltiny asked everyone to please keep Siani McCurry and her family in their thoughts and prayers. Siani epitomizes the children we have in our programs and why we are here. She is a great kid and a fighter. She has been battling cancer for a long time and is facing an uphill battle that is not looking positive at the moment.

In **Commissioner Camm's** absence, Chairman Pizzigoni advised evaluations for the majors basketball team were currently being held. Practices for the boys minor division and girls would be starting this week. Games will start the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January and the season should end the first weekend in March. There was no softball report at this time.

**Chairman Pizzigoni** congratulated all the football players, coaches, and parents on a terrific season. He thanked Fuzzy, Barb, and the guys at Rec. for their help with preparing for the Conference Championships hosted by Burlington Twp. two weeks ago. Thank you to Sports Club and to everyone that volunteered and worked the snack tent, especially the Russellas, Millers, Cooks, and Camms. Thank you to Public Works for the new lighting near the restrooms at Green Acres II and special thanks to the Police Dept. for having officers on site. Congratulations to all squads for making the playoffs and especially to the 125# squad for winning the league championship. It was a great-played game and a very well coached game. Congrats to long time coach Mark Jenkins, his staff, and especially the players and parents. Thank you to Council President Cantwell for coming out to Haddonfield High School and cheering the boys on. Over the last few years, we have shown that Burlington Twp. is an elite program in the football league and things look strong again for next season.

Regarding wrestling, registration is coming to a close. There are currently 32 registered. Most of the participants are young and the Chairman is hoping to keep them excited and keep that trend going in order to help the program grow. Chairman Pizzigoni tips his hat to Coaches Ed Cook and Kevin Arline. They have been very active in participating in preseason matches and tournaments. This is something that hasn't been done in past years and he thinks it's a great step in the right direction for the program. The squad participated in a pre-season tournament in Maple Shade and had two wrestlers place second, Craig Cook and Mike Limone. They will all be participating in a tournament at Rider University on Dec. 14.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Stephen Fazekas advised the Commission of the following:

- Interviews are being conducted for Commissioner positions and the Alternate #2 position.
- The Recreation Office will be open on Saturdays, Dec. 14 and 21 from 10 am to 2 pm. Spring registrations open on Dec. 14.
- Registration notification is now being done through Constant Contact. Registration forms can be found on Burlington Township's website, as well as in the school district's Falcon Flyer.
- A spot light was installed outside Green Acres II restrooms.
- The Director will be meeting with PSE&G this week to discuss upgrading lighting at the Skimmer parking lot.
- Bleachers were moved and additional bleachers were placed at the Pinewald hockey rink. The hockey scoreboard at Skimmer was also checked and some lights were replaced.

- Field 1 at Green Acres II was closed on Nov. 18 and work completed. Growth blankets were installed. Thanks to the Commissioners for working with the Recreation Dept. to get this done.
- Fire inspections were done at the Recreation office and garage and the Skimmer concession stand. All passed and certificates were received and posted.
- Just a reminder the Recreation Christmas party will be on Dec. 17, 2013 at 11:30 am. Please remember to RSVP within the next day or so.

The Director then wished everyone and their families a Merry Christmas and Safe/Happy New Year!

Recreation Director Fazekas then asked for a Section 8 to discuss code of conduct issues.

## **COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

As Council Representative Carl Schoenborn was not in attendance, there was no report.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Comm. Foltiny indicated he and Chairman Pizzigoni will be meeting with the current Sports Club board and the Foundation to work on making a seamless transition in January 2014.

Per Chairman Pizzigoni, as the seasons are ending and the new ones beginning, the Budget Committee and the Procedures Committee will be meeting and then reporting back to the Commission.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Comm. Clotter noted she has observed children showing up at the Middle School, sometimes without a parent/guardian, to use the gym for basketball. She wondered if they were part of the Recreation's programming, as sometimes they tend to walk the halls as well.

The Commissioner was informed they are not part of the program and Comm. Angelillo noted some kids seem to think there is open gym space between 7 and 8 pm at whichever gym is available, which is not the case, at least not through the Recreation Dept. Recreation Director Fazekas will call Adrienne at the Board Office to discuss.

At 19:35 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. Carpenter – aye, Comm. Clotter – aye, Comm. Foltiny – aye, Comm. Sabatino – aye, Comm. Senni – aye, Comm. Angelillo – aye, and Chairman Pizzigoni – aye. Motion passed 7-0.

At 19:45 Chairman Pizzigoni asked for a motion to come out of Section 8 after discussing code of conduct issues. Comm. Carpenter made the motion, seconded by Comm. Sabatino. A vote was taken and tabulated as follows: Comm. Carpenter – aye, Comm. Clotter – 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. Clotter seconded the motion. A vote was taken and tabulated as follows: Comm. Carpenter – aye, Comm. Clotter – aye, Comm. Foltiny – aye, Comm. Sabatino – aye, Comm. Senni – aye, Comm. Angelillo – aye, and Chairman Pizzigoni – aye. Motion passed 7-0.

At this time, Comm. Sabatino acknowledged the nice job Wade Miller, Jr. did in collecting items to send to John Pegram, who is in the service overseas at this time. Mr. Pegram coaches in several Recreation programs and is always willing to give a helping hand. Thank you for your service and safe return.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Commission was informed that \$5,320.00 was turned over to the Township Treasurer during the month of November 2013.

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

Meeting adjourned at 19:48.

Meeting minutes recorded and submitted by:

Barbara A. Dooley

cc: Mayor and Council  
Administrator  
Clerk's Office