

January 9, 2012
19:05

Chairwoman Diane Flannery-Cook 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 2012. 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.

Chairwoman Flannery-Cook noted that Council Representative Carl Schoenborn was in attendance, as was Councilman Cantwell and Director of Recreation James Craig.

CORRESPONDENCE

Recreation Director James Craig indicated the Commissioners received via email on Dec. 15, 2011, the Department's response to a question regarding use of the batting cages at Skimmer.

After a review of the December 12, 2011 Commission Meeting minutes, a motion was made by Commissioner Camm to accept the minutes. Commissioner Foltiny seconded this motion. A unanimous supporting vote followed.

PUBLIC PORTION

Joe DiGiovanni, President of Sports Club, wished everyone a Happy New Year! He then congratulated Matt Senni and told him to never hesitate asking the Sports Club questions. The 2012 Sports Club Executive Board is as follows:

President – Joe DiGiovanni
Vice-President – Donna Verrico
Co-Treasurers – Joe DiGiovanni & Donna Verrico
Secretary – Don Neff
Member-at-Large – Carl Budden
Member-at-Large – Trish Frenz

Mr. DiGiovanni advised the Football Banquet would be held on January 28, 2012.

Comm. Camm requested that with the start of the new year, Sports Club provide a monthly financial report for the Recreation Commission's review. Ideally, a report that shows fundraising activity per sport and a breakdown of what is available from the BT Officials account, including Rider Account activity, would be helpful. Comm. Camm also requested Sports Club electronically circulate their meeting minutes to the Recreation Commission similar to how the Recreation Commission circulates their meeting minutes to Sports Club.

Mr. DiGiovani indicated the Board would take the requests under consideration and discuss at their next Executive Board meeting.

Comm. Pizzigoni inquired if Sports Club had contacted the police and fire departments regarding the upcoming football banquet. He was informed the matter was taken care of. Comm. Pizzigoni also asked if Sports Club had ever discussed getting a 5013C. Mr. DiGiovanni indicated the Board had proceeded and would check to see where the Board was at this point regarding the matter, as it is a lengthy process.

Pat Reding, 1701 Salem Rd., inquired as to whether the new batting cages at the Skimmer Complex would be available to the public.

Chairwoman Flannery-Cook indicated they probably would, however, Rec. programming would have priority to use.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Pizzigoni reported the football banquet would be held on Jan. 28, 2012 from 2 to 5 pm in the Middle School cafeteria. As of now, over 280 people have signed up to attend. The football program would like to invite Mayor Carlin, Town Council, and the Recreation Commission to the banquet and welcomed them to be guest speakers. The Football Coaches Association is still selling their 1st Annual Football Yearbook at a cost of \$20. Yearbooks can be reserved now to guarantee a book or purchased at the banquet. Only 150 books have been ordered. Comm. Pizzigoni then congratulated Fred Hansard from the Jr. High football squad for being invited and participating in the Junior Rank Academic All American Game, East vs. West. The game was held on Jan. 2, 2012 in Phoenix, Arizona, where Fred played for the East as an offensive lineman. The East won 20-8. Fred was also accepted to the Hun School of Princeton where he will go to high school to continue with his academic and athletic achievements. We thank him for representing our program, the Township, and the State in fine fashion.

Regarding wrestling, Comm. Pizzigoni indicated 34 boys have registered for the program. Their first match was at Millstone Twp. this past weekend and their next one is Jan. 14 at 8:30 am in Robbinsville. The wrestling program is currently having a spirit wear fundraiser with Sports Club and Mark Clark.

Commissioner Camm reported baseball instructional programs are underway. Thanks to John Evans and Tom Cappetti for leading the youth program and Ken Trumbetti for leading the high school age program and coordinating with high school baseball coach Jason Stec. Spring registration numbers are very good so far. The Rec. program (Cal Ripken) has a total of 166 registered so far, Babe Ruth 13, and Sr. Babe Ruth 4. Comm. Camm advised he was approached by Ed Eifert, who has coached the Sr. Babe Ruth program over the last few years, indicating he is interested in starting an adult wooden bat league. Players would register through Recreation and pay the \$30 processing fee (\$60 for non-residents). The players would be responsible for all remaining fees, (i.e., umpires, uniforms, etc.). Use of the high school baseball field has been requested once the high school's season is complete. If access to the high school field is not available, this program would need to work their schedule around the Babe Ruth and Sr. Babe Ruth programs. Comm. Camm advised that since the age limit for baseball was changed from 6 years to 5 years, no age exceptions will be permitted this year. A player must be age 5 on or

before April 30, 2012. The Commissioner indicated Viereck Field is in desperate need of topsoil. The Commissioner would also like to build a couple of pitching mounds for warm-up and practices. He will ask Doane Academy to possibly help out as they will also be using the field this spring. Comm. Camm then thanked Mayor Carlin and Town Council who recognized both the 10U travel baseball team, coached by Tom Cappetti, and the winners of the 2011 Babe Ruth Viereck Cup, coached by Steve Fitzsimmons and John Evans.

In **Commissioner Sharp's** absence, Comm. Camm reported the 8th grade travel basketball team is unbeaten in league play and the 7th grade travel basketball team has only one loss in league play. Due to their outstanding play, both teams were moved up to the "A-level" for the remainder of the season. Also, both travel teams participated in a JK MBA Holiday Tourney and had strong showings, as both teams went 2-1. Special thanks to Sports Club for sponsoring the tourney. Regarding in-house basketball, games started last week. There are 4 girl's teams, 5 boy's minor teams, and 5 boy's major teams. Game time will be changed from 7:30 pm to 7:00 pm for the second game of each weekday night. Thanks to Recreation and Barb for organizing the uniform handouts; it went smoothly. In conjunction with Sports Club, the program is running a spirit wear fundraiser. Championship games are scheduled for Saturday, March 17 and the Academic All-Star game is scheduled for Saturday, March 24. The third grade clinic is scheduled for the following Saturdays: Jan. 21, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, and Feb. 11. Picture day is scheduled for Sat., Feb. 11.

At this time, Chairwoman Flannery-Cook welcomed new Commissioner, Matt Senni, and wished him good luck.

Comm. Senni indicated he is happy to have the opportunity to work on the Commission.

Commissioner Carpenter reported the indoor track program will have its first meet on Jan. 21, 2012. The program will compete in a total of 7 meets with AAU Championships held at Harvard in March. Uniform pick up is scheduled for Jan. 19. Regarding the cheerleading program, Comm. Carpenter indicated all are finished with the exception of the Unlimited Squad, who will be leaving on Feb. 8 for Nationals.

Commissioner Sabatino reported the street hockey program is up and running with games having started. Some children have also been taken off the wait list to fill rosters. To date, the program has held two fairly successful fundraisers. Comm. Sabatino thanked Kevin Triplett for organizing a skate night with over 100 participants, with special thanks to Sports Club, Luigi's Pizza, Shear Perfection, Regal Theaters, and Outback for gift donations. Picture day will also be held on Feb. 11.

Regarding roller hockey, Comm. Sabatino thanked Kevin Stevens for his help coordinating the upcoming season. The Commissioner talked to Westampton Recreation and they will advise their residents to register with Burlington Twp., like last year. Comm. Sabatino has also been talking to neighboring towns in an effort to combine games. Player evaluations will again help with keeping teams even and the program is slated to start the first week of April.

Commissioner Foltiny congratulated Comm. Senni and advised the Commission he has known him for years and will be a positive addition. Comm. Senni will bring some good ideas to the Commission and to the soccer program. Both Comm. Foltiny and Comm. Senni will be meeting to plan the spring soccer season. They are looking to revise the “player development policy” in order to bring it up to date and reflect the needs of the soccer community. At this time, all travel teams in the South Jersey league have been registered and coaches are in place. This spring there will also be two teams in the Maps league and those coaches are in place also. Comm. Foltiny is working on the logistics of registering in this league. Possibilities for the Friendship League will be discussed in the upcoming month. Comm. Foltiny is looking to bring back the soccer tournament in 2013 and hopes to speak with Mayor and Council for their backing and support.

Regarding indoor soccer, the program continues to run well. Switching venues to Bernice Young School is working out well because floor space is larger and bleachers are available for seating. The children are having a great time and it is great to see parents and grandparents out there as well. Both Comm. Foltiny and Chairwoman Flannery-Cook have talked about adding more grades for next year. Referees are doing a great job and everything is progressing as scheduled. Thanks to Commissioners Senni and Flannery-Cook, as well as to the Cook clan, Gabriella Senni, and Candace Foltiny for their help with the table selling items and cleaning up at the end.

Comm. Foltiny would like to meet with Recreation about field maintenance and was also wondering if goals could be chained up, as done in the past.

Chairwoman Flannery-Cook reiterated the indoor soccer program is going well and thanked Commissioners Foltiny and Senni for their help. Regarding field hockey, Chairwoman Flannery-Cook indicated it is nice to see the 5th grade team being recognized by Mayor and Council for their accomplishment. At this time, the softball instructional program will begin on Jan. 13 and Chris Tansey, who does not have any children in the program, will once again coordinate the program. Approximately 50 girls will be participating. To date, approximately 70 girls have registered for softball.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Recreation Director James Craig advised the Commission of the following:

1. The Recreation Dept. will be open on the following Saturdays: Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 25, 2012. The hours of operation are 10 am to 2 pm.
2. Commissioners have received in packs a memo dated Jan. 5, 2012 regarding 2011 Recreation Program Participation.
3. Congratulations to the newly appointed and re-appointed Recreation Commissioners. The Rec. Dept. looks forward to working with you and all the Commissioners.
4. Commissioners have received in packs a copy of an email dated Dec. 22, 2011 regarding a request for a credit.

Commissioners Camm and Pizzigoni inquired about once again using turf blankets on the football field and were informed yes they would be.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Council Representative Carl Schoenborn wished everyone a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year! Congratulations to Diane, Gene, Anthony, and Matt on their Commissioner positions. Representative Schoenborn indicated it was nice to see that Town Council's reorganization meeting was well attended. For those who do not know, Walt Corter will be replacing Kevin McLernon after 30 years of service as Township Administrator, Kevin Shoppas will be taking over as Public Safety Director, and Gary Snyder will be the new Director of Public Works, replacing John Pinto after 43 years of service. Council Rep Schoenborn then indicated he hoped everyone was happy with the new hockey court.

Regarding background checks, Representative Schoenborn will be meeting shortly with Solicitor David Serlin, Walt Corter, and Kevin Shoppas to put together information and come up with a viable plan. At that point, Councilman Schoenborn will bring to the Recreation Commission for their recommendations before going back to Mayor and Council for a final decision. There are grants available for background checks and these will be checked into.

Councilman Mike Cantwell congratulated Diane, Gene, and Anthony on their re-appointments and thanked them for the great job they have been doing. Comm. Senni was welcomed and Councilman Cantwell indicated he is looking forward to working with him and the entire Commission. Please know that Mayor and Council appreciate all the Commission does.

OLD BUSINESS

Comm. Camm presented to the Commission suggested policy changes pertaining to registration refunds/credits put together by the subcommittee looking into this matter. After a brief discussion, Chairwoman Flannery-Cook advised the Commissioners to send any questions or concerns via email to all Commissioners so that it could be discussed and voted on at the February meeting. Chairwoman Flannery-Cook thanked the subcommittee for putting the suggested policy together.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairwoman Flannery-Cook requested a special Recreation Commission Meeting to be held on Jan. 23, 2012 at 7:00 pm in the Lake building meeting room to start discussions of the 2012 budget. This will help the Budget sub-committee get a better handle on the budget moving forward. It would be beneficial for all on the Commission, as well as Sports Club, to attend.

Comm. Pizzigoni then asked Council Rep Schoenborn how to go about amending an ordinance, (i.e., using propane tanks at snack shacks). He was instructed to submit the request in writing to the Township Clerk, who would present to Town Council.

Regarding the registration refund request that Dir. Craig mentioned in his report, the Commission indicated the resident would not be entitled to a refund due to how the current policy reads.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Commission was informed that \$6,322.20 was turned over to the Township Treasurer during the month of December 2011.

Commissioner Foltiny then made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Pizzigoni. A unanimous supporting vote followed.

Meeting adjourned at 19:53.

Meeting minutes recorded and submitted by:

Barbara A. Dooley

cc: Mayor and Council
Administrator
Clerk's Office