

September 12, 2011
19:00

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 2011. 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 Diane Flannery-Cook, Mickey Foltiny, Gene Camm, and Anthony Pizzigoni. Commissioners Tina Carpenter and Lisa Clotter entered late. Commissioners Andy Bishop, Chris Sabatino, and Gary Sharp were not in attendance.

Council Representative Carl Schoenborn was not in attendance. However, Director of Recreation James Craig was.

CORRESPONDENCE

Recreation Director James Craig indicated there was no correspondence at this time.

After a review of the August 8, 2011 Commission Meeting minutes, a motion was made by Commissioner Foltiny to accept the minutes. Commissioner Camm seconded this motion. A unanimous supporting vote followed.

PUBLIC PORTION

Joe DiGiovanni, President of Sports Club, informed the Commission of the following two items:

Sept. 17, 2011 – Car Wash at Burlington Twp. High School starting at 9 am – Cost \$5.00

This is a joint fundraiser with the high school's and recreation's field hockey teams.

Sept. 16, 2011 – Football/Cheerleading Pep Rally at Green Acres II starting at 6 pm.

Mr. DiGiovanni inquired as to whether travel soccer games could be played at the Green Acres II Complex instead of Green Acres IV in order to utilize the snack shack. Unfortunately, lack of volunteers and logistics prevent using the snack shack tent at Green Acres IV. The Commission was also informed that invoices for officials' fees have been submitted for processing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Pizzigoni indicated that football registrations are closed except for the 60 lb. and Jr. High squads. Those squads will close on Sept., 16. Approximately 193 children are registered to date. Weigh-ins were held Sat., Sept. 10 at Pemberton High School with make ups being held Sept. 17 at 7 am at the same location. The season starts Sat., Sept. 17 with the first home games beginning on Sept. 18 at 10 am. All weight divisions are practicing at the Green Acres Complex. Comm. Pizzigoni, along with football coaches, is communicating with the parents and players about where to park in order to drop off or pick up children. Concussion training has been made mandatory for all football coaches. All active coaches have submitted their certificates. Additionally, there will be a free presentation at the Football Coaches Assoc. meeting on Sept. 15 by representatives from the Sports Concussion Training Center of NJ. The football program has received corporate sponsorships plus 100% commitment from Sports Club for the football tower. Thanks again to Sports Club.

The Pep Rally is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 16 from 6 to 8:30 pm. Comm. Pizzigoni would like to invite all members of the Recreation Commission, Mayor Carlin and Council to attend and, possibly, take a seat in the dunk tank. The event will be held on the practice field closest to the Gazebo. This will allow easy access to the snack shack and the DJ to set up in the Gazebo. Special thanks to Coach Eddie Rodriguez for donating his services as DJ and to Coach Derrick Hayes for arranging to have the Sixers Dancers and Mascot Hip Hop attend.

Comm. Pizzigoni had no report regarding wrestling at this time.

Commissioner Camm reported the Fall baseball program is underway with two major and two minor teams in the Cal Ripken League and two Babe Ruth teams. One Babe Ruth team will participate in the Mercer League and the other in a friendship league. Invoices for umpires have been submitted. Thanks to Sports Club for providing hats and tee shirts for the major and minor divisions.

Commissioner Clotter indicated cheerleading is in full swing. The Unlimited Squad participated in a camp in August. Their season will end in March. So far, the new team structures have been working well, whereby an individual can choose whether or not they would like to participate in competitions.

Commissioner Carpenter had no report regarding the track program, but expressed interest in hosting an invitational meet in the Spring which could involve up to 1200 athletes alone. Comm. Carpenter will submit a request to the Rec. Dept. for use of the high school's track next May. This meet would be in addition to two smaller Alliance meets.

In **Commissioner Bishop's** absence, Comm. Foltiny read his report. Regarding South Jersey travel soccer, league games commenced the weekend of Sept. 10. There was a partial closure of home fields due to the inclement weather forcing postponement of 11v11 games on Saturday. Sunday's games were held. All coaches have submitted their concussion certifications and copies will be given to the Rec. Dept. Leagues will require coaches to present certificates at games beginning Oct. 15, 2011. Registrations for tryouts for the high school age spring teams will be starting shortly. Regarding the Friendship League, teams are being finalized. There will be three boys teams (U10, U12, and U14) and two girls teams both U14. Coaches are being sought for the U12 and U14 boys teams, but coaches are expected to be in place this week.

Commissioner Foltiny reported that lack of volunteers to coach has been a thorn in his side for the non-travel soccer. Programs are getting started late for this reason. The Junior Division consisting of Kindergarten and 1st Graders will begin the weekend of Sept. 17. There will be 12 teams with sponsors for this age group. Thanks to Brian Carlin who assisted with the last couple of sponsors. The Major Division for 4th & 5th graders will start practices on Friday, 9/23 and games on 9/25. This division will have 4 teams. Four training sessions will be conducted on Friday nights and then games only, unless more coaches step forward. Thank you to the parents who volunteered to coach the teams at the games. Thanks also to Sports Club for funding referees for the games. The division will play small sided games at Green Acres I, Field 7 and will be coed. Everyone will play a lot and will get a lot of touches on the ball. The 2nd & 3rd grade Senior Division has over 95 participants. There will be 8 coed teams, however, as of now, there are only 7 coaches. Comm. Foltiny is optimistic this will be resolved. League coordinators are as follows: Junior Division – Kathe Delitta who has worked very hard to put teams together and assisted with many things and the Senior & Major Division – Comm. Foltiny.

Thanks to Rec. Dir. Craig and crew for setting up fields and to Comm. Camm and Comm. Pizzigoni for sharing fields. Uniform distribution for non-travel will be 9/16 with a coaches meeting immediately following. Comm. Foltiny will hand out certificates for free soccer balls from Morgan Tire and the Chevy Sweepstakes will once again be used as a fundraiser.

Chairwoman Flannery-Cook indicated all the coaches for the field hockey program have their concussion certificates. The two elementary school age teams won their first games, however, the middle school age team lost. Chairwoman Flannery-Cook also advised the Commission about the joint car wash fundraiser at the high school on Saturday, 9/17.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Recreation Director James Craig advised the Commission of the following:

1. The Recreation Dept. will be open on the following Saturdays: Sept. 17 and 24, 2011. The hours of operation are 10 am to 2 pm. Beginning Sat., Sept. 17, the Rec. Dept. will begin accepting 2011 winter registration forms.
2. Regarding the recreation grants awarded by the County, the Twp. received two bids for all three projects:
 - A. \$135,255.46
 - B. \$248,201.25

Unfortunately, both bids exceeded the \$125,105.00 appropriated for the grant. At this point, the Governing Body is considering appropriating an additional \$25,000.00 from the Recreation Trust account in order to fully fund the projects.

Comm. Camm asked why the bidding was not separated by each project. Dir. Craig indicated Engineering felt that “bundling” the projects would be better. After some discussion regarding the bidding process and any possibility to rebid, Dir. Craig indicated he could not speak for the Engineering Dept. Chairwoman Flannery-Cook indicated she would contact Engineering and report back to the Commissioners.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Council Representative Carl Schoenborn was not in attendance to give a report.

OLD BUSINESS

Comm. Foltiny requested that the parent concussion acknowledgement form be discussed at the next Commission meeting in order to have the form ready for Spring registrations which start in December. Unfortunately, since Winter registrations start Sept. 17, there is not enough time to get everything ready. The Commission agreed.

Comm. Foltiny reported he noted damage being done to athletic fields and advised everyone to please call 911 if they see anything.

Comm. Camm requested the Recreation Dept. not rent the field again to the group that used it in August, as they did too much damage to the field.

Comm. Foltiny asked if a field lining clinic for the soccer program could be done. If not for all coaches, at least himself, Comm. Bishop, and a few travel soccer coaches.

Comm. Foltiny asked Dir. Craig to please give him aggregate costs to run the programs. He would like to be able to show parents the “real costs” for running programs.

Chairwoman Flannery-Cook indicated she did not feel the “wee Three, LLC” sign language program, which was presented at the August 8, 2011 Commission meeting, is something the Commission would be interested in for their programming. The other Commissioners agreed. Dir. Craig will advise those concerned of the Commission’s decision.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business at this time.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Commission was informed that \$26,649.58 was turned over to the Township Treasurer during the month of August 2011.

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

Meeting adjourned at 19:45 .

Meeting minutes recorded and submitted by:

Barbara A. Dooley

cc: Mayor and Council
Administrator
Clerk’s Office