

January 2, 2019 Recreation Commission Meeting

Members Present: Al Batten, Bernie Simkins, Rich Stowman, Rich Daubenspeck

Members Absent: Steve Coates, Harry Lucas, Darlene Perna

Alternates Present: Sheryl Neely

Alternates Absent: Jim Kelly-School Bd. Mtg.

Guest Present: Dave Deegan-Mayor, Tom Schofield & Scott Metzger-Little League

The January Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 8:03 p.m. in the Community Center. The meeting was held on a Wednesday due to the New Year's Day holiday.

The Secretary called for nominations for Chairman of the Recreation Commission for the year 2019.

Upon motion by Mrs. Neely seconded by Mr. Simkins and carried Mr. Rich Daubenspeck was nominated as Chairman.

No other nominations were received. Upon motion by Mr. Batten seconded by Mrs. Neely and carried the nominations were ordered closed and Mr. Daubenspeck was approved as Chairman of the Recreation Commission for the year 2019. All members voted in the affirmative.

Chairman Daubenspeck called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman of the Recreation.

Upon motion by Mr. Stowman seconded by Mrs. Neely and carried Mr. Bernie Simkins was nominated to the position of Vice Chairman.

No other nominations were received. Upon motion by Mr. Stowman seconded by Mrs. Neely and carried Mr. Simkins was ordered approved for the position of Vice Chairman of the Recreation Commission for the year 2019. All members voted in the affirmative.

Upon motion by Mr. Simkins seconded by Mr. Stowman and carried the minutes of the November meetings were ordered approved as presented. All members voted in the affirmative. (*note there was not a December meeting)

Old Business:

Chairman Daubenspeck thanked everyone for a successful 2018 year and stated that 2019 should be an even better year.

Mayor Deegan thanked Chairman Daubenspeck for pulling off several successful events.

Mr. Simkins noted that we should make plans to remove the Christmas decorations that were put up for the Christmas at the Center event.

Due to weather predictions for rain on Saturday, members decided to meet on Sunday at noon to remove the decorations.

Chairman Daubenspeck reported that the Special Events group received nonprofit status with the assistance of Dave Deegan, Kathy Valla, and Bob Willsie from Joe Hoffman's Office. He stated we needed to establish an official name.

Members all agreed on "Friends of Franklin Township Recreation" for the official name.

New business:

Mr. Schofield, Little League, reported: (1) New Board Members have been selected. (2) Player registrations update. (3) Information for registration has been sent to schools. (4) 43 players have signed up to date. (5) The early registration discount ends January 10th. (6) Yard signs will be put out the end of the month. (7) Sponsor letters will go out on Friday. (8) The safety net is in need of repairs.

Mr. Deegan reported he reached out to the Mayor of Newfield regarding their inactive Little League organization. He noted the kids from Newfield play in Franklin. Newfield offered their ball fields for Franklin Twp. Little League's use.

Mr. Schofield reported that they should have paper work here by Friday regarding the matter. He reported that North Vineland is trying to pick up Newfield Little League players.

Mr. Deegan reported on: (1) The replacement of the girls' dug outs. (2) Parking lot and speed issues. He reached out to Jake Bruno to try and obtain telephone poles. The poles would be cut into smaller pieces to create a parking area. (3) Questioned if quotes for signs had been obtained.

Chairman Daubenspeck stated he needed the exact wording for signs designating the entrance areas. Double sided 4'X8' had been suggested for the signs.

Mrs. Neely stated that 911 notations would be needed so it would show up at the 911 emergency dispatch station.

Mr. Schofield noted that there were 3 entrances at the sports complex on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Chairman Daubenspeck said that the signs could be laid out on the computer.

Mr. Deegan stated that he spoke to the Girl Scouts and asked what they would like at a playground. He had sample playgrounds and suggested the project could be a Community and Township project. It could be dedicated to kids that have been involved with Recreation and passed away. He reported that would be part of the settlement agreement with the Mathew McClusky case. He stated he discussed it with Mathew's mother and she was thrilled. A figure of \$95,000.00 was suggested. JIFF could install it and volunteers and DPW workers could help. Ground covering would be a rubber mat for the handicap area, and the remaining area carpeted.

Chairman Daubenspeck suggested that big donors could be solicited and get their names on the mat area.

Mrs. Neely cautioned that there could be backlash for not taking care of what we already have at our parks.

Chairman Daubenspeck agreed and noted that there was money that was set aside and no work was done to improve the park areas.

Mr. Deegan stated that we will see things happen this year.

Chairman Daubenspeck suggested uscommunities.org or other vendors under the state contract would speed up the process. The vendors also offer great support. He also suggested the NJ Buildings and Grounds Trade Show.

Chairman Daubenspeck informed members (1) Mr. Dave Deegan and Mrs. Mary Petsch-Wilson were the liaisons for the Recreation Commission for 2019. (2) There is a proposed Field Hockey Program for 2019; it will be a feeder program for the High School. (3) The group has asked for permission to use the Forest Grove Park. He added that they could also utilize the building at the park.

Mrs. Neely questioned the status of Hockey.

Chairman Daubenspeck reported that a scoreboard has been ordered for Hockey. Fencing is needed and we should have a quote for the fencing within the next 2 weeks. The Hockey Rink should then be ready for use. He stated a lot of hard work went into the Hockey Rink Project.

Mr. Stowman reported that they have a spring Hockey Camp planned for 2019.

Chairman Daubenspeck reported that there had been some discussion of a Dog Park. Members discussed the pros and cons and necessity for such a project.

Chairman Daubenspeck reported that Community Day 2019 would be held on September 19th and start at 11:00 a.m. The Christmas at the Center would take place on December 7th. The Egg Hunt would take place at the Community Center and Franklinville Lake park area. He also reported that the Agenda for the Recreation Commission meetings would sent out the Friday prior to our meeting. The minutes will be posted on the Township's web page following their adoption. He announced the first meeting in February there will be an events meeting at 7:00 p.m. prior to the Recreation Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Upon motion by Mrs. Neely seconded by Mr. Stowman and carried the meeting was ordered adjourned at 9:20 p.m. All members voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Coulbourn, Secretary

*There was no Community Day/Events Meeting in January