

MECHANICSBURG RECREATION BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2019

CALL TO ORDER The May 14, 2019 meeting of the Mechanicsburg Recreation Board was called to order at 7:03 PM by Chairwoman Ellen Wilson.

MEMBERS PRESENT Chairwoman Ellen Wilson, Bart Miller, Lorrie Weber and Diane Nace.

MEMBERS ABSENT Vice Chairwoman Deeg Meck, Kathryn Johnston, Kathleen Snyder.

OTHERS PRESENT Council Liaison Mark Stoner, Councilman John Anthony, Borough Manager Ciecierski, Administrative Assistant Sara Martin.

GUESTS None.

APRIL MINUTES

DISCUSSION None.

ACTION A **MOTION** was made by Lorrie Weber and seconded Diane Nace by to approve the April 9, 2019 meeting minutes. **MOTION** approved.

REPORTS

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

- Recreation Director Brown reported that she just left the first of four nights of Summer Adventure Camp training. She noted that almost all the camps are full and that there were record breaking sign-ups this year. There will be 42 kids per camp per week.
- Recreation Director Brown informed the Board that the Playground Program increased to three employees this year because there was so much participation last year. As of now there are 53 children signed up and she expects that to increase with word of mouth on free meals. *Chairwoman Wilson asked if that program is only at Koser Park.* Recreation Director Brown answered that there is one at Community Park in Upper Allen, but that is the only one that is left.
- Recreation Director Brown stated that over 1,238 individuals are registered for programs and that count stands to increase as summer settles in.
- Recreation Director Brown noted that Pool Manager Canniff has a new business item regarding the pool.
- Recreation Director Brown said that there are still 55-57 children in 4-5th grade in the after-school program.

BOROUGH COUNCIL LIASON

- No report.

BOROUGH MANAGER

- Manager Ciecierski reported that there is free firewood in Memorial Park courtesy of the Arbor Day tree clean up.
- Manager Ciecierski stated that the Natural Playground Project went out to bid but there are none back yet, and the Borough plans to have staff start working on it in the fall doing asphalt paving and ground work.
- Manager Ciecierski noted that the Northside Basin is all but finished, they are waiting for things to dry out, so they can seed it.
- Manager Ciecierski thanked John Anthony for the hook up with Bartlett's Tree Service, who did the Arbor Day event. They removed nine trees, were out by 3:30 Pm in time for the baseball game and did \$100,000-125,000 worth of work for the price of some t-shirts and lunch. (*Lunch provided by CCs kitchen)
- Manager Ciecierski informed the Board that the pool is being painted tomorrow. The entire Highway Crew will participate to get the job done as fast as possible. Manager Ciecierski relayed that Justin Lewis informed him there are one to two inches of water in the diving well that he is trying to get out. Manager Ciecierski added that Justin has been working at the pool the last two weeks and has been doing very well, he has a list of stuff he is working through and he ordered all the paint.
- Manager Ciecierski noted that he patched up a hole today in the pool that he thinks is where it is losing water. Justin still thinks there is a cracked pipe under the pool somewhere, so we will wait to see how much the patch job helps.
- Manager Ciecierski told the Board that the computers will be set up at the pool tomorrow and the credit card system will be set up Thursday.
- Manger Ciecierski pulled up the Pool Pass system and showed the Board a demo on how it works. He also noted that guest passes are a possibility to investigate for next season. He added that he ordered a second barcode scanner that will arrive tomorrow.
- Manager Ciecierski stated that there will be a credit card machine at front desk and the concession stand this year. He discussed this with Pool Manager Canniff and they will have a seven-dollar minimum because that is the breakeven number. Manager Ciecierski explained that food items are taxable, but admission is not so anything taxable will go through the concession stand credit card machine and nontaxable items at the front desk machine.
- Manager Ciecierski reported that the Trail Group made two benches for the park. He asked if the Board would like the group to make the Bench in honor of Steve Diehl and if they would like a plaque made for that. *Lorrie Weber suggested using the same plaque format as the bench in front of the pool.*
- Manager Ciecierski stated that Cole Luckavage, the Eagle Scout who did the signage on the cross-country course wants to know if he should replace a damaged sign or if the Borough will.
- Manager Ciecierski noted that the Department of Agriculture has all they need for approval of the Aqua Zip'ns, yet we are still waiting on approval. *Chair lady Wilson asked if he would let the Board know when he hears back from them.* Manager Ciecierski answered that he would. He confirmed that the Aqua Zip'ns need one attendant between them.

- Manager Ciecierski stated he is ordering the part to fix the playground equipment in Finkenbinder Park and that the summer parks staff has reported not a lot of not small children are utilizing that park. *Councilman Stoner suggested attaching a brighter light to the pole in the outfield to deter people from mischief a night.* Manager Ciecierski agreed something more needs done but due to the proximity of neighboring properties there we need to be cautious about the light shining in their homes. *Lorrie Weber asked if the park patrol is making rounds.* Manager Ciecierski answered that they are, but they are not fully staffed right now. *Lorrie Weber suggested using cameras.* Manager Ciecierski explained that they have researched this and if there is not a clear photo of the persons face it is not enforceable. *Chairlady Wilson suggested increasing the park patrol in Finkenbinder.*
- Manager Ciecierski informed the Board that new power flush toilets for the restrooms in park that have been purchased so they hopefully won't clog as easy.

PARKS

MEMORIAL

- Chairlady Wilson asked if anybody got a chance to cut the low hanging branches above the baby swings. *Manager Ciecierski answered that yes, they did at the Arbor Day clean up, but there is still some that need trimmed.*
- Manager Ciecierski noted that the roof of the small pavilion is on the list to be painted and it doesn't seem to be leaking it just doesn't look nice.

KOSER

FINKENBINDER

- No report.
- Discussed under Manager's Report.

ACTION ITEMS

JOINT RECREATION AGREEMENT

- Manager Ciecierski reported that Borough Council discussed this at their last Joint Committee Meeting and that this should come back to the Recreation Board for their input to be sent back to Council for action. Manager Ciecierski noted that Borough Council had a few questions; regarding the participation of Borough residents in the programs and the composition of the Committee. *Recreation Director Brown cited Section One of the agreement as being changed seven years ago by then Council member Matt Seagrist.*
- Manager Ciecierski stated that any recommendations that the Board has, to make to Council are welcome and staff can write them up and take them to the Council meeting next Wednesday.
- Recreation Director Brown clarified that anyone in the agreement can call a meeting of the participants at any time for any issue.
- Lorrie Weber asked if Section 5 – cost distribution is correct? *Recreation Director Brown stated that it is based on the census and the percentage is right on what was billed last year.*
- Councilman Stoner stated that Borough Council requested that Recreation Director Brown arrange a meeting with the School District

to discuss the agreement. *Recreation Director Brown answered that Council is to ask Manager Ciecierski and then he is to set up the meeting with her superior.* Manager Ciecierski clarified that Borough Council first wants the Recreation Board's input.

- Manager Ciecierski added that Council did ask for the numbers on Borough resident participation in programming. *Recreation Director Brown estimated it to be at about 35% and added that she will get the numbers to him.*
- Lorrie Weber stated that this agreement was set up because we are a community and we are one school district and we are the model across the state. *Recreation Director Brown interjected that nowhere in the state is the school paying 75% of recreation.* Manager Ciecierski corrected her that the 75% the school pays are of recreation staff salary; the maintenance of the parks does not come out of the agreement and even less would be coming out with the new agreement. *Recreation Director Brown stated that he needs to go to her boss it is his job.*
- Councilman Stoner noted a discrepancy in the expiration date it is listed as 2019 in one place and 2020 in another. *Recreation Director Brown stated that she can check at her office tomorrow to clarify.*
- Manager Ciecierski asked the Board to submit whatever changes or recommendations you have in writing to staff.
- It was determined to hold off on any recommendation until the date was figured out.

OTHER BUSINESS

POOL UPDATE

- Recreation Director Brown reported that she received an email from the Hampden Pool manager requesting that the Borough enter into a contract (in longevity) with them that when the Divisional swim meet is held at Mechanicsburg they will accept our pool passes for free that day and vice versa. *Lorrie Weber asked for current Pool Manager Canniff and former pool manger Bart Miller's opinions.* Both stated they see it as a good idea. Recreation Director Brown noted that she does not think many people will utilize it but does think it is a good customer service idea. *Lorrie Weber asked if it would need to go to Borough Council for approval.* Manager Ciecierski answered that it would, but he feels it is the opposite of what we are attempting to do at the pool regarding tightening up entry. *Lorrie Weber stated that she thinks we should do it, Pool Manager Canniff and Chairlady Wilson agreed.* Bart Miller added that if it gets one family to switch pools it will pay for itself. Bart Miller made a motion to recommend to Borough Council to pursue the agreement with Hampden Pool. Diane Nace seconded the motion which passed with all in favor.

EGG HUNT

- Chairlady Wilson reported that the Egg Hunt went well and asked if anything was bought for next year. *Manager Ciecierski and Lorrie Weber confirmed that yes, a lot of toys were purchased.* Manager Ciecierski thanked the Fire Company for their great work. *Lorrie Weber suggested moving the set up to a later time, but it was confirmed that*

the Fire Company requested it stay the same. Councilman Stoner requested a thank you letter be sent to the Fire Company. Lorrie Weber also thanked Administrative Assistant Barb Arnold for ordering all the candy, she did a great job.

BUDGET

- Pool Manager Canniff and Recreation Director Brown had a question regarding one of the pool budget lines. *Manager Ciecierski clarified it was a typo. He also noted that the sales as of May 1st this year are \$36,000, compared to last year's sales as of the same date being \$15,000 (both figures rounded down to the nearest thousand).*
- Councilman Stoner asked if we would be running the same deal in Clipper Magazine again this year Manager Ciecierski stated that they approached the Borough, but they wanted to do season passes this year, which doesn't stand to benefit us. It also wouldn't be as good a rate as last year, so we will not be utilizing them.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, a **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Diane Nace and seconded by Lorrie Weber. **MOTION** approved, and meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Martin
Administrative Assistant