

Recreation Commission
Tuesday, November 29, 2016
7:00pm

A meeting of the Recreation Commission was held Tuesday, November 29, 2016 at the Youth Center located on Pike Street. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. The following were in attendance:

John Faggione, Director
Tom Hoppey, Chairman
Dawn Jones, Vice-Chair
Gina Fitzpatrick, Liaison

Brandy Figueroa
Debbie Cunningham
Noleen Casey Tomasi
Harry Tomasi, Youth Member

Absent: Mike Latini, Erika Ropke Polanis, Amanda Sexton, Youth Member

A motion to approve the minutes and report from October 2016 was made by Debbie and seconded by Dawn. All those in favor:

Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 2

Public Comment- None

New Business

John thanked the Commission for rescheduling the meeting from November 16th. The original meeting needed to be postponed due to the budget meeting going longer than expected. The budget meeting was held to discuss raises and ways to conserve money for the city. John proposed his plan to the Commission. He plans to reduce the work weeks of 3 seasonal maintenance workers by three weeks. John has eliminated the Busy Body and Karate stipend. This is due to low attendance at both programs. The 3rd supervisor's position at the Youth Center will be reduced to school break and holidays. The next budget hearing will be December 6th.

TC Crawford and Dejay Birtch of Starcrawf have contacted John about holding a series of race events and getting permission to reserve the rights to hold races on the trail system. John read email correspondence between the Mayor and Starcrawf regarding the proposal. City Attorney- Mr. Bavoso has also read the proposal and after posing several questions likes the ideas. Tom would like the contract to be presented. It was discussed that a percentage of the race profits will go to the Recreation Department for the maintenance of the trails. The West Point bike race will not be affected by this. The Commission would like John to email the Mayor to agree with the proposal.

The winterization of the playgrounds will be completed by Christmas. John asked that if anyone sees something or has a concern to please contact him to let him know.

The Commission rescinded the appointment of Sarah Kean as a substitute Youth Center Leader. She is still currently employed as the Recreation Specialist at the Youth Center which is a year round position. Her position has not been filled by anyone else so she still is employed by the City and doesn't need approval to continue to work.

The trails will not be closing this year. The gates to Point Peter will be open till the 1st significant snowfall. Point Peter will not be plowed. Signs have been posted in all trail heads stating that hunting and fishing are not allowed and that hikers should wear bright clothing.

John is working on a grant for the trails. It is due January 17th.

The Youth/Community Center will, once again, be a drop off site for Orange County's Santa's Toy Box. All the toys that are donated will stay local. Toys can be dropped off 11am-7pm. Arrangements can be made for alternate drop off times.

The Co-Ed Youth Basketball Program will be starting on 12/17/16. John gave the list of registration dates. This program fills up quickly. It will end 3/4/17.

John has planned a snow tubing trip in January and a Mohegan Sun Casino trip in February. Specific dates to follow.

Henry Levy recently donated a pool table to the Rec. Room. The pool table is of great quality and will be well used. John is going to take a picture of some teens with the table, have it made into a plaque, and thank Mr. Levy and family for the generous donation.

Kathy Shortell, from Senior Dining, is giving the Rec Room a TV that is no longer used in the Farnum Building.

John read the bylaws for the Recreation Commission elections. A motion to nominate Tom as Chairperson was made by Debbie and seconded by Dawn. All in favor:

Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 2

Old Business

The Will of Orange, held on 10/22, was a bit of a disappointment. 12 people attended. The weather was terrible and John feels that participation would have been much better if the weather was cooperative.

30 people attended the Jets game and had a great time. This was a sold out trip.

Over 150 people registered for the Erie 80 on 10/29/16. This event had great results and was a success.

The Halloween Parade was cancelled due to inclement weather. John sent out a PSA that all the donuts and cider would be available at the Youth Center on Halloween for anyone that wanted to stop in.

John gave the update on the attendance at the Youth Center and for Teen Night. There will be a Teen Dance scheduled for 12/16/16.

Harry reviewed various events that have been taking place within the school district.

There will be a dedication to Luann at a Boys' Basketball game on 12/20/16 at 6pm. The district will be dedicating the scorer's table to Luann.

John had guest speakers at Teen Night on 11/4/16. The Orange County District Attorney, Assistant DA, PJP, and a former inmate, Bobby Lane spoke about making good choices and the consequences for making poor choices.

John reminded the Commission that there will not be a meeting in December.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm was made by Dawn and seconded by Debbie. All those in favor:

Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 2

**NEXT MEETING:
Thursday, January 19, 2017
7:00pm**