

Recreation Commission
Tuesday August 27, 2013

7:30 PM

A meeting of the Port Jervis Recreation Commission was held Tuesday, August 27, 2013 at 6 PM at the Youth Center located on Pike Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:12 PM by Chairman, Tom Hoppey.

The following were in attendance:

John Faggione, Director	Dawn Jones
Tom Hoppey, Chairman	Debbie Cunningham
Luann McCarthy, Vice-Chairman	Mike Latini

Absent: Erika Polanis, Noleen Casey-Tomasi, George Belcher, Council Liaison and Rashaad Escamilla, Youth members

A motion to approve the minutes and report from June and the July report was made by Dawn and seconded by Mike. All those in favor:

Aye: 5

Nay: 0

Absent: 2

New Business

John discussed the ACME Downhill Race event that will be held on the weekend of August 31-September 1 on Skyline Drive. There will be an open ride practice session on Saturday and the main competition will be held on Sunday from 12-5PM. The organizers say there are 50 participants signed up with the possibility of upwards to 100 more. The city is not responsible for anything, the insurance is in place and John has spoken to Vince Lopez about the garbage removal. Parking will be at West End Beach and people will be shuttled to the event from there.

The final Summer Concert will take place this Thursday, August 29 at Riverside Park. It is a make-up concert from August 1, which was rained out. Will Hoppey will perform from 7-9 PM. A discussion was held concerning the sign for the concerts and Mike suggested a larger sign be made and placed in Tri-States to attract more attendance. John said he would look into it.

John reported that the Remote Control World Park at Riverside will hold a major race September 27-29, 2013. These events have been well attended and there are plans to request that the National races be held there for next year.

The Fall/Winter schedule for the Recreation Department has been printed and will be sent out to the schools next week. Mike Calvario once again sponsored the printing of the schedule. Teen night has been changed from 7-11PM to 6-10 PM with the first dance being held on October 4th. An NFL game at the Meadowlands will take place on December 1, 2013 at a cost of \$100 per person.

John reported that the PJ Rec sponsored both the Port Football and the Elks' Golf outing at \$50 each.

The Rotary Skate Park closed for the season on August 27th. It opened a week early and closed a week early.

John reported that he and Jill are working on the 2014 Youth Bureau application which is new and more competitive this year with no municipality being guaranteed any money. We are proposing a third part time director for the Youth Center.

John discussed a grant to upgrade West End Beach. He asked members to submit ideas for improving the beach and bring them to the next meeting. Members decided to meet at West End Beach for the next meeting to look things over and discuss ways that it might be improved.

John noted that he was looking into a new Race Timer for the 2014 Delaware River Run. The committee was not as satisfied with the performance of this year's Timer and his expectations of what we were to provide so John has been looking into Steve Homebreaker of Eagle Timing. He stated that it would cost a bit more but the results would be quicker and he would bring his own crew.

Old Business

Summer Recreation recap: The Youth Center was very busy with an average attendance of 47 for July and an average attendance of 35 for August with 507 unduplicated participants for the summer. West End Beach had a delayed opening and was closed for 3 weekends for safety reasons due to the conditions of the river. The beach attendant worked out very well and will be continued. Charging \$5 per car load for non-residents brought in over \$1000 even though the overall attendance at the beach had been down. The playgrounds were very successful. John read a letter from the mayor praising the activity at the playgrounds. Reopening Farnum Park was considered a successful move. Street Hockey had over 30 participants, Youth Basketball had 80 participants, 3 on 3 Basketball had over 200 participants and the Summer Olympics had over 100 children participating. There was 2 weeks of soccer camp, a track program with over 35 participating in meets and 3 movie nights where as many as 125 took advantage of the free movie. National Night Out was a huge success and co-ed tennis had over 25 participating. The field trip to Dorney Park was full but the baseball game buses were not full and John will reconsider those trips next year.

John reported that Riverside Park has gotten a lot of use this season and that there are still 7 more people scheduled to rent the park in the near future.

John referred to the fundraising ideas that Rashaad had presented to the committee in June. He had polled different businesses in town and realized that many were excited with the idea of a chicken wing contest. It was decided that we would consider it for some time during football season.

A motion was made by Luann and seconded by Dawn to adjourn the meeting at 7:12pm.

All in favor: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 2

Next Meeting-Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 6:00PM at West End Beach