

Borough of West Long Branch

Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes- August 13th, 2018

Members in Attendance:

Joe DeLeonardo, Chair
Debbie Ronan
Lorraine Strohmenger
Ilene Guzzi
Salina Neuhaus
Ronald Karpe
Gregg Malfa

Also in Attendance:

Fred Migliaccio, Councilman

Meeting Called to Order at 7:38pm.

1. The **Summer Recreation** program is now complete and went well. Lorraine remarked on how she observed the attentiveness and organization of the counselors while walking Franklin Lake.
2. **4th of July Fireworks** were discussed at the last council meeting but there were no comments as to whether we would be looking to go back to Garden State Fireworks for next year.
3. **Summer Concert Series** – The next and last concert of the season will be Jersey Jukebox on 8/24. We are still waiting on their voucher in order to release payment to them. There was discussion as to whether or not we will continue holding a concert every other week. Turnout has not been high for some of the concerts and there was lack of organization with one of the bands. Mayor Tucci had suggested to a few commission members the idea of having 2 larger, well known bands a season instead. All agreed that this would work better and help to appeal to a larger portion on the community. Salina had suggested we consider investing in a banner to advertise and reach more people. Currently we mainly utilize social media and the Community Center sign to advertise these events. It was also suggested we implement a better plan of action in the case of inclement weather. We will be discussing whether a rain date or rain location would work best.
4. **Bocce Ball Court** – Councilman Migliaccio reported that courts are a huge success; tournaments are being played every Thursday with players also meeting on Tuesdays. The courts have drawn up to 40 or more people at a time. It is really a nice addition to the community. He also noted that the storage shed has arrived and there are currently a few benches in place with many community members still looking to donate. Joe mentioned that we will follow up with Councilman Neyhart for the list of all who have helped and donated in order to send formal thank you letters. Councilman Migliaccio would like to get an engraved stone from Damianos, to be placed at the courts as representation of appreciation. The exact inscription is yet to be decided. It was also mentioned that the composite wood end caps should be arriving soon and will be installed. Lighting of the courts was brought up again and Councilman Migliaccio hopes to see it in the future.

5. **Town Flags/Lamp Posts-** Michael Lamb has completed the prepping and re-painting of the lampposts at Franklin Lake and they look great. Joe currently has someone designing a few options for the town flags.
6. **Community Center-** Still working towards the addition of a beer garden at Fall Fest. Debbie mentioned she would have more information on the details when they meet in two weeks. The beer garden will be located on the Throckmorton side of the lake in the open grass area. Movie Night is 9/21 and the movie confirmed is 'Coco'.
7. **Christmas Sing-a-long/Tree Lighting-** We would like to move forward with planning a **Christmas Tree Lighting** event for the first Sunday of December, 12/2. There was no feedback from council as to whether they wish for this event to replace the current sing-a-long or if they would like to host the sign-a-long as they have in the past, located back at the original location of Woolley Park and in addition to the tree lighting. We will be following up and would like Mary Lynn to approach it with council.
8. **Fall Fest-** Salina reported that she has 11 vendors already confirmed for this year. The discussion on eligible vendors was mentioned. At our last meeting we discussed possibly implementing a criteria for eligible vendors; those with tangible goods for purchase as well as in-town service groups such as local PBA and school organizations, etc. Salina was concerned with having to turn away local businesses that wish to advertise because many of them contribute greatly to our community and it's organizations as well as live here in town. It was unanimous that the recreation commission members are not against having vendors who wish to advertise their services. We will have a discussion with council on the matter. Such vendors can be set-up together in one section much like how many other local events group business vendors together. Salina also said that she would communicate to vendors that a donation to the Recreation Commission would be appreciated. Salina will speak to Mary Lynn to clarify the vendors. Hoffman's Ice Cream and Enzo's are our two confirmed food vendors. Debbie is confirming DJ, Touch-a-Truck and Greg will handle the bounce houses. We will need to begin to gather all the supplies such as banners to be updated with the proper date and check on the condition of the castle and other wood cutout decorations. We will reach out to Boro Printing to see if they can update the date on our banner. About 100 orange bows will be needed for the lamp posts, gazebo and the park sign, therefor we will need to order ribbon and begin creating those in the near future. Debbie mentioned giftsinternational.com as a great source for the ribbon. The bows will be placed 1 week before the event. The community center is working on the addition of a beer garden. Joe will be reaching out to local PBA, Fire, DPW, etc. for their support at our event. Freddie will be handling corn stalks, hay, pumpkins, tractors etc.
9. **Other business-** Building usage forms will be delivered to Sue Grimm on Tuesday 8/14 for approval of men's recreation basketball that is held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. This will give them usage until 12/2019. Council has requested a list of our events for the year. It was suggested that we consider making a calendar insert or magnet that lists the events and dates.

Meeting came to a close at 8:22pm

Submitted by:
Heidi Bahr, Secretary

Next Meeting: Monday, September 10th at 7:30pm