

Borough of West Long Branch

Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes- September 10, 2019

Members in Attendance:

Debbie Ronan, Chair
Lorraine Strohmenger
Susan Trocchia

Also in Attendance:

Councilwoman Mango
Councilman Migliaccio
Councilman Cioffi
Police Chief Haberman
Carrie Kochman- Resident

Meeting Called to Order at 7:32pm.

1. Recreation Chair, Debbie Ronan began the meeting with our mission statement. She then gave the floor over to resident Carrie Kochman with regards to the first **Lantern Walk** to be held on **November 9th at 4:00pm, Franklin Lake**. The rain date for the event is November 16th. Carrie presented her idea on how to advertise for the event. She provided an image that could be posted on social media that will also include an explanation of the event and its meaning. She would like to incorporate that the school students in the Betty McElmon and Frank Antonides schools will be making a lantern project in art class that they can use to participate in the event. It was suggested that a flyer with the event information be sent home through the schools, prior to the event. Carrie also suggested having a coat drive during the event since the tradition is partially centered on sharing with the less fortunate. Sue also recommended handing out small balls of dough as symbolism of sharing and breaking bread. She offered to contact La Scarpetta to see if they would be willing to donate dough to the event. Carrie is also looking into ideas for music. Traditionally the walk is led by music, whether a small band or a stereo. Councilman Cioffi and coordinator of Emergency Management requested that we try and find out how many people will be in attendance in order to ensure safety. Heidi offered to help set-up a Google form where residents can RSVP to the event. Councilman Cioffi also requested that we confirm with Shore Regional for the use of their front parking lot to alleviate congestion on the surrounding side streets. Lastly, Carrie questioned if we would like to contact a local newspaper with the event information. Debbie advised that we should keep this event to a residents-only basis but it would be nice to have a write-up done on the event. Heidi offered to contact a local paper that will come out, take pictures of the event and put together a nice story.
2. **Fall Festival:** Councilman Cioffi advised that the tractors will take the same route as years prior. This year Lakeview Ave. will be completely blocked off and no parking will be permitted on either side of the street during the event. Vendors are requested to take Halsey St. to Lakeview Ave. for set-up during the timeframe of 11:00am to 12:30pm at which point they must move their vehicle off of Lakeview Ave. He requested that vendor vehicles place an identifier on their windshield in the event a person must be located to move their vehicle. He also advised that parking will be restricted on Throckmorton Ave. No parking will be permitted on Throckmorton from Locust Ave. to the bend. This area will be used for emergency management and allow a clear right-of-way for the tractor ride. From the bend on Throckmorton Ave. to just past the intersection of Franklin Parkway, parking will only be permitted on the non-lake side of the roadway. He requested we notify Shore Regional to obtain use of their front parking lot for attendees. The food truck(s) will be located on the lakeside of Lakeview Ave. All touch-a-tucks will be moved up, closer to the gazebo. Debbie advised that we have a band, 'Tequila Rose' and will need the stage set-up. She informed that we will also need extra trash receptacles placed around the lake. Councilman Cioffi suggested

the option to have the band set-up in the gazebo. Debbie expressed concern that the space may not be large enough for the band and they may not be visible to attendees. Cioffi offered to contact DPW with the requests. Debbie informed that she is planning to add a rock-climbing wall to the event activities with the help of Michael Paolantonio. She also advised that at least 3 to 4 regular and 1 handicapped portable toilets would be ordered for the event. Chief Haberman confirmed that we would need the light generator for the blow-up rides as we have in years past. Councilman Migliaccio reported that he will be getting the corn stalks, hay bails and pumpkins again this year and plans to increase the amount to at least 35 hay bails and 60 corn stalks and 450 pumpkins. The Lake will be decorated with corn stalks on October 12th at 3:00pm and any help is appreciated. He also advised that he will have two tractors and trailers again this year but is still in need of one trailer. The purchase order for Atlantic Farms will be handled with the Boro Administrator. Debbie advised that she has reached out to SAW for volunteers and is awaiting a response. She also reported that Salina would be sending out the vendor e-mail this week. Lorraine informed that she will be getting the ribbon and will start making the 100 bows needed for decorating at the event.

3. The **Christmas tree lighting** is scheduled to take place on Sunday, December 7th (*Please note: since the meeting, the official event date has been changed to December 1st*). Debbie would like to incorporate an ice rink and have the event start earlier to accommodate the new activity. The ice rink is 20' x 40' at a cost of \$3,500. All members and council liked the idea. Debbie will contact the vendor to book the ice rink. The official start time is still to be determined, with a potential start around 3:00pm. The event would then end with the official lighting of the Christmas tree around 6:00pm. Debbie has contacted the lighting company to schedule having the lights hung at Franklin Lake and Woolley Park and is waiting on a date. The company asked her to follow-up in October. Debbie is also looking into new ideas for entertainment; possibly a simple band or a speaker playing Christmas music. It was suggested to contact Gary Smolokoff to see if he and a few members of his band would be willing to play. Debbie advised that we would need to find a new Santa this year. Dan Brouwer was suggested however he also has other Santa commitments to coordinate around. Debbie will check on his availability. The commission will also be purchasing its own Santa Suit this year.
4. **Other business: Movie Night** is set for September 20th at the Community Center. The movie to be shown is 'Secret Life of Pets 2'. Ilene will be updating the Community Center Sign this week and a flyer approved with the schools will go home with students next week.

Meeting came to a close at 8:30pm

Submitted by:
Heidi Bahr, Secretary

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 15th at 7:30pm