

Borough of West Long Branch

Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes- December 9, 2019

Members in Attendance:

Debbie Ronan, Chair
Lorraine Strohmenger
Salina Neuhaus
Matt Sniffen
Larry Mays

Also in Attendance:

Meeting Called to Order at 7:33pm.

1. Debbie began the meeting with our mission and expressed how well the commission is doing fulfilling it.
2. Fruit baskets had been sent to the Migliaccio and Troccia families for the passing of close family members. Debbie read thank you correspondences from both families.
3. Debbie reported that there were approximately 400 people in attendance for the **Christmas Tree Lighting**. She asked commission members their thoughts on the entertainment provided by Gary Smolokoff. All members agreed that it was a great performance by him and the other singers. Lorraine read a 'thank you' correspondence received from Gary. He enjoyed the opportunity to perform at the event. It was noted that the coat drive will need more advertisement in the future as it did not do as well as expected. District Assemblywoman Downey attended the event and expressed how amazed she was at all the wonderful events our commission provides the community. She also commented that our tree was the most beautiful she has seen. Debbie thanked the various departments, groups and personnel that made the event a success: DPW, WLB Police Department, WLB PBA, WLB Fire Department, Shore Interact and other volunteers who assisted. The PBA generously donated refreshments as well as funding for the entertainment. The DPW assisted with set-up and cleanup. The Fire Department escorted Santa (Dan Brouwer) to the lake. The Police Department provided the light towers and ensured the safety of the event. Debbie noted there was the perfect amount of lighting and we will plan for the same in future years. There were several containers of cocoa mix leftover, which Salina will be donating to the food pantry along with leftover marshmallows. The extra cups will be set aside for use next year. Debbie will be scheduling the company to remove the lights from both trees. Matt requested she advise of the date chosen, as he would like to be present to ensure the company does not cut down the lights as they have in years past. Debbie mentioned she will look to get the GFI fixed prior to next year's event as a malfunction in the existing GFI unit is what caused the issue during the lighting. She also informed that the skating rink company has a blowup snow mountain slide that could be a fun addition and something to consider for next year.
4. **Gazebo Renovation:** Matt asked what the current status was on the renovation project. He suggested the rails be constructed with aluminum for cost and durability reasons. Debbie informed that Councilman Migliaccio, whom was managing the project, has been extremely busy but encouraged Matt to contact him to spearhead the project.
5. **Budget:** Debbie presented the 2020 Budget request for the Rec. Commission. A line item was added for the Lantern Walk. The budget will also hopefully included enough room to possibly fund large flags to be attached to each lighted flagpole along Locust Ave for the 4th of July Celebrations. This is a detailed project that will have to be headed by a volunteer as it entails contacting the utility company for authorization and also obtaining use of some type of lift

truck for installation. This idea will be re-visited. Debbie would also like to see the town flags at the lake happen this year.

6. **Valenzano storage shed:** The WLB Sports Association is giving the Rec Commission use of the old concession side of the shed. The original shed donated is filled to capacity and this will come of great use to the commission. It is in need of a very big clean-out which will be planned to take place in the Spring. All help is welcome. Matt offered to build shelving within the unit. Lorraine also mentioned that she may be able to obtain excess shelving units and will follow-up.
7. **Other Business:** Salina would like to get an early start on planning **Summer Recreation** this year. More will be discussed at the February meeting. She also asked if there is an open spot on the commission as she has someone possibly interested. Debbie will speak to Lori to find out. Debbie advised that the boro extended an invitation to all commission members, to their Holiday Pot Luck Luncheon planned for December 20th and 12:00 noon.

Meeting came to a close at 8:07pm

Submitted by:
Heidi Bahr, Secretary

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