

**MINUTES OF THE
RECREATION COMMISSION**

HOPATCONG BOROUGH HALL, 111 RIVER STYX ROAD

HOPATCONG, NJ

JUNE 11, 2024

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING 7PM

CALL TO ORDER: The Recreation Commission Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT: This meeting is held in accordance with the 1975 Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6 et seq., annual notice having been forwarded to the New Jersey Herald/New Jersey Sunday Herald and posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Municipal Building for public announcements.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Recreation Commission Chairperson invites all present to salute the flag.

ROLL CALL: The Recording Secretary will call the role.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Dave Barella, Darrin DiNapoli, Cherly Ostman, Wendy Sutton, Jacking Turkington, Ulla Vinkman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Recreation Liaison Roseanne Schult, Recording Secretary Nancy McCormack Boehm, Mayor Marie Galate, Councilwoman Jennifer Johnson, Councilwoman Rachel Rodriguez

OPEN SPACE UPDATE: Liaison Dave Barella—There are no updates.

CELEBRATIONS OF EVENTS UPDATE: Liaison Wendy Sutton—There are no updates

OLD BUSINESS: - There are no updates

NEW BUSINESS:

Field Request:

Chairperson Sutton asked for approval of summer soccer on Vets Field since no one uses it during the summer.

Dave Barella made a motion to approve as long as it doesn't interfere with any town events. Daren DiNapoli seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:

Dave Barella—yes, Darrin DiNapoli—yes, Cheryl Ostman—yes, Wendy Sutton—yes, Jackie Turkington—yes, Ulla Vinkman—yes

Adult Softball League:

Ryan Tracey request for Adult softball league to use the Senior Field during the Summer and would be willing to help out if we to run a league in the Fall. They have used Vets Field in the past years. Commissioner Barella is good as long as it doesn't interfere with Little League. They will play early on Sunday. It was suggested to look into a woman's league to join. Maybe Co-ed and play other towns. Councilwoman Johnson noted that a woman's league plays at Landing Park and we could look further into that. Chairperson Sutton reminded that insurance is needed and we would need a field and possibly start a Fall league.

Volleyball League for Winter:

Possibility of having it in the high school. Chairperson Sutton will request a meeting with Joe Falconi, Superintendent Hallenbeck and the high school coach to talk about use of the gym. Will need to pay for the use of the gym it on a weekend. Need someone to run the league and maybe co-ed and play against other towns.

Chairperson Sutton asked if any of the Commissioners had any ideas that the Recreation Commission could implement. Commission Vinkman suggest we have a bonfire during the winter months, basketball against first responders and have a "Hopatcong March Madness".

The "Miners" sent their schedule and will look into a bus trip to a Miners game with fireworks. Possible NJ Devils trip in October. Need to look into the cost of busing. Commissioner DiNapoli suggested Somerset Patriots game and can be at the top and have a BBQ, he will look into it.

Seniors are asking about trips, possible trip to a theatre (Newton, Paper Mill Playhouse), Rockettes and would prefer day shows. Commissioner Ostman will reach out to the theatres.

Councilwoman Rodriguez asked about doing Zoom during the Recreation Commission Meetings. Mayor Galate noted that we needed to vote, then prepare a resolution, then vote again to confirm resolution. Commissioner DiNapoli asked if it would participation or watch only? Will be watch only.

Dave Barella made a motion to approve Zoom for viewing purposes only for Recreation Commission Meetings. Daren DiNapoli seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:

Dave Barella—yes, Darrin DiNapoli—yes, Cheryl Ostman—yes, Wendy Sutton—yes, Jackie Turkington—yes, Ulla Vinkman—yes

Chairperson Suttons asked if Pat at the DPW was told about the basketball court that is not useable at Modick Park. Councilwoman Johnson emailed Greg and will forward that email to Chairperson Sutton

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Commissioner Turkington made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Commissioner Vinkman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rob Bond on behalf of the Lake Hopatcong Foundation introduced their outdoor app "Outerspatial", which is paid for as a grant from Zufall Health SNAP-ED Program. Lake Hopatcong Foundation holds a license which can highlight Hopatcong assests, such as trails and promote free events. Not meant for team sports, but to get people aware of the trails surrounding out area. Is targeted to low-income and to be used for as many free activities as possible. Commissioner Ostman asked if Bocci Ball could be advertised, yes it can. Chairperson Sutton asked about app for phone and yes is available

for phone. There are also challenges or games such as the Liffy Island Challenge. It can also be used for surveys. The app is very popular with big parks on the West Coast. Hopatcong Borough would provide all information to insure it is accurate.

Resident Comerford spoke about volleyball at St. Jude's at parish or outside and that Manny Fernandez should be contacted. He also stated that Street Hockey wrapped up on Sunday and thanked Commissioner Vinkman for her presence. The kids had fun and there was a lot of good energy. Thank you to the parents for providing the food. They have a miniature "Stanley Cup" with a plate of the winning team each year. Even though the season is over, the nets are left out all summer. Commissioner Barella asked if they needed new nets. They will be ordered over the winter.

New landscaper (L&L Landscaping) is doing a good job but could use some weed killer because the weeds affect the play.

CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC:

Commissioner Turkington made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Commissioner DiNapoli seconded the motion. All were in favor.

MOTION TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES:

Commissioner DiNapoli made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 28th. Commissioner Vinkman seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:

Dave Barella—yes, Darrin DiNapoli—yes, Cheryl Ostman—yes, Wendy Sutton—yes, Jackie Turkington—yes, Ulla Vinkman—yes

Next meeting: July 9, 2024 at 7:00pm

Chairperson Sutton asked the Commission members to be prepared at the next meeting with ideas for trips and activities for the town.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Commissioner Ostman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner DiNapoli seconded the motion. All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:53pm

Submitted by
Nancy McCormack Boehm
Recording Secretary