

WESTWOOD RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of April 13, 2015

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 8:06 P.M. by Vice Chair Angelo Pira

Present: Councilmember Chris Montana, Vice Chair Angelo Pira, Board Members Bobbie Cozic, Ruth Nass, Bermari Roig, Recreation Director Gary Buchheister, Admin Asst Margaret McDonough.  
Absent: Chair John Toale, Member Kevin Corcoran, Jodi Murphy, Jason Scheffer

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of March 16, 2015: Member Nass made a Motion to Accept the Minutes as presented; Member Cozic seconded the Motion; All in favor, the Motion passed.

3. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM:

4. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT: Councilmember Chris Montana reported that the 2015 Municipal Budget has been presented. The 2015 Capital Budget item of the McKinley Park tennis courts repair is contingent on the approval of the Open Space Grant to fund the project. Discussion followed.

Mr. Montana reported that the Council discussed the recent photograph in the newspaper of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball team and discussion followed regarding the first priority of youth sports is the safety and mentoring of the children. Discussion followed regarding the Coaches' Code of Conduct, the clearly defined standards of coaching behavior as outlined by the Recreation Director, etc.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

a. Spring Program Update: Director Buchheister reported that there are 253 persons registered in the programs. Discussion followed on the various programs continuing from the Winter Session and the new Spring programs including the S.N.A.P. (Special Needs Athletic Program) which is instituting a tennis program with Councilman Montana's assistance.

b. Recreation Staff Meeting: The postponed meeting has been rescheduled to April 27 in the Community Center. Director Buchheister will contact the Board Members and various Program Coordinators to confirm the date.

c. New Men's Softball Program – 6 Teams: Director Buchheister reported that teams have been formed comprised of 84 players for the new league which will begin the last week of April and will play at Westvale Park. Residents Anthony Greco and Tim McDevitt have worked diligently to coordinate the league and several Borough / area restaurants will be sponsoring the program.

Member Roig joined the meeting.

d. Egg Hunt Recap: Director Buchheister stated that it was a very successful event which grows in attendance each year and thanked Councilman Montana, the Board Members and Ms. McDonough for assisting. Discussion followed on various aspects of the event and suggestions for enhancing and expanding the program for next year.

5. e. Teen Center Update: A shared services Agreement has not been resolved between Westwood and the Township of Washington due to Township Mayor Sobkowicz's continuing review of the Agreement. Councilman Montana stated that the program is a benefit to the children of both communities and asks that Mayor Birkner and Director Buchheister continue their efforts to ensure this program continues as a shared service.
5. f. Field Update: Director Buchheister reported that all fields will be seeded to prepare for the Spring programs. The Westvale soccer field will be seeded in late April, then shut down. The Dragons Soccer Club fully agrees with allowing the field to rest until September 1. The goals will be removed and the DPW will install 'snow fencing' around the bare areas and post signs that the field is closed.  
Field Lighting: There are several ballasts and a number of bulbs which must be replaced which should be the only work necessary until the end of the season.  
The parking lot is in very poor condition after the winter. Rick Woods has contacted a company that can donate millings to level the lot which should be done by the end of April. Discussion followed.
- g. Summer Concerts: Director Buchheister announced the season schedule and reported that Atlantic Stewardship Bank, H.U.M.C. at Pascack Valley, Better Homes & Gardens Realty and Lightbridge Academy will be sponsoring the Series. He is in communication with other entities who have expressed in interest in sponsorship. Discussion continued on sponsorship for various Department programs.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Committee Assignments:
- b. Capitol Improvement Plans:
  1. Lighting in gym:
  2. New gym floor:

7. NEW BUSINESS:

8. ADJOURNMENT: Motion to Adjourn was made at 8:45 P.M. by Member Cozic and seconded by Vice Chair Pira. The next meeting will be May 11, 2015 at 8:00 PM. in the Community Center.