

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
MAY 5, 2009**

Adequate notice of this meeting, in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, has been given by posting one copy of the Notice of Meeting in the Washington Township Administrative office, by making copies to the "Express Times" and "Star Gazette," and to the municipal clerk in Washington Township.

ATTENDEES

J. DeFranza, D. Detrick, W. Godfrey, M. Kries, J. Miller, S. Fritts (arrived at 8:00). Absent: R. Berrie, B. Jeffries, D. Schott. N Godfrey, Recreation Administrator, and J. Cooper, DPW Parks Foreman were also present. Guest: R. Flint.

The Regular Meeting of the Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman M. Kries at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

W. Godfrey made a motion to approve the minutes of March 3, 2009. J. DeFranza seconded. All in favor.

W. Godfrey made a motion to approve the minutes of April 7, 2009, D. Detrick seconded. All in favor.

MEADOW BREEZE PARK

No Parking Signs along fence at D1/Football field parking lot. People are parking along the fence and all along Meadow Breeze Lane with their cars half out in the roads. This is becoming very hazardous and chaotic. If the rescue squad had to get through for an emergency they would never be able to get through.. N. Godfrey said she was pretty sure that there is an ordinance for no parking along both Meadow Breeze Lane and Kayharts Lane along the areas surrounding the park. R. Flint agreed with N. Godfrey that there is an ordinance regarding parking along Meadow Breeze Lane and Kayharts Lane. N. Godfrey will check the ordinance book and if it is already on the books, she will ask the police to start enforcing it.

W. Godfrey was down at Pacesetter field and noticed that there were a lot of divots on the field, especially between the parking and goal area, he asked J. Cooper to have them filled in with top soil and grass seed so the field is ready for the fall.

D. Detrick asked about fencing at the existing Lacrosse Field (S2). Someone almost got hit by a car while chasing the ball through the parking lot. W. Godfrey said that he was talking to D. Dempski about this and he is also very concerned about the balls going off the fields and into the parking lot. The WTYA may be willing to help pay for a temporary fence, however, he would like to see something where the cups are in the ground and you can just stick the poles in when you want to put up the fence and take it down. J. Cooper said that they had a temporary fence there a few years ago and the kids ripped it down. After some discussion, it was decided that more research is needed and we should make it a joint effort between WTRC and WTYA.

OLD BUSINESS

J. DeFranza asked if everything was in place for the Relay for Life, which is being held at the park on May 16 and 17, N. Godfrey said yes, as far as she was aware of. J. DeFranza asked if it could be possible to send a letter from the Recreation Commission, to the residents living around the park, notifying them that this particular event is going to be held at the park. N. Godfrey will get the addresses from the Tax Assessor and send a notice to the residents.

FINANCIAL & BUDGET REVIEW

N. Godfrey reported that to date we have collected \$5045.00 in use fees. Budget figures should be released after the adoption of the 2009 budget.

ACTIVE AREAS

Already covered above under Meadow Breeze Park.

PASSIVE AREAS

R. Flint reported that he and his grandsons went to the Skylands Try The Trails day and he thought it was very well planned out and although he did not get to go to every trail, they did cover a lot of ground. They had maps made up for each Sussex, Hunterdon and Warren County which included both our Roaring Rock and Lake Marguerite Parks.

M. Kries asked R. Flint how the trees planted along the Riparian Buffer area are doing. R. Flint replied that they were doing as well as expected, and we only lost a few.

NEW BUSINESS

J. DeFranza and D. Detrick were asked recently about moving the batter boxes over to where the horseshoe courts are. Would it be possible to remove the concrete at the two end courts and put the batter boxes there in their place? What permits, if any, would be needed to do it and would we have to get permission from the DEP before continuing on with this project. J. Cooper said that because the courts fall within the wetlands area he was pretty sure that DEP approval will have to be given before anything gets removed or moved. He will check with the DEP about this.

N. Godfrey said that because they will be using the Parks and Recreation Bldg. on June 2 for the Primary Elections, we will have to change our meeting date for our June meeting. It was decided that the regular meeting of the Recreation Commission will be held on Thursday, June 4th at 7:30 p.m.

J. Miller wanted to report that someone came to him and complained that the dog poop containers in the park were filled and not be emptied as often as they should. J. Cooper said he would take care of it.

J. Miller wanted to say that as a coach he has the benefit of visiting many municipalities throughout Warren, Morris, Hunterdon and Somerset counties and our fields are phenomenal compared to the others. He wants the men who work every day at the park to know just how much their hard work is appreciated.

Having no further business to discuss a motion was made by W. Godfrey to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m., seconded by J. Miller. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Godfrey
WTRC Administrator

cc: P. deBoer - Acting Twp. Administrator
J. Cooper - DPW
D. Dempski - WTYA President
Township Committee