



Meeting Minutes - June 9th, 2021

In Attendance – Mayor Palmer, BA Michaelson, Rich O’Brien, Marylin Israel, Bob Hilse, John Lavelle, Angela Andre, Dan Hurley, Melissa Hallerman, Diane Spiegelhoff, Sal Masucci, Cindy Alongi, Donna Faulkenberry, Jim Curnal, Trish Lennan, Lorainne Schneider

Call to Order (Rich O’Brien) (Called to order at 7:01)

- Rich reviews prior month’s minutes (May).
 - Motion made by Rob, John seconded approval of last month’s minutes.

Completed Programs and Events

- Fishing Derby (Dan/Melissa)
 - Melissa says it had a great turnout, Dan was there also, 12 prizes were given out
 - Extra prizes were put in the shed
 - Cindy spoke to NJ State Fishing Wildlife; we can be put on a list for stocking for the day of the derby for next year.
 - Rich asks how we will proceed with future years, are we going to start it up at Spotswood again?
 - Mayor Palmer says we will flip flop between Spotswood and Helmetta
 - We had a DJ, pizza, and an ice cream truck

Status of Active Programs

- Running/Athletic Club (Bob)
 - First event has been completed
 - Bob is putting something new in for June to Independence day
 - It will last longer than the last event
 - 5K sponsor letters will be out next week if approved by the BA
 - Bob will send the letter to Diane, and then it will go out to the PD, FD, etc.
 - The race will be hybrid, and live.
 - 4 people are signed up so far, we haven't gotten the word out enough
- Rec NewsLetter (Melissa)
 - Wrapped up the first year
 - Off July & August
 - Quarterly next year- starting in September
 - Even though it is off this summer, not going to stop thinking about new ideas
 - Getting very good feedback
- Community Father’s Day (Melissa)
 - Getting orders in
 - It is not too late to donate
 - Next Friday we donate to the Ozanam shelter for the dads who are going through hard times



- Field of Flags (Donna)
 - Successful
 - 28 Flags were ordered
 - The Mayor ordered a flag
 - They started flying the day before Memorial Day Weekend
 - Took them down on the 15th
 - Pick up will be on Saturday June 19 from 9:30 to 10:30,
 - We raised over \$400 for Operation Chillout
 - Diane is working on getting the check
 - It will probably be a fundraiser that grows
 - We are storing the uncollected flags for next year, we will put them back up

Upcoming Programs and Events

- Basketball Camp/Summer Camps (Diane)
 - 41 signed up for the basketball camp so far
 - The other camps are new
 - We should anticipate growth
 - You get a discount for signing up for more than 1 camp/ for multiple weeks
 - Tennis program will be advertised after the paving is complete at the courts
- Multicultural Day (Marylin)
 - 14 participants, 14 Countries, 1 person in charge of 2 countries, lots of positions
 - People are saying it is going to be great
 - Reached out, asking to extend the event from 3-6 to 3-7 for the extra hour as a buffer hour
 - We need to now update communications
 - Donna says the flyer for the event hasn't gone out yet, she will get it to administration to get approved, then it will get sent out
 - Rich will reach out for extra assistance
 - Date will be Saturday July 17th from 3-7pm @ the Knights of Columbus
- Summer Concert Series (Melissa)
 - Cindy and Melissa reached out to Mayor Palmer and Mayor Slavicek
 - July 30th in the Helmetta Pavilion
 - The band is TBD
 - August 27th at the Spotswood Municipal Building
 - Carson Drive- Spotswood resident, 7-10PM
 - BYOS (bring your own seat & snack)
 - Ryan will work on a flyer and get it approved with the mayors
 - It is an easy set up for the band, not too much set up for the REC to have to do
 - Must confirm with the Mayors



- Promote it through grass routes, tell family and friends about it
- See how it turns out this year to determine if we will hold it again next summer
- Sal asks if the Rec can sell items like water to raise money for us
- We have an Ice cream truck so might be an issue
- Jackie Palmer introduces Spark in the Park
 - She expects it to be promoted through the Rec Dept
 - Parade will be July 3rd
 - 1st Mayor March, Mayor Palmer & Mayor Slavicek
 - From Immaculate Conception to Helmetta Municipal Building
 - Recommends being a part of it for promoting/advertising
 - Spark in the Park will include
 - Food Truck
 - DJ with music
 - Sangria/Beer
 - Fireworks at night
 - Next year it will be reversed, it will start at Helmetta and come to Immaculate in Spotswood
 - Link for registration is out
 - There is a flyer on Nixle asking for participants
 - Can we have the schools send it out? - no, because they are no longer doing email blasts
 - It is posted on the website
 - Donna asks if from a legal standpoint if there is alcohol present at this event, can we have it at a rec event? Need an outside vendor.
 - It's a risk, we would need insurance
 - Are we going to be responsible for watching for drunk driving, it might be a lawsuit. - No there will be police officers there

Unfinished Business

- Rutgers Certification (Rich)
 - It will happen early July (after the holiday)
 - It will be the same cost
 - In person class, 3 hours, haven't decided on a date yet
 - Rich asks if it can be held at the senior center, Donna says yes
- CPR/AED (Rich)
 - Ed Schapley says yes, he'll open to other departments in the borough
 - Throw 3 dates in late August, September, and early October to find a convenient date
 - Need authorization



- \$15-20 for the manual
- Borough might pay
- It has to work with administration
- Car Show (Rich)
 - Rich spoke to the vendor, Steve, he said he is opening back up
 - Maybe will have it at the high school, need to coordinate with the district
 - August 7th, Raindate is August 14th
 - No other community conflicts
 - You bring older cars to display with music playing
 - Is MJ doing their car show?
 - We don't know, we use different vendors anyway
 - We need a food piece
 - We need advertisement
 - Mayor Palmer Suggests the Drug Alliance for food
 - Is the Rec Dept going to vote? -yes and the car owners vote for a car (other than theirs)
 - Steve provides trophies
 - We only need Steve's crew, entertainment and food
 - Angela Motions
 - Dan and Jim Second and the event is approved without objection.
 - Our music system will be spotify
 - We need to ask Mr. Zaborney
 - Donna asks if we can have a beer truck
 - No alcohol on School property
 - We need to ask about the liquor rules
 - Have a discussion with emergency services
 - Marilyn asks if we are hosting an outdoor movie- probably not we have enough summer events, and have to see the rent vs buy prices
- Ryan introduces himself, says he is enjoying his time at Borough
 - He says it has been great working with Helmetta
 - Residents have expressed joy in their feedback
 - Over the weekend there has been concern by some residents about the Arts and Crafts camp
 - They are having a vaccination center at the school for kids
 - He asks if we can serve our residents who are looking for something for their kids aside from sports
 - He asks Diane, she says no
 - Dan asks about summer CARES- the schools aren't doing it



Spotswood Recreation Department

Reaching Every Citizen



- Cindy says the Arts and Crafts program is affordable, it's a playdate, and it gives parents a get-a-way from their kids
- We discussed it in April, when there was more uncertainty
- Diane has run it for many years
- We didn't know if we would have access to Appleby School
- We decided no, because we were uncomfortable running it the way it has been run in the past
- No one wanted to take it on
- We voted in April not to do it
- If we run it, we need to see what schools are available
- We would need someone to run it, counselors, supplies, crafts
- There is a lot of preparation needed to be done to hold it in July
- 4 week periods, would we do it in segments, or would it be a full time thing
- Is anyone willing to take it on? - Ryan is willing to help in any way he can, and some kids will be willing to help be counselors
- Old Bridge is doing it
- Who wants to coordinate it? - Melissa will do it with other people helping
- She suggests august
- It is hard to get school facilities in August
- Appleby is good because it is fenced in and has a playground
- Maybe the last 2 weeks of July / first 2 weeks in August?
- Donna suggests maybe cut it to 3 days instead of 5
- Rich asks what is administration looking for
- Donna agrees to help where she can
- Maybe July 20th
- Parents just want their kids out, and they want a break
- 9-11:45am
- Angela agrees to help on Mondays and Wednesdays
- Angela suggests afternoons, Mayor Palmer says mornings are better
- Melissa, Angela, Donna, Trish, Cindy, maybe Sal, agree to help out
- List of tasks that need to get done:
 - 1. Secure the venue- need to know which weeks
 - 2. Ordering supplies, and services- Diane will help order them if she can
 - 3. Find counselors- we can easily get people, Ms. Bruno will get out the working papers
- Ryan is appreciative
- Plan B if we can't get a school- go back to Mayor Palmer and Ryan
- Will they need to do a covid form/wear masks? - Rich will ask Mr. Peabody



Spotswood Recreation Department

Reaching Every Citizen



- Depending on the school rules, Helmetta Community Center might be better
- Guidance for Covid is everywhere
- Other option might be the Pavilion
- Cindy asks about the Number of kids to adults ratio
- Angela says Pavilion is not closed in
- There are a lot of logistics for ages 5-11
- Usually cut it at 80 kids per week
- Do we want to cut it to only 2 weeks? Let's see what we get.
- Mayor Palmer says we need to come together because our community only gets what we give out, we should do it even if it's for a short amount of time
- Mayor Palmer is expecting a list of activities for 2022 with the costs, in the August meeting, so there is time for it to be discussed and get approved
- Jim Motions
- Bob seconds
- All in Favor- Yes
- Ryan says it is great how the Rec department responded to COVID
- He says he will take a closer look at the communications
- The current policy is great, see what council says
- You can contact him at any time

New Business

- Flexibility and Fitness Cam (Rich)
 - Jeff Turner wants to partner with us to hold a camp for Flexibility and Fitness for grades 8-12 at the SHS Track
 - 3 weeks in July, 1 week in August
 - Monday-Friday 8-9:30am
 - 30 people max.
 - Might have to do 2 groups
 - \$100 per student
 - Helps to prepare them for their High School Season, and keeps them in good health
 - We help with advertising, and hosting the registration
 - Leverage for us to keep the track open
 - If we say yes, can we open the track later in the day/ close to night?
 - Do we want to support this camp? - Yes (negotiate the track)
 - Do we get a key to the track? -hopefully
 - Angela Motions
 - Bob seconds
 - All in Favor- yes



- Trish questions October 23rd Free Fishing day- should we do the fishing derby again?
 - Ryan says we need to look at the calendar
- Dan asks about Fall and winter sports, can we get Memorial to open back up for us in the fall? -
 - Jackie says she will reach out
- Melissa asks if we can purchase a nice Spotswood Rec tablecloth
 - We have a banner, we will look into one
 - Thick blue tablecloth with Rec symbol on it
 - Donna says she will check with the flag people
 - Rich says yes if it is the budget
 - Diane says it is probably in the budget
 - Conclusion of yes

Adjourn

- Bob Motions
- Cindy seconds it
- Meeting done at 8:29 P.M.

Next Meeting: August 11, 2021

Location: Municipal Courtroom 7pm