

**MINUTES OF THE  
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSION  
November 19, 2009**

**TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING**

The November meeting of the Cranbury Township Board of Recreation Commission was held in Town Hall on November 19, 2009 at 6:40pm.

**CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Beth Veghte, Chairwoman for the Township Recreation Commission, called the meeting to order and acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

**STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, adequate notice in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6) was provided on December 1, 2008, of this meeting's date, time and place, and the agenda was mailed to the news media, posted on the Township bulletin board, mailed to those requesting a personal notice, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Beth Veghte, Chairwoman; Ed Sekelsky, Gene Buckley, Mario Fiorentini, Jane Helstrom and Rose Siconolfi.

**NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Ken Jacobs, Recreation Director; Tim Brennan, Summer Camp Director.

**MINUTES**

The approval of October minutes was postponed until the December meeting.

**WORK SESSION**

Beth Introduced the new state law for Commission meeting attendance.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Recreation Budget – Ken spoke about the Recreation budget.

1. Summer camp is not covering its costs.
2. Recreation is paying for port-a-potties - \$2,000 per year. Can we take the \$2000 for the port-a-potties out of the Rec. budget and put into the Park's budget?
3. In 2007 summer camp nearly broke even when the Township didn't cut expenses. We also purchased soccer nets and field paint that year.
4. In 2008 township budget was cut and camp lost money.
5. In 2009 we were back billed for school use for 2007/2008 seasons.

We reorganized "Hoops" basketball this season so we wouldn't lose any money. Dawn did receive money from EW PAL for games played during the Mother's Day weekend.

Gene provided checks in the amount of \$2,700 to reconcile this year's Men's basketball usage. He also stated that the gym is being used by many LSTS teams, including a girl's team from Robbinsville. As a result, Cranbury basketball is limited to only one night.

We have to make sure that all programs cover their expenses.

An explanation was given about the small fees for Tai Chi. The Commission feels that we should ask June Counterman to adjust her pricing so we can break even. Maybe she can teach other programs? And, if she teaches the Tai Chi class, can she progress the instruction so students aren't going back to the beginning? Eventually we may have to cut this program if we can't break even.

Facilities Fees – The Commission will go to the Township Committee and the B.O.E to give the history of gym use for camp. Is the school board double charging us for summer use? We don't charge the school for use of the town fields; however, we are being charged for using the school for camp. Beth will call Joan Weidner and speak to her regarding this issue. Also, we have lost campers when we moved from the old gym to the new gym.

Tennis – we can charge per player per court.

Ken doesn't think we need to change the budget we have requested.

Summer Camp – Tim spoke about ways to save money.

1. Build-a-Bear does increase their costs, weekly camp fees should be increased depending on the cost of trips.
2. Drop in revenue gap – the camp in South Brunswick has a bus that picks up kids in the school parking lot at 8:00am and then drops them off at 6:00pm.
3. We do need to spruce up our camp to make it more inviting. Recreation hasn't changed the camp design in a few years.
4. Incoming preschool classes are smaller than previous years.
5. Salaries are our biggest expense.
6. We can have pricing incentives or raise fees overall. If you sign up by a certain date, you'll receive a big discount. This should hopefully get people signing up early and for more weeks.
7. Build budget for camp based on \$50,000?
8. One suggestion for Fridays is to do a mini triathlon for older camper - a 100 meter swim, a 2 mile bike from pool to school, and a 1 mile run. Chris Bright, Camp Sports Director, trained for triathlons.
9. Another suggestion is 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades could go to the park for lunch with frisbees, bats & balls, etc. Perhaps canoes could get into the lake and kids can do water sports. The boy scouts can lend us 18 canoes. Maybe we can find someone to lend us fishing poles, etc. A life guard would be needed.
10. Last year NJ Clean water, a non-profit group, came in every Friday and did water activities for the kids.
11. Two new trips could be Coco Keys, an indoor water park in South Jersey and Sports Zone in Monroe.
12. Can we rent a school bus from Cranbury school parking lot? Chris Bright has a bus driver's license.
13. Last year the middle school students built a Gil & Bert's house out of card board and the little kids painted it and played with it all summer long. Could expand on this idea by making other building in town (post office, school, police, etc.)

Beth suggested checking on Chapin for Art teachers for camp. Expenses would be art supplies, replacing James (board).

Dawn should add a line on the Camp registration forms asking if a camper is a member of the Cranbury Swim Club.

Tim's last day of school is June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Cranbury's last day is June 17<sup>th</sup>. Snow days have not been built into Cranbury's school year, so school could end later.

Dawn will let Tim know her ideas for updating Summer Camp.

The Library does have Wii tournaments three times during the summer. Dawn can contact Marilyn Mullen to see if this activity can include the campers.

Reschedule Little People program for 8:30am – 1:00pm.

Recreation Software Contract – the Commission voted not to pay the service contract invoices that were submitted by Jane Felder.

Tim's Summer Camp Director Contract – Postponed until the December meeting.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Gene suggested that we need to structure better time management during these Recreation meetings.

#### **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

There being no further business, Ed Sekelsky motioned the meeting be adjourned, and Jane Helstrom, Gene Buckley seconded it. The meeting was thereupon adjourned at 8:44 pm.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY**

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed Secretary of the Cranbury Township Board of Recreation Commission, and that this document, consisting of 3 pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on November 19, 2009.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009.

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Dawn Maisano, Secretary