

Borough of West Reading Recreation Commission

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

Members present: Colleen English, Roger Hinsey, Lori Hoffman, Heather Jagielski, Jennifer Sundermier

Members not present: Kristin Hawley, Nikki Frymoyer, Kris Singleton

Staff members present: Chris Boud, Recreation Director

Borough Council Members present: Denise Drobnick (chairperson)

Public Comment

No comment.

Present: Jack Gombach, Patrick Kaag, Nathalie Kulesa, Ed Kuhn, Ryan Lineaweaver, Karen Livingood, Sam Marrella, Adam Ressler

Motion to accept the minutes from the January meeting made by Roger Hinsey. Seconded by Lori Hoffman. Motion passed unanimously.

Guest Comments:

Ed Kuhn presented with Community Champion Award, from the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society (awarded March 19, 2020).

West Reading Summer Basketball League:

- Ed Kuhn (Director of West Reading Summer Basketball League; Exchange program with league in Sacramento, CA): 50th anniversary of basketball league. Want to celebrate the anniversary and put a picnic on Saturday, June 11
- Adam Ressler: Gathering/picnic for previous players, coaches, and others involved in the program. Hold the celebration in a tent near the West Reading basketball courts. Hoping for 200-300 people. Expect to have catering from local restaurant, beer truck, local WR businesses.
- Committee has spoken with Dean Murray, looking for direction
- Still determining parking situation
- Planned for 3 hours

Olivet Boys & Girls Club

- Jack Gombach: here as a member of the Board
- Request for 30 days of due diligence to put together a proposal and make a presentation
- Looking for opportunities to expand programs done in partnership with Wyomissing School District and more involvement in the West Reading Playground summer program
- Proposal: would take over the running of playground program.

- Karen Livingood (West Reading) Question: will it include bussing children from the City of Reading? Answer: No—this program is for children in the Wyomissing School District/West Reading, children also wouldn't be bussed out of the Borough (aside from potential use of summer camp facility).

Welcome New Member:

Welcomed Heather Jagielski as a new member of the West Reading Recreation Commission.

Event Leader Signups:

- Easter Egg Hunt (April 9)
- Family Fun Night (May 13)
- Disc Golf
- Fourth of July
- Movie in the Pool
- Doggie Swim
- Haunted House/Hayride (Oct. 14, 15, 22, 23)
- Candy Making (Nov. 16)
- Tree Lighting Ceremony (Dec 2)
- House Judging (Dec. 18)

Discussion of ideas to gain more volunteers, what the role of the "chair" is for each event.
Discussion of how much time commitment is for each event. Itemized lists for each event, including to-do items and time commitments.

Suggestion: add item on agenda for next month to discuss ideas about gathering more volunteers.

Suggestion: add to the agenda for next month to discuss amending the bylaws about membership.

Reminder to get clearances in time for Easter Egg Hunt.

Event Updates

- Easter Egg Hunt: still waiting to hear from Palmer about candy donation. Waiting for ability to purchase candy and Oriental Trading Supplies.
 - Deadline for registration: April 6
 - Age groups: discussion of adding age group up to 14 year old (hide eggs more); separate age groups and do them all at the same times.
 - Hold Easter Egg Hunt at Pavilion
- Family Fun Night: Friday, May 13, 6:30-9pm
 - Scottish Rite, free rental
 - Dance floor, separate room for games
 - 50s Sock Hop Theme (decorations)
 - DJ
 - Food: hamburgers, hot dogs, pop corn, etc.

- \$10 per person

Pool & Playground Update

- Playground: dates June 13 – August 5
- Discussion of field trips: should they be included this year? Berks Nature Center, free. Need bussing or shuttle services; consider COVID rules (masks & vaccines) both for the playground program and how to plan for field trips
- Lunches: provide lunch (for a fee) or pack their own? Suggest that it is a brown bag program, but keep some things on hand in case some children don't have lunch.
- Hiring pool and playground: everyone getting a \$1/hour raise.
 - Wyomissing \$17 (manager), \$15 (head lifeguard), \$12 (guards), playground: manager \$17, \$12 leaders, snack bar: \$17 (manager), \$12
 - West Reading: Manager \$13.25, \$11.25 head lifeguard, \$9.75 for guards; Playground: Manager: \$11.50, leaders: \$8.75, snack stand \$12 (manager), \$8.75 (workers)
- Certifications paid by lifeguards
- Concerns about staffing at the pool

Reading Fightin' Phils Tickets

- Link is live, people can order online
- Promote the Facebook page and social media.
- \$39 per book (6 tickets)

Discussion: where does money earned from candy sales in December 2021? Recreation Director Chris Boud and Chair Denise Drobnick will look further into this. Also question about \$600 donation for community bulletin board.

Motion to adjourn made by Jennifer Sundermier. Seconded by Roger Hinsey. Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting: March 1, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen English
Recreation Commission Secretary