

## **Borough of West Reading Recreation Commission**

Tuesday, July 5, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

Members present: Lori Hoffman (vice chair), Colleen English, Heather Jagielski, Kristin Hawley, Rafael Torres, Roger Hinsey, Jennifer Sundermier

Borough Council members present: Denise Drobnick (chair)

Members not present: Bethany Bower

### Public Comment

Terry: thanks to Recreation for the playground program, very happy with it. Has concerns about pool – rule enforcement, amount of days closed. Suggested: giving rules to guests, with no refund if rules broken, lifeguards having a “station”

- Response (Helen & Dean): manager job to check on people following rules on land but also have to test water and attend to pool; people don't follow the rules even when given. Looking at making some changes. Issue about closing: as staffing has not been a problem most recently, closing has been rarer. Have been staying open but sending some staff home. Inclement weather statement should be on the website (also trying to get word out more on social media).

Question about flexibility: how to enforce and keep rules firm if things are changing?

- Response: usually other members or residents usually bring problems to management; front desk workers sometimes are busy, can't always check everything.

**Motion to accept the minutes from the June meeting made by Heather Jagielski. Seconded by Rafael Torres. Motion passed unanimously (8-0).**

### Guests:

Rich Johnson, Pollen Consolidated: Concerts in the Park

- Justin Heinbecker (from Berks Arts), working together to get the concerts in the park running again
- Hoping to return the series this year
- Slow start on getting interest
- Working with Berks Arts as part of the bandshell series in Reading
- Requesting permission to make Concerts in the Park part of the Bandshell Series as a way to create more impact
- August 21 and September 11 (Sunday afternoons, 2-7pm)

**Motion to recommend approval of the dates for Concerts in the Park to borough council made by Heather Jagielski. Seconded by Roger Hinsey. Motion passed unanimously (8-0).**

Willie Williams and Paul Stevens, P.O.P.

- Idea for an event: Community 4 Community (distributed paper at meeting)
  - Uplift community – first of hopefully many events
  - Non-profit event
  - Located on the field by Pavilion
  - Stage, activities, music, speeches, dances, poetry and other fun activities
  - Creating a flash mob dance
  - Talent in West Reading to showcase talent (including up-and-coming artists), a way to help grow local talents and offer a community event.
  - Games, arts & crafting sessions, face painting
  - Proposed date: Friday, August 26
- Suggestions: involve local school district, connect with Pollen Consolidated and Berks Arts
- Date: conflict with Saturday, Reading Buccaneers.
- P.O.P: Place of Passions
  - Year-round, go to schools, community centers
  - A place to cultivate passion, grow
  - Help give students direction, more civic-minded
- Will work with Berks Arts, Pollen Consolidated to start at a smaller scale and go from there
- Organizing a small potluck event at Berkshire Village on July 16

#### Events:

Moving Meditation in the Park: Fridays at 7:30am, goes until August 12

WR Rides and Vibes Bike Ride

- Community bike ride
- Next: Saturday, July 9, 1pm, meet at Sly Fox
- Will happen rain or shine
- In the case of rain: only vibes (e.g., meet at Barley Mow)

4<sup>th</sup> of July

- Great event
- Will build more for next year

West Reading Night at the Reading Phils

- Tuesday, July 12. Free tickets at the pool and borough building

Moonlight swims

- July 15: Aqua Glow (no volunteers needed), proceeds will go to Recreation; Water Zumba at night
- July 29: Night swim (no volunteers needed)

National Night Out:

- Tuesday, August 2
  - Volunteers needed to help with activities

"Karaoke Battle"

- \$1 donation to vote
- Can have community members do karaoke, music playing between
- Food truck, beer truck
- Labor Day Weekend: Saturday, Sept. 3
- Could have an entry fee and some prizes for a competition
- Keep it relative

**Motion to hold the event on Saturday Sept. 3 at time TBA made by Roger Hinsey. Seconded by Jen Sundermeier. Motion passed unanimously (8-0).**

Brief general discussion about Recreation Director/committee.

**Motion to adjourn made by Roger Hinsey. Seconded by Rafael Torres. Motion passed unanimously (8-0).**

Next meeting: August 1, 2022 (Monday)

Respectfully submitted,  
Colleen English  
Recreation Commission Secretary