

Borough of West Reading Recreation Commission Meeting

Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

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

Borough Council Members Present: Denise Drobnick (Chair)

Members not present: Bethany Bower

Public Comment

Patrick Kaag: Update about disc golf. Chatty Monks will sell beverages, 3rd & Spruce will sell food. Event will take place from approximately 7:15am-4pm on Friday, November 25. No volunteers needed. It is being planned by a professional organizer. Recreation will make some money from the event and vendor fees.

Patrick Kaag: Update about mini-ramp pocket [skate] park. Currently exploring ways to save money. Currently working on contacting the Reading city engineer so that the park construction can be handled exclusively by West Reading Borough.

Present: Dean Murray, Patrick Kaag, Mike Eel

Motion to accept the minutes from the September meeting made by Jen Sabol. Seconded by Heather Jagielski. Motion carried (6-0).

Upcoming Events

Rides & Vibes on October 8, 1pm

- Previous events have been successful
- Last ride of the season, unless weather permits in November

Halloween Trunk or Treat Event, October 22, 12 – 3pm

- 10 trunks already committed
- Sign up sheet for volunteer jobs on day of—volunteers needed throughout the day
- Will be able to accept cash and Venmo at event
- Will sell food (hot dogs, hot chocolate, other simple snacks)
- Reach out to contacts at McDonalds, Wawa, Sheetz for prizes
- Prizes for costume contest: day pass for the pool, potentially other gift certificates
- Potential prize for best trunk

Pet Parade, November 5, 1 – 4pm

- Will also include Day of the Dead Celebration
- 3rd and Spruce providing entertainment, hosting in their parking lot, Animal Rescue League set up there

- Donation to ARL to memorialize a pet in Day of the Dead Celebration

Tree Lighting, December 2, 6pm

- Have information from Helen Moyer
- Emails sent to the schools, stage is secured
- Still need a DJ for the backdrop of music
- Santa & Mrs. Claus will be present
- Firetruck secured

House Decorating Contest

- Google Doc for residents to sign up to be in the contest
- Over weekend of Dec. 16, 17, 18
- Judges will look at specific houses on their own
- Submit rankings to Kristin Hawley for the final votes
- Change from previous years because of the danger/risk from traffic and darkness
- Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd places
- Have flyer/info out by first weekend in December to community

Recreation Budget Discussion

- Discussed process of setting budget and what happens to money brought in by Recreation Commission
- Pool likely to be a money loss
- Looking at ways to make the concession stand/pool more profitable
- Recreation, in general, should be self-sustaining, but is a grey area because it is typically a quality-of-life concern that is believed important by residents and borough
- Good events can be subsidized
- Discussion about making sure the commission is aware of the budget for each event
- Will discuss budgeting when we discuss future events

Recreation Director Search Update

- Final candidate, will hopefully be approved soon

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Jen Sabol. Seconded by Kristin Hawley. Motion carried (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen English
Recreation Commission Secretary