

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP
RECREATION COMMISSION
March 5, 2012**

A regular meeting of the Stillwater Township Recreation Commission (RC) was held at 7:30 pm at the Stillwater Municipal Building, Stillwater, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Commission Chairperson Tina Sugar with the statement read that this meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Statement. The flag was saluted and roll call taken.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Sugar, Mrs. Fritsch, Mr. DeLade, Mr. Fritsch, Mr. Nothstine, Ms. Gullette

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Also present, Committeeman Fisher

MINUTES: Mrs. Sugar made a **motion** to approve the February 6, 2012 minutes, Mr. Fritsch seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Sugar, yes, Mrs. Fritsch, yes, Mr. DeLade, yes, Mr. Fritsch, yes, Mr. Nothstine, yes, Ms. Gullette, yes

BILLS: none

CORRESPONDENCE: The Commission received a certificate from the Stillwater Emergency Rescue Squad thanking the Rec. Commission for all they do. The Commission also received a letter from Windsor Soil Company. It is a company which sells clay and top soil. The Commission purchases clay through state contractors, so they will not be using Windsor Soil.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget: The members had asked Mrs. Leonard to find out how much money was in the Recreation Trust Account. Mrs. Leonard asked Dana Mooney, the Town's CFO, and was told there is \$1466.47 in the account. The Commission had thought there should be approximately \$7000.00 left over from the 2011 budget. Mrs. Leonard had asked Mrs. Mooney if the funds had been transferred to the Trust Account at the end of the year. Due to accounting issues left from the previous CFO, Mrs. Mooney stated she would look into the matter and get back to the Commission. Mrs. Sugar asked if money for the Veterans Park bleacher purchase had come from the Rec. Trust Account. Mrs. Fritsch also wondered where the money for the purchase came from. Mr. Fisher stated that some of the money came from the trust, but not all. The members discussed the bleacher purchase further. Mr. DeLade wondered where the KMFL donation toward the bleacher purchase was deposited. Mrs. Leonard stated she would check with Mrs. Mooney.

Clean-Up Day: The Commission needed to decide how many organizations would be allowed to take part in Clean-Up Day. Mrs. Sugar suggested participation be limited to the first 10 organizations to register. Ms. Gullette stated that there should be sign-up sheets showing how many people are participating from each organization. Mrs. Leonard stated that the organizations do have sign-up sheets. The Commission decided that all members from participating organizations, that are cleaning that day, need to report to the Recycling Center the morning of clean up to sign in. Mrs. Fritsch asked how much money was in the Clean Communities Fund. Mr. Fisher stated there is about \$12, 500.00, but reminded the Commission that money from the fund is used to pay for Mr. Brannigan's assembly at Stillwater School. There was some discussion about the giveaways for the children and how they can be purchased from Home Depot using the Town's card. Mrs. Sugar stated that if participation is limited to 10 groups, the Commission will save money. Mrs. Fritsch stated that, as a Girl Scout participant, the purpose of the day isn't to make money. The purpose is to give back to the town and to help keep the town beautiful. She hopes that that is why organizations take part in Clean-Up Day and that the money is just a bonus. Mrs. Fritsch stated that if participation is limited to 10 groups the disbursement would be far less than in past years, even with necessary purchases for the day. She asked Mr. Fisher if keeping the total under \$5000.00 would be reasonable. Mr. Fisher stated that would be good. She also asked Mr. Fisher if any leftover money is rolled over to the next year. Mr. Fisher stated he wasn't sure and would look into it.

Mr. Fritsch made a motion to hold 2 Clean-Up Days, one in the spring and one in the fall, with 10 participants each, **Mr. Nothstine** seconded.

Mrs. Fritsch pointed out that in the past there have been approximately 30 groups that take part in the day. She explained about how the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts are now given disbursements for each troop and/or den. Following further discussion about participating groups, Mr. Fritsch rescinded his motion. Mrs. Sugar asked Mr. Fisher what the disbursement amount would be per group. Mr. Fisher stated he wanted to keep the \$200.00 amount from last year. There was further discussion concerning the amount of disbursement. Mr. DeLade stated he thought the Commission should stick with the \$200.00 amount from last year.

Mrs. Sugar made a **motion** to limit Clean-Up Day to 30 organizations at a disbursement amount of \$200.00 per group, **Mr. Fritsch** seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Sugar, yes, Mrs. Fritsch, yes, Mr. DeLade, yes, Mr. Fritsch, yes, Mr. Nothstine, yes, Ms. Gulette, yes

The Commission then decided to set the rain date for Sunday, April 29th. Mr. DeLade will check with Brian Hendershot from DPW about gloves and trash bags. Mrs. Fritsch will check with Lisa Chamings about seeds for the giveaways. Ms. Gulette will help with the giveaways.

Bus Trip Ideas: It was decided to table bus trip discussions for now.

Stillwater Day: Mr. Fritsch suggested holding Stillwater Day at the YMCA camp. He suggested having them do the cooking also. He thought this would lower the cost of food for the day. He stated the day should not be about making money. Mr. Nothstine thought the Commission was looking into other places to hold the day. He also thought area organizations provided the food for sale. Mr. Fisher stated that when Stillwater Day was held at the firehouse there had been a beer tent. He stated it had been suggested that the event be held at Veterans Park so there could be a beer tent and that area organizations would sell food. Mr. DeLade asked if it was alright to have a beer tent at the field. Mr. Fisher stated it was. Mrs. Sugar stated she would call the Health Department to see if holding the day at Veterans Park is alright and what would be required. Mrs. Fritsch stated that organizations/vendors that come usually have a food handler's license. Mrs. Sugar stated that only one member of the organization would need to have the license. Mrs. Fritsch asked if there was a Chairperson for Stillwater Day. Ms. Gulette stated she would be Chairperson. Mr. Fritsch stated that he would help with entertainment.

Open Public Session: **Mrs. Sugar** made a **motion** to open the meeting to the public at 8:14, **Mr. DeLade** seconded.

David Vough and **Mark Szuszkowski** from Kittatinny Travel Baseball wanted to discuss converting the baseball field at Veterans Park to a combination field. The baseball field is currently configured as a 46/60 field. Little League requires a 50/70 field, with a 50 foot pitcher's mound and a 70 fence. The only 50/70 field in all of Sussex County is located in Lafayette. They stated that as the children get older they need bigger fields. They proposed turning the baseball field at Veterans into a combination 46/60 and 50/70 field. This is a good transition for the kids after 46/60 fields before they play on 60/90 fields like at Stillwater Park. In the fall Mr. Vough had a team for a 50/70 field and had to use a North Warren Little League field. He would much rather be able to play in Stillwater. Mr. Nothstine asked how it would work. They stated the whole infield would be pushed back 4 feet, with a permanent pitcher's mound at 50 feet and a staked down rubber for the 46 foot. As for the bases, there would be two sets of base footings in the ground and it would be converted back and forth. They stated they are willing to do all the work themselves. Mr. Fritsch stated that to be a Little League field it has to have a grass infield. Mr. Vough stated it can be a "skin", all clay, infield. He stated they considered using Stillwater Park but the outfield fence there is beyond 300 feet and for a Little League field it has to be at least 200 feet and less than 300 feet. He has spoken to Eric Powell, the president of SFL, and they have considered doing this as well. There will be 50/70 teams starting up this year, and next year there will be a full 50/70 division. He again stated they are willing to do all the work if given the okay from the Rec. Commission. Mrs. Sugar asked who is going to pay for the clay. Mr. Vough stated they are asking for help paying for the clay, but if the Commission can't do it, they will pay for the clay themselves. Mr. Nothstine asked how much clay they will need. Mr. Vough stated he really didn't know. Mr. Fritsch asked how they would maintain the field. Mr. Vough stated he is a firm believer in "you get what you pay for". He says Veterans has some of the best clay around. He stated there are conditioners, including one made from corn cobs, that can be added to the clay that help keep it from drying out. Mr. Fritsch stated that he used to have a skid with bolts on the bottom that would be dragged around the field to help make the clay softer. Mr. Vough agreed that that works. Mrs. Sugar stated she thinks it's a great idea. Mr. DeLade asked if they have worked it all out with Little

League. Mr. Vough stated they have. Mrs. Fritsch asked Mr. Fisher if a change like this would need to go through zoning. Mr. DeLade wondered if the Commission would need township approval. Mr. Fisher stated he would bring it before the Committee at their meeting tomorrow night. Mrs. Sugar and Mrs. Fritsch stated the Commission is in agreement to have this done, but don't know what if any help can be given with regards to clay. Mr. Vough stated if given permission they will have the field ready to go before April 1, 2012. Mr. DeLade stated he just wants to be sure this will not be an issue with Little League.

Mrs. Sugar made a **motion** to have Kittatinny Travel Baseball turn the field at Veterans Park into a combination 46/60, 50/70 field with the condition that SFLL approves also, and Travel understands that the Commission may not be able to help with the purchase of clay, **Mr. Fritsch** seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Sugar, yes, Mrs. Fritsch, yes, Mr. DeLade, yes, Mr. Fritsch, yes, Mr. Nothstine, yes, Ms. Gullette, yes

There being no further business, **Mrs. Sugar** made a motion to close OPS at 8:38 pm, **Ms. Gullette** seconded.

NEW BUSINESS

Field Use Forms: The Commission received two field use forms: Kittatinny Travel Baseball and Kittatinny Youth Lacrosse.

Kittatinny Travel Baseball is requesting use of Veterans Field from March 1, 2012 to November 1, 2012 on Tuesdays after 3:00 pm, Saturdays after 1:00 pm and all day on Sundays.

Mrs. Sugar made a **motion** to approve the request pending new insurance and a schedule, **Mrs. Fritsch** seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Sugar, yes, Mrs. Fritsch, yes, Mr. DeLade, yes, Mr. Fritsch, yes, Mr. Nothstine, yes, Ms. Gullette, yes

Kittatinny Youth Lacrosse is requesting use of Veterans Field from March 19, 2012 to June 23, 2012 for practice and games Monday through Friday from 5:45pm to 8:00 pm and Saturdays from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Mrs. Sugar made a **motion** to approve the request, **Mrs. Fritsch** seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Sugar, yes, Mrs. Fritsch, yes, Mr. DeLade, yes, Mr. Fritsch, yes, Mr. Nothstine, yes, Ms. Gullette, yes

Donated Property: Mrs. Sugar asked Mr. Fisher to inform the Commission about the current situation concerning the permits for the donated property. Mr. Fisher stated that because the walking trail has been eliminated from the plans no further permits are needed. The Commission can proceed with any plans for the property, including a possible multi-purpose field. Mr. Fritsch stated that the field needs to be given a name. Mrs. Sugar stated work on the field should progress one step at a time. She stated the Commission should get the field up and working and then hold a dedication. It was decided that another meeting would be needed to make plans for the property.

Reports: **Mrs. Sugar** gave a report about the Stillwater Park concession stand. She went to Garden State Labs and picked up the necessary water bottles for the water testing. She has spoken to Jeanette Campbell from SFLL. Due to the fact that Mrs. Campbell is best acquainted with the use of the concession stand, she will be filling out the application for the Board of Health. She will also collect the water samples which Mrs. Sugar will then deliver to the lab.

Mr. Nothstine gave a report about a possible playground at Veterans Park. He stated that a decision needs to be made as to whether it will be a playground for 2-5 year olds or 5-12 year olds. It would also need to be decided where to put the playground. He would like to meet with area residents to see what the community wants. A budget would also need to be decided. Mr. Fisher stated that the Town Committee had voted down the Land Conservancy for this year totaling approximately \$11,500. This money could be used to maintain current parks. He stated the Commission should make up a proposal to present to the Town Committee. Mr. Fritsch stated he thinks it's a great idea to get the community involved. Mr. Fisher asked if a basic playground is purchased, if it could then be added on to in the future. Mr. Nothstine stated it could. He stated there is a lot of interest in the community for a playground and will begin speaking to residents.

Committee Member Comments: none

Liaison Report: Mr. Fisher stated he had already informed the Commission about the Open Space money. He also brought up the issue of Curb Your Dog signs at the Town Committee meeting. The attorney is looking into the ordinance because it isn't perfectly clear. They will then look into the DPW getting some signs made up. Mr. Fritsch suggested the signs be worded to say to "Please clean up after your dog because children play here" followed by the ordinance number.

Open Public Session: Mrs. Sugar made a **motion** to open the second OPS at 8:59, Mrs. Fritsch seconded.

There being no business, Mrs. Sugar made a **motion** to close OPS at 8:59, Mrs. Fritsch seconded.

Executive Session: none

There being no further business, Mrs. Sugar made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm, seconded by Mrs. Fritsch. In a voice vote, all were in favor. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 2, 2012 at the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Leonard, Secretary

Tina Sugar, Chairperson