

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP  
RECREATION COMMISSION  
May 2, 2011**

A regular meeting of the Stillwater Township Recreation Commission (RC) was held at 7:00 pm at the Stillwater Municipal Building, Stillwater, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Commission Chairperson Lisa Chammings 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:** Ms. Chammings, Mr. Chammings, Mrs. Fritsch

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mrs. Murch, Mr. Kately, Mrs. Sugar, Mrs. Franco

Also present, Committeeman Fisher

**MINUTES**

The April 4<sup>th</sup> minutes could not be approved because a quorum was not present.

**BILLS:** The Commission received purchase orders for bills that had been approved in February: New Image Landscaping for \$688.75 and the NJ Herald for \$14.50 and \$12.40. Ms. Chammings signed these po's. There were Lovenberg bills totaling \$641.67. Due to the fact that a quorum was not present, these bills were tabled until the next meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mrs. Leonard read an email from Laser One inviting area sports organizations to attend at special rates. This email had been forwarded to area organizations.

One quote has been received for the roof of the concession stand at Stillwater Park. Two more quotes are needed.

Ms. Chammings asked if any emails were received by Rec. Commission members. Mrs. Fritsch stated she had from Mrs. Sugar and Mrs. Franco stating they would not be present at tonight's meeting. Ms. Chammings and Mrs. Leonard stated they hadn't received any. Ms. Chammings stated she had heard from Mr. Kately explaining his absence.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Bus Trip Update:** Discussion of the bus trip was tabled due to Mrs. Murch's absence. Ms. Chammings stated concerns about not being able to organize the trip by the proposed date.

**Parks Maintenance/Upgrades Update:** Ms. Chammings stated Veterans Field has finally been seeded and fertilized. She stated this was done by lacrosse members. She will be getting the names of those involved and thank you notes will be sent. KMFL purchased the seed and fertilizer. A thank you note will be sent to them as well.

There could not be a vote on the bleacher purchase do to the lack of a quorum. Mrs. Fritsch gave an update from football. Football has approved a donation of up to \$1800.00 to go toward the purchase of bleachers. Ms. Chammings asked to have KMFL send a written communication stating their decision. Mrs. Fritsch stated she would have them do so.

The Rec. Commission is waiting for budget approval before discussing the purchase of clay. Ms. Chammings stated that Fredon had spent approximately \$3000.00 last year on clay and didn't need to do so this year.

The Stillwater Park concession stand passed the water test. Ms. Chamblings ran the water for 5 to 6 hours and took a sample to the lab in Sparta. The report came back that the water passed.

**Stillwater Festival Update:** Miss Stillwater Update: Lauren Kuefner has one confirmed judge. The Commission will need to have a special meeting to confirm the amounts of the prizes. Mr. Kately has agreed to be a judge, but there may be a conflict of interest due to the fact that the Commission sponsors the event. Use of Stillwater School for the event has been approved.

There was discussion about the current date for the Stillwater Festival. The Rec. League is holding a Beefsteak dinner on June 4. Due to this, and the short amount of time remaining, it is discussed that the date should possibly be changed. Mr. Gross and Mrs. Wunder had voiced to Mrs. Leonard that they thought the September Festival with the Historical Society was a great day last year. Ms. Chamblings states that she doesn't see how it could be held on June 4.

**Clean-Up Day Update (Wrap Up):** Ms. Chamblings thanked Anita Straway, Tim Fisher, Bill Steckowich, Mrs. Fritsch and Mrs. Leonard for all their efforts. Mrs. Straway referred to Mr. Steckowich as “the energizer bunny”. Mrs. Chamblings thanked Mr. Fisher for handling a situation with a speeding truck at the recycling center. Ms. Chamblings stated that she thought the spot where the Commission was set up was a good spot. Mr. Chamblings agreed. Ms. Chamblings stated that Mr. Steckowich and his “crew of three” were just unbelievable. The Commission will be sending thank you's to the Stillwater Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Straway made a suggestion of having packets prepared for the participants ready to be picked up at check-in containing their gloves and bags. Mrs. Leonard stated she had the same idea. Mrs. Straway also stated she thought the seeds and seed planting was the best giveaways in the history of Clean-Up Day. Mrs. Fritsch gave Mrs. Leonard a business card for North Warren Farm & Home Supply, the local business that supplied the seeds. Ms. Chamblings also purchased some of the clay pots for planting from them at cost. The Commission will be sending them a thank you. Additional pots were also purchased from Home Depot. Ms. Straway stated it was money well spent. Ms. Chamblings stated approximately \$139.00 was spent on water and granola bars. Eight cases of water and several boxes of granola bars remain. Mrs. Franco had purchased the snacks. With the \$100.00 donation from the Kane family, the cost to the Rec. Commission was minimal. The Rec. Commission will be sending the Kanes a thank you note. Ms. Chamblings stated that maybe next year jugs of water and cups would be a better alternative to bottled water. Mr. Chamblings had offered to match the \$100.00 donation. Ms. Chamblings stated she spent about \$58.00 at Home Depot. Mrs. Leonard stated that next year the Commission would need to have more gloves available. Mrs. Fritsch stated she believed it was a good day. Ms. Chamblings stated she would be getting a tally from the DPW of the garbage collected. She stated she still had two trucks full of garbage collected. Mr. Chamblings stated it was good that the garbage was in her truck and not left due to the bears. The Commission is waiting to hear what the cost was for the tires collected.

**Spring Newsletter Update:** This will be discussed during the Liaison report.

**Garage Sale Update:** Mrs. Leonard presented the application from last year's sale. It was discussed and decided to remove the offer of Veterans Park for vendors. Applications will be accepted until July 8. Maps will be available at the Town Hall during normal business hours starting July 13. Maps will be sold from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Town Hall. Mrs. Fritsch stated she would be available to sell the maps.

**Summer Rec. Program Update:** Ms. Chamblings called Blanca Chevrest from Swartswood State Park. She hasn't heard back from her yet. The weeks for the programs were decided to be August 15 to 19 and August 22 to 26.

**Open Public Session:** Ms. Chamblings made a **motion** to open the meeting to the public at 7:46, Mrs. Fritsch seconded.

Dave Manser of New Image Landscaping wanted to discuss the placement of the flag pole at Veterans Field. He invited the Rec. Commission and the Town Committee to join him at the field to make a decision. Ms. Chamblings suggested placing the pole down the left field line of the softball field. Mr. Manser suggested where the driveway curves to the left. He would build a base like the one at the entrance to the field with steps up to the pole. The pole was donated by Sue Knutsen. Ms. Chamblings stated he should submit a drawing to the zoning officer for approval. She asked if the pole would need a 36 inch hole. Mr. Manser stated it would be a 30 inch hole with a sleeve. Mrs. Straway asked if the flag would be raised and lowered or left. Mr. Manser stated it would be raised and lowered. The different sports organizations would each have their own flag. Mr. Chamblings asked how tall the pole is. Mr. Manser stated about 20 feet. He was thinking the base for the flag would be more square than round. Ms. Chamblings stated she thinks the area where the path curves is a nice spot, but that they will need to look at drainage. Mrs. Fritsch stated she is at the field on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6 to 8. Ms. Chamblings suggested they meet at the field on May 5 at 6:30. Mrs. Fritsch stated she thinks the spot mentioned for the pole is a good spot. Ms. Chamblings, Mr. Chamblings and Mr. Fisher will try to meet with Mr. Manser on May 5. Ms. Chamblings thanked Mr. Manser for being so patient waiting for payment for his work at Volunteer Field.

Bill Steckowich, 907 Hardwick Road, stated that Ms. Chamblings may want to pour ammonia in the bags of trash she has in her truck. He stated this would stop bears from getting into it. He also expressed his concern about the amount of members showing up for the Rec. Commission meeting. He asked if it would be possible to have alternates. He stated its a waste to not have enough members at the meetings. Ms. Chamblings stated that other Commissions have alternates due to the fact that attorneys are present. Mr. Steckowich stated he asked the Town Committee and was told alternates weren't possible. Mr. Fisher stated the Rec. Commission would have to be changed from a commission to a department. There would have to be changes made to the whole structure. Mr. Steckowich asked if this would be difficult or impossible. Mr. Fisher stated it wouldn't be impossible, but would be a big change. Mrs. Straway stated they could look into what would be involved. Ms. Chamblings stated it should be looked into because it is a suggestion from the public, and the public wants the Commission to work properly.

There being no further discussion, **Ms. Chamblings** made a motion to close OPS at 8:00, **Mrs. Fritsch** seconded.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Field Use Forms:** Morris County Soccer submitted a field use form for Volunteer Field from June 1 – July 30 excluding June 1, 8, and 15. This form couldn't be voted on due to lack of a quorum.

**Donated Property:** Ms. Chamblings asked Mr. Fisher about the letter the Town Committee was to send the Commission about the donated property. Mr. Fisher stated the Town Committee was waiting for the soil conservation results. He stated they were waiting to hear from the engineer about extending the DEP permit. He stated he would let the Commission know when they know.

**4H Ring Proposal:** Mr. Chamblings stated that the 4H Club would like to put in a 60' x 80' practice ring at the end of the existing ring. It would be located 100' away from the existing ring. It wouldn't be taking away from or adding to anything. There would be no cost to the township. The 4H Club, with Mr. Chamblings' help, would do the work. Mr. Chamblings had a sketch. Ms. Chamblings asked if it would be on Chamblings property. Mr. Chamblings stated no, it would be on donated property. Ms. Chamblings stated the 2.9333 acres of Block 3401 Lot 14 merged with Block 3401 Lot 11, where the old landfill is. Mr. Chamblings stated he would put up fencing. Mrs. Fritsch asked when this would be happening. Mr. Chamblings stated next month. Ms. Chamblings suggested staking out the area and having the Rec. Commission members go look at it. The original request was located too close to the recycling center. Ms. Chamblings stated the Commission needs to listen to the plans and approve them. Ms. Chamblings stated a wooden fence would need to be approved by zoning. She stated she would submit a copy of the plans to zoning. Mr. Fisher asked that it also be brought before the Town Committee. Ms. Chamblings stated she would send a copy of the plans to the Rec. Commission members, Mr. Fisher and Arlene Fisher (zoning). Ms. Chamblings stated the 4H Club has taken very good care of the ring for more than 40 years. Mr. Chamblings stated the insurance company recommended having a practice ring.

**Reports:** Ms. Chamblings stated she spoke to Brian Hendershot from DPW regarding the memo she sent about Stillwater Park. They spoke about several things including the concession stand roof and the sycamore tree. The tree is leaning over the wires. JCP&L need to come look at it. Also, some wire fencing is coming up at the tennis court, and they spoke about the bleachers that need to be removed. The park was reinspected by the insurance company the previous Friday. It was found to be fine as long as an effort is being made to make changes. The bleachers can remain as is, the insurance company is just making recommendations. A day will try to be found soon when the bleachers can be moved to the DPW and cut down. Ms. Chamblings found the well casing to have a crack in it. She sent a report about the small crack where the electric wires are exposed. It will be examined to see what needs to be done. The tree at Veterans Field that was leaning has been removed. A small "critter" has been getting into the garbage cans at Veterans Field. DPW will be making an attempt to empty the cans more often. Mrs. Straway stated the cans are going to be labeled for different things. Ms. Chamblings stated she could label the cans herself. Mrs. Straway stated she thought there were stencils available. Ms. Chamblings stated the playground mulch looks fine and will try to spread the remainder of it. She also stated that Volunteer Field is looking good thanks to Dave Manser.

**Executive Session:** none

**Liaison Report:** Mr. Fisher stated he thought a calendar might be a better idea than the spring newsletter. He stated Clean Community money could be used for it. Ms. Chammings asked if he knew the approximate cost. Mr. Fisher stated he would try to find out for the next meeting. Ms. Chammings stated the Commission would hold on the newsletter until other options could be discussed. She stated she has looked into the cost of a changeable letter sign for the front of the Town Hall that would fit where the existing bulletin board is. She stated it wouldn't be very expensive at approximately \$300-\$1000. She thinks it would be a better idea than the newsletter. She would like to bring the idea before the Town Committee. Mrs. Fritsch thought it was a good idea. Mrs. Fritsch also stated the area organizations contact info could be added to the town's website. Ms. Chammings stated she would like the town's website to have more pages with tabs. She thinks the town would be better served with a new sign and improvements to the website. Mrs. Fritsch stated events could also be listed in the school newsletter and church bulletins. Ms. Chammings stated this could save the town the money budgeted for the newsletter.

**Open Public Session:** The second OPS was opened at 8:29. There being no business, the session was closed at 8:29.

**Committee Member Comments:** Ms. Chammings thanked the member of the Rec. Commission who were present for tonight's meeting and stated her frustration at not having more members present. She also thanked Mrs. Fritsch for her help with Clean-Up Day.

There being no further business, **Ms. Chammings** made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm, seconded by **Mr. Chammings**. In a voice vote, all were in favor. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 6, 2011 at the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

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Tammy Leonard, Secretary

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Lisa Chammings, Chairperson