

Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – January 7, 2019

Chairperson Brian Sulewski called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Notice Statement – The Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied by notification to the Hunterdon County Democrat and Trenton Times and by posting with the Township Clerk and on the Delaware Township bulletin board on December 15, 2018.

Flag Salute – Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Judy Allen, Tim Drew, Aiden Ricci, Julie Luster-Roell, Toby Ruttenberg, Steve Smotrich, Tim Soltis, Brian Sulewski

Approval of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary

Members unanimously agreed to select Brian Sulewski to serve as Chairperson, Steve Smotrich as Vice Chairperson, and Judy Allen to serve as Secretary in 2019.

2019 Membership

Members agreed to recommend Julie Luster-Roell to serve as a Regular Member instead of Alternate Member, Joe Vocke to serve as an Alternate member, and Kristin Devlin to serve as DTS BOE Alternate Liaison.

ANNUAL NOTICE

Members reviewed the following 2019 Annual Notice Resolution.

DELAWARE TOWNSHIP RECREATION COMMISSION
ANNUAL NOTICE RESOLUTION #2019-01

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act (Ch. 231 P.L. 1975) provides for the giving of annual notice by public bodies of the time and location of the regular meetings of such public body to be held during the succeeding year; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act (Ch. 231 P.L. 1975) hereinafter referred to as the Act, authorizes a public body to make certain other determinations and take certain other actions in conformance therewith.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Recreation Commission of the Township of Delaware, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Regular meetings of this Commission shall be held during the 2019 calendar year at 7:30 p.m. at the Delaware Township Municipal Building, 570 Rosemont Ringoes Rd., (Cty. Rt. 604), Sergeantsville, New Jersey 08557 on the first Monday of each month except the September 2, 2019 meeting will be held on Monday, September 9, 2019, and the December 2, 2019 meeting will be held on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. followed by a car tour of houses registered for the Holiday Decorating Contest for final judging. In the event of inclement weather forecast for December 16th, that meeting will take place instead on Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

2. The following newspapers are hereby designated as the newspapers to receive any and all notice required or permitted to be given under the Act including but not limited to Annual Notice and 48 Hour Notice:

- a. The Hunterdon County Democrat which is the official newspaper of the public body; and
- b. The Trenton Times and the Courier News which are hereby determined to be the other newspapers that will have the greatest likelihood of informing the public within the area of jurisdiction of its meetings.

3. Copies of the Resolution, any revisions or modifications thereof, certified to be true copies by the Secretary of this Board, shall be disseminated and distributed as required by the Act, as follows:

- a. Posted and maintained throughout the 2019 calendar year on the bulletin board at the Delaware Township Municipal Building;
- b. Mailed or hand delivered to the above listed newspapers;
- c. Filed with the Clerk of this municipality; and
- d. Mailed to such other person as may be entitled thereto under the terms of the Act and this Resolution.

4. Pursuant to Section 14 of this Act, the Clerk of this municipality is thereby authorized and directed to mail such notice as may be required and authorized under the Act to any person requesting the same provided that person has first complied with the following terms and conditions:

- a. Any and all requests for notice under the Act shall be made in writing either by letter or by signing a request list to be maintained in the office of the Clerk;
- b. Any person requesting such notice other than the news media which is expressly excluded from payment of any fee thereunder, shall pay to the Township of Delaware a fee of \$3.00 which said sum is hereby determined to be a reasonable sum, the amount of which is calculated solely to reimburse this Township for the costs incurred in providing the said notice; including but not limited to printing, photocopying costs, clerical time, and postage.

ATTEST:

Brian Sulewski, Chairperson
January 7, 2019

Judith A. Allen,
Recreation Commission Secretary

January 7, 2019

Tim Drew moved to approve the 2019 Annual Notice Resolution, Steve Smotrich seconded the motion, and members unanimously approved the Resolution.

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of December 17, 2018 – Tim Drew moved, Julie Luster-Roell seconded, and members present approved the minutes as written from the meeting of December 17, 2018 with abstentions by Aiden Ricci and Toby Ruttenberg.

REPORTS:

Teens – Toby Ruttenberg discussed an idea for a teen basketball tournament to be sponsored by the Commission. It would be held at Delaware Township School and include youth from 15 through 18 years old with an estimated 20 participants. It could be a Delaware Township “March Madness” activity. He thought there could be volunteer referees. Members discussed possible dates, and it was agreed that a Saturday late morning or afternoon would be a good time. It could be a half-court competition or use both the gym and cafeteria. Tim said the last DTAA basketball date is March 14. Toby will coordinate a date with Tim. Julie explained the DTS Use of Facilities and offered to assist with it. Once the date is finalized, insurance will be arranged. Members supported this idea. This discussion will continue at the February meeting.

DTS BOE – Linda Ubry is the DTS BOE Liaison, and Kristen Devlin is the Alternate Liaison.

DTAA

Tim reported that the basketball program is in full swing. There will be baseball and softball clinics in February. Those registrations will begin soon. DTAA will hold a fundraiser on March 30th.

OPEN SPACE – Steve Smotrich said there will be interviews next week for the position of Open Space Coordinator.

APPROVAL OF DILTS FARM PARK APPLICATIONS – There were no applications.

COMMITTEES:

Egg Hunt – Members agreed the Egg Hunt will be held on April 20th at the Dilts Farm Park at 1 p.m. Julie said she will order the candy, and the Girl Scouts kindly agreed to stuff the eggs again this year. Julie will buy the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes for each age group. She said the event will be advertised. She thought the Commission should include an advertising line in its budget request for flyers and posters to supplement Facebook posts and Township website announcements.

Yard Sale – Judy said there is a lot of demand for a rain date for the annual Yard Sale. It has always been a rain or shine event. The problem is getting the word out at the last minute changing from Saturday to Sunday. She thought the event should be held on a regular weekend in May each year. Changing to a list of participating sellers and posted in advance on the Township website made pre-planning shopping easier.

Great Crate Race – July 4, 2019 - Julie asked whether it would be possible to hold an early spring event to give prospective registrants an opportunity to test their crates. It could include a crate swap along with a trial run.

Summer Recreation Program – Dates TBD

Mini-Golf – Dates TBD

Community Block Party – October 5, 2019 - Julie suggested a small “Battle of the Bands” this year.

Holiday Decorating Contest – December 16, 2019 – Final Judging (December 15 if weather conditions on December 16 warrant.)

RECREATION COMMISSION DISCUSSION

Tim Soltis thought the Recreation Commission should be reformulated to the Parks and Recreation Commission in light of the Commission’s oversight of recreational facilities, not just events.

2019 RECREATION COMMISSION BUDGET

Julie offered to email Joe Vocke and Charles Herman about the Commission’s 2019 budget. The amount allocated should be what the Commission should have received in 2018 but did not. Members discussed whether to include a fireworks allocation in the budget request. Part of the budget includes the Summer Recreation Program. Members discussed the STEAM program that was held last summer following the Summer Recreation morning program. There were issues, and funding is a question. After discussion, Tim moved not to sponsor the STEAM program as a Recreation Commission activity in 2019 based on insufficient resources to support a combined Recreation and STEAM program. The Summer Recreation Program will be run as it was in 2017. Julie seconded the motion, and members present unanimously approved the motion. Members agreed a STEAM program could be run independently of the Recreation Commission with separate registrations, employees, fees and insurance.

OLD BUSINESS

Dilts Park – The Park is closed for the season. Members agreed to revisit this policy in January. Judy thought the tree stumps at the main Park entrance should be ground out. They are within the road right-of-way and closely border the driveway entrance. There are currently orange traffic cones on the stumps. Julie said she will add this to her email to Joe and Charlie.

Seasonal Ice Rink – Steve reported that the new ice rink liner arrived, and it will be installed at the School at the appropriate time. Tim asked whether it could be placed at the Village Green. Steve said grading would be needed.

TOWNSHIP WEBSITE DOMAIN

Tim said the Township’s website domain will soon expire. This matter needs to be addressed by the Township Committee as soon as possible. Julie will include this information in her email.

JANUARY 26, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING – 9:00 A.M.

Steve and Julie will handle the 8:30 a.m. breakfast items. Julie will ask Tracy Wright to design a flyer. Members will present current recreational facilities and other municipally owned lands. Current activities will be presented. Input will be requested on where to focus facilities – whether at the Dilts Park or on other Township properties as well. Suggestions for additional events will also be requested. A survey will ask residents how in theory they would spend \$100 on recreation with several options listed.

2019 BUDGET DISCUSSION CONTINUED

After discussion members agreed to submit the Commission’s 2019 budget request to mirror the requested 2018 request plus two percent for the budget cap and with the addition of an advertising line and more money for teen activities. Julie will include this request in her email.

NEW EVENTS

Julie thought the Commission should reach out to the Township’s senior citizens for suggestions about activities.

THANK YOUS

Members signed a “thank you” letter to members of the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company for their assistance at the Block Party. They agreed to ask the Township Committee to approve a resolution honoring Tracy Wright and thanking her for her many years of service on the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Next Meeting – Monday, February 4, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.