

Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – January 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Flag Salute – Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Judy Allen, Chad Bower, Erin Buchanan, Johnny Cane, Steve Smotrich, Tim Soltis, Jes Stahl, Brian Sulewski, Linda Ubry, Sarah Waverka

Notice Requirement

Notice of this meeting was properly provided.

Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary

Members approved Jes Stahl as Chairperson, Steve Smotrich as Vice Chairperson, and Judy Allen as Secretary.

Annual Notice Resolution

Members approved the following meeting dates for 2024 as follows:

DELAWARE TOWNSHIP RECREATION COMMISSION
ANNUAL NOTICE RESOLUTION #2024-01

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 as follows during the 2024 calendar year at 7:00 p.m. at the Delaware Township Municipal Building, 570 Rosemont Ringoes Rd., (Cty. Rt. 604), Sergeantsville, New Jersey 08557 on the following dates:

January 29, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 9, October 7, November 4, and December 2, 2024.

2. The following newspapers are 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 Times of Trenton and the Star Ledger 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 2024 calendar year on the bulletin board at the Delaware Township Municipal Building;
- b. Sent via Fax Transmission 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;

and

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:

Jes Stahl, Chairperson
January 8, 2024

Judith Allen, Secretary
January 8, 2024

T-Mobile Hometown Grant

Denise Cavalier described a grant opportunity under the Hometown Grant program sponsored by T-Mobile with awards up to \$50,000. Eligible projects could include almost any project. The goal is to bring communities together. She offered to help write the grant application. Members agreed to pursue a grant application for a possible gazebo with electricity on the Village Green and an upgraded walking path. Chad said the Township Committee will review the proposal.

2023 Event Summary, 2024 Events, and 2024 Budget Review

Members reviewed the costs of 2023 events, proposed costs for 2024 events including new events such as the Bunny Brunch, Rubber Duck Race, Halloween Spooktacular, and an increase in allocation to DTAA. Members reviewed each proposed event and offered to chair various events. A location for the Rubber Duck Race will be determined. Members agreed to purchase pre-filled eggs for the Egg Hunt, Tim will check on the fish population for the Fishing Derby, and Community Day will be combined with the Fall Fun Fireworks event. The Spooktacular will be held at the Dilts Farm Park and may include a jack-o-lantern contest, photo-ops, trunk or treat, DJ, hayrides, and food. Tractor lineup organization for the Tractor and Tree Lighting event will be reviewed. A new category for the Holiday Decorating Contest may include a Top Favorite selected by residents. Members will consider a possible Santa gift drop-off and/or phone call to residents.

2024 Summer Recreation Program

Jenna Vecchione applied for the Summer Recreation Program Director position. This program may be extended to a longer day. Costs and fees will increase to include the new minimum wage.

Teen Paintball Event

Johnny Cane reported on a proposed paintball event for Delaware Township School 7th and 8th graders. He obtained costs for various packages. Members agreed to support this event with a 25 percent share of

the cost. Johnny will contact the paintball company to see if a Friday evening event would be possible. Due to sports schedules, a weekend event for the teens may not work well.

Chili Bowl and Bingo

Chili cooks must pre-register. Attendees will reserve a place. Bingo is free. Small prizes for bingo will be awarded. Chili winners will receive ShopRite gift cards and mementos.

Recreation Commission Branding

Members discussed Recreation Commission t-shirts with a logo so volunteers are easily identified during events. We will check with the Polytech design team to see if they can give us a few logo options to review.

Approval of Dilts Park Applications – none received.

Liaison Reports

Township Committee – Jamie Waltman is 2024 Mayor, Dave Bond is Deputy Mayor, and Chad Bower is the Recreation Commission Liaison to the Township Committee.

Board of Education – Jes said the Board authorized the purchase of a new playground. Its installation will not interfere with the Summer Recreation Program.

DTAA – No update.

Open Space – No update.

Locked Storage and Sign-out System for Recreation Equipment

Members agreed there could be a clipboard for authorized use of Recreation Commission equipment stored at the Township Building.

New Business

Temporary Pickleball Sets for Dilts Tennis Court – Members agreed to purchase one rolling pickleball net for use at the Dilts tennis court at a cost of \$85.00.

Yoga and/or Tai Chi Classes – Both of these activities could be held at the Dilts Pavilion or at DTS. Attendees would pay the instructor directly, or we could get volunteer instructors.

Art/Craft Classes – Attendees would pay the instructor directly, or we could get volunteer instructors.

CPR Training – Research this opportunity.

Volunteers Needed

A social media coordinator, graphic designer, and instructors for classes would help promote Recreation events and provide new opportunities.

New Resident Welcome Packages

Members discussed a packet of Township-related information that could be provided to new residents. Packets could include coupons to local businesses, the annual REC calendar, and information about Right to Farm.

Village Green

New lights for the tree on the Village Green were purchased. A survey may be needed if the Township is successful in obtaining the T-Mobile Hometown grant before a possible gazebo can be built.

Meeting Opened to the Public

Jan Weber said the Township Committee had previously discussed some type of noise abatement if noise from pickleball at Dilts Farm Park was an issue.

Jes noted that fifteen filled boxes of items for active service members was collected from DTS students and donated to Operation Jersey Cares in Flemington.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Judith A. Allen, Secretary

Next Meeting: January 29, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.