

Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – May 6, 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, Erin Buchanan, Johnny Cane, Steve Smotrich, Jes Stahl,
Brian Sulewski, Sarah Waverka

Notice Requirement

Notice of this meeting was properly provided.

Approval of Minutes from the April 1, 2024 Meeting

Steve moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of April 1, 2024, Erin seconded the motion, and members approved the minutes as written with one abstention by Brian.

Financial Report

The Township Committee's 2024 Budget includes \$36,000 for the Recreation Commission. This total may include \$7,500 for DTAA and \$4,000 for the Delaware Township Seniors' Group. Members did not recall the Seniors' allocation being in the Commission's budget in previous years.

Amazon Business Account for the Township

There is no update on this account.

Teen Events

Paintball:

Johnny reported on the 6th, 7th and 8th grade Paintball event at the Dilts Farm Park on May 4th. He said there was great feedback from participants. Steve said the organizer at Shooters 365 was very helpful and cooperative. River Valley Realty donated bottles of water.

Hike and Campout:

Johnny will work on dates for these fall events.

Members thanked Johnny for his work.

Summer Recreation Program at DTS – July 8 to July 26 10a.m. to 1 p.m.

Summer Recreation Program Jenna Vecchioni is working on counselors. Some attendees have already registered.

Town-Wide Yard Sale – May 11 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Judy said this event will be published in the Hunterdon County Democrat. Signs have been posted throughout the Township. The list of addresses will be posted on the Township website. She will provide paper copies of the list at the Township Building. East Amwell Township's sale is scheduled for the same date, so its list will be posted as well, and Delaware Township's list will be posted on the East Amwell website.

Eagle Scout Candidate Zach Gillespie – Eagle Scout Project

Eagle Scout Candidate Zach Gillespie said his proposed gaga court at the Dilts Farm Park has been approved by the Scout Council. The location has been slightly moved to coordinate with the new Park Plan. He hoped to begin work this weekend. Everyone looked forward to the official opening. They thanked Zach for this project that children will really enjoy.

Fishing Derby – May 11 8 to 11 a.m. at the Copelands’ Pond

Fish have been purchased for this event. Set-up will begin at 7:30 a.m.

Somerset Patriots – June 7 at 7 p.m. – Patriots Park in Bridgewater

The game, barbecue and fireworks package costs \$36. The sign-up link will be posted on the Township website.

Great Crate Race – July 4 8 a.m. at Delaware Downs (aka Lower Ferry Road)

Trial Date July 22 at 9 a.m. at DTS

Steve said he ordered the tee-shirts. Sponsor requests have gone out. There will be a car show, face painting, and an ice cream truck.

Plant Swap – May 4 9 to 11 a.m. at Dilts Farm Park

Sarah said there was a good turnout for this event, and there were a lot of plants. Coffee and doughnuts were provided.

Rubber Duck Race

This event presents some logistical hurdles that will have to be resolved before rescheduling it.

Kite Fest

This event will be rescheduled.

Clean Out Attic Storage Room

This project can be done on a hot summer day!

New Resident Welcome Package

Township Assessor Michele Trivigno is retiring at the end of May. The Commission will work with the new Assessor to obtain new resident names and addresses.

Dilts Park Plan Update

There is nothing new to report following the Dilts Farm Park Plan presentation. The Township Committee will work on financing the projects that may be done in phases. Members thought there should be a location for volleyball play and more walking trails.

Approval of Dilts Farm Park Applications – None

Oaths of Office

Judy, Erin and Jes read and signed their Oaths of Office as Commission members.

Correspondence – None

Liaison Reports

Township Committee – The Committee adopted the 2024 budget.

DTS Board of Education – Jes said the Board approved its budget last month. There will be three sections of Pre-K. A new playground will be constructed this summer.

DTAA – Erin said there was a good turnout for the comedy night fundraiser. DTAA will request reimbursement for last year's field work.

Open Space – Steve said an open space preservation flow chart detailing the whole process has been created. There is no Coordinator yet. There will soon be a link on the Township website detailing information on preserved lands in the Township that are open to the public.

Meeting Opened to the Public

Jan Weber asked whether events at the Dilts Farm Park can be posted to the Township website. Members thought it would be impossible to list each sporting event and every cancellation on a day-to-day basis, and the website is not accessible on weekends to post last minute cancellations/rescheduled activities.

New Business

Jes said lost and found items are accumulating, and she recommended purchase of a weather-proof storage box at the Dilts Farm Park for that purpose. Judy moved to authorize Jes to purchase a lost and found box for the Park in an amount not to exceed \$200. Sarah seconded the motion, and members unanimously approved it.

Community Day and Fall Fun Fireworks – September 7 3 to 10 p.m. at Dilts Farm Park

Jes suggested that Township organizations and local businesses be invited to have a table with information promoting them at Community Day. Steve said the Commission could arrange for rental tables with the cost paid by the exhibitors. Alternatively, they would bring their own table. Members discussed the fireworks display and cost. Township Finance Officer Diane McDaniel would like quotes for costs exceeding the bid threshold. Brian said two companies in New Jersey provide fireworks displays. The cost depends on the length of the display. There will be further discussion about fireworks, food and music at a later meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Judith A. Allen, Secretary

Next Meeting: June 3, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.