

Forest Hills Recreation Board Minutes

March 4, 2013

Attendees: Barry Layton, Cheryl Finlay, Ed Galloway, Florence Biscaras, Roseanne Litzinger, Lynn McGuigan, Joe DeGregorio

Absent: Melissa Bell

Guests: Cindy Simm

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Layton welcomed everyone and apologized for not being able to meet in February due to bad weather. Scott Glasser's term on the Board is up and he decided not to renew; there is now one new opening on the Board so please consider recommending any interested residents. Both Galloway and Finlay's 3-year term expired but have been renewed.

II. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from January 7, 2013

Moved by Finlay; seconded by DeGregorio.

III. President's Report (Layton)

Thanked everyone for helping to coordinate our 2nd annual Winterfest on Feb. 23. Special thanks to Finlay for supplying the decorations and Biscaras for obtaining the raffle prizes. We had 57 individuals who attended and helped raise \$655 to benefit the pool. While this was not as much as the inaugural event in 2010 (\$715), it was more than the 2011 Fall Fest (\$523). Additional donations to the pool should be directed to Simm at the Borough office and marked as "Pool Donation."

IV. Marketing and Events Director's Report (Simm)

No report. Asked about hiring letters for summer staff which were mailed last week; only a few have been returned at this point.

V. Tennis Report (Biscaras)

Board learned that Council approved the demolition of the existing tennis courts and the construction of new ones on the site. Public Works will be responsible for excavating the site,

fixing the drainage beneath the courts, and preparing the site for resurfacing. Then bids will be issued for the resurfacing project. It is the Board's understanding that the Borough will reinstall the same perimeter fencing and lights. Work will begin on the project when the weather improves in late Spring; it is expected that the courts will be unavailable for most of the summer months.

As a result, the Borough is making arrangements with Hosanna House to use their courts for the tennis team as well as any Borough residents with a paid tennis pass; Council member Mike Belmont and tennis coach Youssef Abdelwahab are facilitating this discussion. The courts at Woodland Hills High School can be used by any resident on a "first come, first serve" policy.

Since our courts will be unavailable for most of the summer, the Board recommends that any resident who purchases a summer tennis pass be informed of the situation and their money returned if they wish to play elsewhere.

It is the Board's understanding that once the new courts are in place, only residents with a valid tennis pass will be able to access the courts. Thought should also be given to how access will be given to the courts by residents during the fall and spring months since routinely only tennis passes are purchased in the spring for presumably summer play.

VI. Parks Report (Layton)

The price for field permits has doubled to \$100. The Propel school in Braddock Hills is interested in using the main park for its Ultimate Frisbee team.

VII. Basketball Report (DeGregorio)

No report.

VIII. Pool/Swim Team Report (Galloway)

Swim team purchased with its own funds its own starter system with tripod (\$1065) and Meet Manager software (\$251.25) for Champs. The meet schedule will be out in early April; the team has once again requested home meets be scheduled on Tuesdays.

IX. Old Business

Finlay is still interested in reinvigorating the "buy a brick" program so will continue to investigate options.

X. New Business

Discussion of the response (if any) to the recent Letter to the Editor of The Patch from a new Borough resident indicating his surprise and displeasure regarding the cost of joining the pool. Board decided it best for Layton to respond with a follow-up phone call to try to address the resident's concerns.

In reviewing the budget (actual) from 2012, it was pointed out that several costs (natural gas, water, sewage) had substantially increased (or decreased) from the previous year's actuals. Simm will investigate and discuss with the Borough manager. [It was later confirmed that a clerical error led to the wrong numbers and has been addressed.]

XI. Adjorn

Moved by Finlay; seconded by DeGregorio. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 1, 2013 at 7:00 PM on the 2nd floor of the Borough Building.