

**DOVER RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY
April 14, 2011
MINUTES - FINAL**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by all

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chairwoman Garland called the meeting to order at 7:10pm as follows:

“In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Laws, I do hereby announce that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by publication of the Annual Meeting Schedule in the local newspaper and copy sent to the Town Administrator.”

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Garland, Rodriguez (7:12), Gori, Fritch, Jaeger,
Bocchino, Carmona (8:00)

Absent: None.

Also Present: Alderwoman Blackman, Alderwoman Romaine (9:00pm)
Luis Acevedo, DPW Superintendent
Alice Gilbert, Secretary

Vice Chairwoman Garland turned the meeting over to Chairman Rodriguez upon completion of Roll Call.

PUBLIC PORTION

a) Meeting opened to Public for comment on business of the Board.

MOTION: To suspend regular order of the meeting and open meeting to the public was made by Commissioner Gori.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Bocchino

ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED

Sonia Yanes
134 South Salem St.
Dover, NJ 07801

Ms. Yanes asked the Board to consider extending the enrollment deadline for the Summer Program to May 15th in order to give parents a chance to Register. She expressed her concern about the possible decision to discontinue the Summer Program.

Frank Poolas
16 Center Street
Dover, NJ 07801

Frank Poolas addressed the Commission by stating he is here this evening as a concerned citizen. The Summer Recreation Program was free when he attended as a child and was free for all three of his children. He has watched the fees go up as the enrollment has gone down and is concerned about the children whose parents cannot afford the program being left home alone.

Discussion took place between Mr. Poolas and the Commission. Commissioner Gori agreed that the program should be affordable, however he believes the Board needs more information about the budget. Chairman Rodriguez stated the registration fee is the lowest in the area and is less than two dollars per hour per child.

Mr. Poolas stated according to the census Dover has the lowest income per household in the county. Chairman Rodriguez said he disagrees with the income being the only cause of low enrollment.

Mr. Poolas said he spoke at a town meeting, and it is on record that the Mayor was unaware of the fees and told Mr. Poolas to address the Recreation Commission about this issue. He asked about the funds that were put into a trust account under former administrator Bibi Garvin.

Chairman Rodriguez said he believed that account is just to be used for buses; however he would look into it with Mr. Close.

Vice Chairwoman Garland said there are programs available for low income families.

Commissioner Bocchino said she believed the program was running in the red and the Board was told it had to raise price so it will run in the black.

Alderswoman Blackman said while she is out walking she speaks with people and many of the homes a father or mother is unemployed and home to watch the children now.

Commissioner Jaeger said he did not understand why the Board changed it after it was already voted on to raise it from \$150 to \$190.00. He said he could understand even raising it to \$200.00 per child, but when it went to \$350.00 he could not afford to put his own three children in the program.

Commissioner Fritch spoke about Mine Hill's program which charges \$200.00 for two weeks.

Commissioner Gori said because of the diverse population of our town, there needs to be alternatives for Dover families.

Alderman Blackman said she believed most people are aware of programs where they can get assistance.

Maria Tchinchinian

30 Hillcrest

Dover, NJ 07801

Ms. Tchinchinian said she was one of the first parents to register her son for the Summer Recreation Program and is concerned, because she does not want him home alone over the summer. She discussed resources for aid, and said there are other programs like Child & Family Resources however, many families may not qualify or may find there is a long waiting list. She has spoken with the Town Administrator and suggested the Town apply for grants or partner with a pre-school. She said Toys r Us has a grant available for \$25,000.00. Ms. Tchinchinian agreed to put her ideas in writing for the Commission.

MOTION: To close public portion and return to Regular Order of the Meeting was made by Commissioner Bocchino.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Jaeger

ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1) Open Meeting Minutes

Approval of **March 10, 2011 Regular Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: To approve Minutes of March 10, 2011, as written, was made by Vice Chairwoman Garland.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Fritch

ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF BILLS/VOUCHER LIST

Chairman Rodriguez reviewed the following with the Commissioners:

<u>P.O. #</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-00680	Parker Publications	Newspaper Notice - Meeting Dates	\$ 39.10
11-00569	Nancy Hagerich	Reimbursement - Senior Program Expenses Jan/Feb	\$ 81.87
11-00759	The Arc of Morris County	Recreation for special needs	\$ 2460.00
11-00455	Municipal Toy	Easter Pez	\$ 338.00
10-02531	Riddell/All American	Football Helmets & Shoulder pads 2010 season	\$ <u>5405.69</u>
		Total	\$8324.66

Chairman Rodriguez questioned whether the football equipment from Riddell was purchased at Morris County Cooperative Pricing rates. Alice Gilbert said she did not know, the purchase order was done directly with Mr. Close's approval after he met with Scott Mack.

Commissioner Fritch asked what the Arc of Morris County referred to. Alice Gilbert explained it is the yearly fee paid by the town for Special Needs Recreation. Commissioner Bocchino discussed the benefits of the program as experienced by her own son.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Senior Citizen Committee - no report. Programs for April were cancelled.
- b. Sport Committees
 - Basketball - Commissioner Fritch said he is waiting for the town reimbursement to close out the books for the basketball season.
 - Football - Commissioner Gori said Scott Mack is going to head the program and is scheduling a coaches meeting for Tuesday, May 4th at King Field Meeting room. He also has dates scheduled for sign ups May 12th, 13th, 19th and 20th.
 - Soccer - Commissioner Bocchino asked about article in the paper that said a Dover woman hit someone at a game in Parsippany. Commissioner Jaeger said he was unaware of this occurrence and he did not believe it happened at a Dover Strikers Recreation or Traveling Soccer game.
 - Baseball - Chairman Rodriguez said that Opening Day is this Saturday at 9:00am and he has sent invitations to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen. Ayers Chevrolet has made some donations and will be present. A short parade will take place from Dover High School to North Dover School. The parade begins at 8:45am with ceremony to follow.

- c. **Monthly Maintenance Report/DPW** - Supt. Acevedo reported that they started cleaning the parks. He discussed preparation of baseball fields for opening day and stated the soccer fields would be completed next week. The weather has been an issue of scheduling certain work. The fence at Crescent Field has been repaired. The turf has not been repaired due to weather, and will be rescheduled. They can repair it while the field is being used. Commissioner Jaeger discussed the flooding which occurs on the turf field at the corner by the playground. Luis will have Field Turf check this when they come to repair the field.

Chairman Rodriguez reviewed the following applications with the Commissioners

APPLICATIONS/FIELD USE

Town Property

- 1) Scott Mack of Dover Youth Recreation Football & Cheerleading has applied for use of **King Field Meeting Room** on Wednesday, May 4, 2011 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm for coaches meeting.

Chairman Rodriguez said Scott Mack needs to turn in rosters and financial statements from last year. He said the Commission could approve the application with the condition that he has to submit paperwork before his application can be sent to Mr. Close for approval. He instructed Alice to hold the application until paperwork is submitted.

- 2) Donald Underhill of 107 Princeton Ave, Dover has applied for use of **Water Works Park** on Saturday, June 4, 2011 from 12 noon to 8:00pm (dusk) for family cook out. He will have alcohol and has applied for insurance certificate, has submitted two checks one for \$100 user fee and the other for security deposit. - **Withdrew application** today because he had trouble with getting an insurance certificate - would cost him over \$600.00 for one day certificate.
- 3) Adela Hernandez of Morris County Head Start, 18 Thompson Ave, Dover has applied for use of Water Works Park, Saturday, June 11, 2011 from 10:00am to 5:00pm for family picnic with approximately 200 attending the event, no alcohol will be served, no sound system being used. Insurance certificate needs to be updated to state Town of Dover and Dover Recreation Commission.

Board of Education Property

- 1) Scott Mack of Dover Youth Recreation Football & Cheerleading has applied for use of Hamilton Field House for football & cheerleading sign ups on Thursday, May 12, 2011, Friday May 13, 2011 and Thursday, May 19, 2011 and Friday, May 20, 2011 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

MOTION: To approve applications for Scott Mack to use King Field Meeting room and Board of Education property for sign ups with a stipulation that paperwork is to be turned in prior to application being sent to Mr. Close for final approval and application for Morris County Head start to use Water Works Park with correction to be made to insurance certificate to list both Town of Dover and Dover Recreation Commission was made by Commissioner Bocchino.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Jaeger.

A roll call vote was taken.

ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED.

Town Property - Approved by Mr. Close

- 1) Sean Bullock, Athletic Director at DHS has applied for use of **Crescent Field, Softball field and King Field II, III & IV** for School baseball/softball events from March 4, 2011 thru June 4, 2011 Mondays thru Fridays from 2:30pm to 6:00pm and Saturdays from 8:00am to 12:00noon. Schedule of games to be submitted at later date.
- 2) Patrick Fahy of Dover Strikers Traveling Soccer applied for use of **Water Works Park Ball field and Crescent Field, Soccer field (large & small) and Softball field** from 2/11/11 to 7/3/11 see attached dates and times - approved by Mr. Close.
- 3) Mark Jaeger of Dover Recreation Soccer has applied for use of **Water Works Park Ball field and Crescent Field, Soccer field (large & small) and Softball field** from 2/11/11 to 7/3/11 attached dates and times - approved by Mr. Close.
- 4) Mark Jaeger of Dover Strikers Soccer requested use of **Crescent Field large turf field** on April 7th and April 8, 2011 from 8:30am to 1:30pm for Soccer Fun Days for Recreation Soccer - approved by Mr. Close.
- 5) Jody Marcus of Discover Dover Day Coalition applied for use of **Crescent Field Complex** (with exception of turf field) from 9:00am to 7:00pm on June 12, 2010 for Discover Dover Day family festival. - approved by Mr. Close.

Chairman Rodriguez questioned Commissioner Jaeger about use of turf field on April 7th and 8th. He explained it was for about 40 children who were off from school to hold a Soccer Field Day event.

Town Property - Pending

- 1) Junior Carmona of Back to Basics Baseball Camp has applied for use of King Field for Baseball camp from 6/27/11 to 7/1/11 and 7/4/11 to 7/8/11 and 7/11 to 7/15 from 9:00am to 2:00pm for Baseball Camp. Fee: \$1860.00 for use of the fields, as per last year. \$50.00 discount to Dover Little Leaguers. - pending.

Board of Education Property - Pending approval from Board of Ed from February Meeting

- 1) Lianna Lewis of Dover Recreation Spring Track has applied for use of Hamilton Field Track from March 15, 2011 to May 26, 2011 from 6pm to 8pm, (attached dates & times) for practice only. No meets will be held.

Board of Education Property - Approved

- 1) Mark Jaeger of Dover Recreation Soccer approved for use of JV Auxiliary Field and Hamilton Practice Field 3/19 thru 7/1/2011 - approved dates and times per Board of Education permit.
- 2) Patrick Fahy of Dover Traveling Soccer approved for use of JV Auxiliary Field and Hamilton Field from 3/19 thru 7/1/2011 - approved dates and times per Board of Education permit.

Special Events:

- 1) **Summer Recreation Program** - 32 children registered as of 4/14/2011. Discussion was table to end of agenda items.

2) EASTER EGG HUNT AT JFK PARK Saturday, April 16, 2011 @ 2:00pm

Rain Date Sunday, April 17, 2011 @ 2:00pm

Discussion took place about relocating the Easter Egg Hunt or possibly holding it during the week if it rains on the rain date. Alice expressed concern over not having an indoors rain location, and suggested holding it at Crescent Turf Field on Wednesday or Thursday, right after school, because the park has a tendency to flood and get muddy after rain. Chairman Rodriguez said he would rather keep it at the park and hold it on the following Saturday, (April 23rd) at same time, so as not to confuse anyone.

There are 98 prizes thanks to generous donation of candy and items from Dover Lions Club. Alice said she would send them a nice thank you letter.

Patricia Genovese (Little Miss Petite America) has volunteered to be the Easter Bunny. She has the costume and is eagerly looking forward to helping out this year.

3) FIREWORKS/CONCERT: Friday, July 1, 2011 with Rain date Friday July 8, 2011

Chairman Rodriguez discussed fireworks contracts with the Commissioners.

MOTION: To hire D&M Fireworks for Friday, July 1, 2011 with rain date of Friday, July 8th was made by Chairwoman Garland.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Bocchino

Roll Call Vote was taken.

ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Rodriguez said he was composing a letter to send to businesses to solicit funding towards the fireworks. Discussion took place about whether to retain the Show Mobile from the county or use a flatbed truck. Luis said he would check with Mr. Close to see if the flat bed would be acceptable for insurance reasons. If not, Alice will reserve the staging from the Morris County Park Commission. Chairman Rodriguez asked Alice to contact DJ, Dr. J to see if he was available and interested in providing music for the fireworks celebration because of his generosity in donating his services at the Senior Picnic. Alice to contact Dr. J and get pricing.

Chairman Rodriguez reviewed the following with the Commissioners:

Correspondence

Sent

- 1) Notices sent to all sport supervisors advising them of requirements set by the Commission including bank statement, financial statement coaches' information, etc.
- 2) Letter sent to Club Colombia letting them know their application has been approved by the Commission but is contingent on the criteria listed including police, fire, board of health, etc.

Received

- 1) Packet of information from Maureen Kanka - need to review and send letter advising them of how many sport volunteers would be participating for background checks.
- 2) Copy of letter from Mr. Close to Angelica Lorenzo, Secretary of Dover Area Little League regarding Little League Opening Day which he will not be able to attend.
- 3) Copy of letter from NJ Trout in the Classroom Program Coordinator Jessica Griglak regarding stocking fish in Rockaway River and application for permit made by Madelyn Santiago of North Dover Elementary School and response to letter by Mr. Close.

Summer Recreation Program - revisited

Discussion took place about possibly cancelling the program. Commissioner Gori said he did not feel the Commission has enough information about the budget and expenses to make a decision about the program today. He would like to see some numbers. He said he feels we will do the community a disservice by not offering some type of program, even if it is scaled back.

Alderwoman Blackman asked Luis Acevedo if the town got volunteers to chaperone the children on bus trips, would it be feasible to have a camp with trips only. Luis Acevedo said he was not sure, he thought the insurance liability may be an issue.

Meeting Reopened to Public

MOTION: To open meeting to public was made by Commissioner Fritch

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Jaeger

ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED.

Alderman Dominic Timpani

2 Elm Street

Mr. Timpani asked the Board to consider reducing the fees to get more kids.

Alderman Frank Poolas

16 Center Street

Alderman Poolas said perhaps one suggestion to defray the cost would be to write letters to businesses asking them to help sponsor a child for the summer. He said another idea would be to reduce the number of counselors according to how many children there are.

Alderwoman Cindy Romaine (entered meeting approximately 9:00pm)

79 Ann Street

Alderwoman Romaine discussed the budget, stating the program does not pay for itself. She said the \$28,000 dollars budgeted for salaries only covers about one third of the cost.

Commissioner Gori said he would not want to make a final decision until budget information is reviewed by the Commission. Luis Acevedo said he did not see a problem in getting the information to the Commissioners no later than one week prior to the next meeting.

Commissioners agreed to table the Summer Program decision to May 5th and reschedule the May 12th meeting to May 5th. Luis Acevedo said the September meeting also needs to be rescheduled from September 8th to September 15th due to Senior Picnic being held on September 8th. Registrations for Summer Program will continue until May 4th and another set of notices will be sent out to schools. Newspaper notice to be sent out for meeting date changes.

MOTION: To table the decision about future of the Summer Recreation Program to next meeting date of May 5, 2011 and reschedule September 8th meeting to September 15, 2011 was made by Commissioner Bocchino.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Gori.

Roll Call Vote was taken.

ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED.

NEXT MEETING: MAY 5, 2011

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn was made by Commissioner Carmona

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Bocchino

ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Gilbert, Secretary

Dover Recreation Commission