

## Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – September 7, 2022

Chairperson Brian Sulewski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Notice Statement – The Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied by notification to the Hunterdon County Democrat and by posting with the Township Clerk and on the Delaware Township bulletin board on March 24, 2022.

Flag Salute – Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Judy Allen, Erin Buchanan, Rebecca Burns, Heather Opdyke, Jes Stahl, Brian Sulewski  
Absent: Joe Benincasa, Charles Herman, Tyler Kadezabek, Steve Smotrich, Tim Soltis, Linda Ubry

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of August 1, 2022 – Rebecca moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of August 1, 2022, Jes seconded the motion, and members present approved the minutes with abstentions by Judy, Erin and Rebecca.

## HOLIDAY PARADE – DECEMBER 3, 2022 (RAIN/SNOW DATE DECEMBER 4)

Jes said she contacted Parade participants from last year. Brian will arrange with the County to close Rt. 604 Judy requested a Use of Facilities for the DTS parking lot where the Parade assembles.

## REPORTS

Teens – No report.

## DTS Board of Education

Heather said there will be a voter referendum to replace the DTS roof that is over twenty years old and out of warranty. If approved, the State will pay up to 40 percent Debt Service Aid on eligible costs which is approximately \$468,000. The Board approved the Use of Facilities for indoor adult and teen recreation beginning in October.

## DTAA

Erin said fall sports start September 10<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed for field preparation, date to be announced. The DTAA Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup>. The field hockey clinic at DTS was a big success. Lots of equipment was donated. DTAA is running a youth and adult tennis programs. Jes will check to see whether a DTAA link can be added to the Township website.

## Green Team

Jes said the School was awarded Bronze Certification. It makes grant opportunities available. The Environmental Defense Fund conducted an energy audit at DTS. Recent improvements resulted in a forty percent reduction in energy use. The Green Team will run the March on Litter on October 8<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. beginning at the Dilts Park. Judy wondered whether there could be a Pedals for Progress bicycle collection. Jes said the spring sports equipment swap might present a good opportunity.

### RECREATION GRANT UPDATE

The State Recreation Grant paperwork was signed in February but the Township has not yet received the money. Jes said the Township Committee intends to transfer \$80,000 from the Open Space Trust to a reserve for work at the Dilts Park, as approved by voters at the November 2021 referendum.

### HUNTERDON COUNTY GRANT

Hunterdon County Economic Development approved a \$5,000 grant toward the cost of the Great Crate Race.

### PARK PLANNER – UPDATE

Interviews are being conducted for a Park Planner.

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

### COMMITTEES:

Kite Fest – August 20 – Jes said there was not a huge turnout, but all agreed it was a very successful first Kite Fest. All agreed Jes coordinated the event wonderfully. She suggested holding it in the spring when there is more wind at the Park.

Brian noted what a huge help Shop Rite of Flemington provides for all Township events. He thought there should be a proclamation by the Township Committee honoring the Colalilo Family. Members also thought a “Thank You” banner could be purchased and displayed at Recreation events supported by Shop Rite.

Sports Swap – September 10<sup>th</sup> – 9 to 11 a.m. - Jes said everything is on track for this event at the Dilts Park.

Fun Fall Fireworks – September 10<sup>th</sup> 4 to 9 p.m. - Brian said recent rain helped mitigate dry conditions. The State inspects the site before the launch. The Stockton, West Amwell and Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Companies attend and pre-soak the field. Fireworks debris cleanup will be on Sunday. This annual event was heavily advertised on the Township website and social media. The Commission might purchase lawn signs next year advertising “Fireworks this Weekend”. Setup is at 3 p.m. The Department of Public Works will assist by taping areas and bringing additional trash and recycling cans.

Yard Sale – September 17 (Rain Date September 18) 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Judy said this event is on track. She advertised in the Hunterdon County Democrat and will post lawn signs. The list of participating addresses will be posted on the Township website.

Adult and Teen Indoor Recreation at DTS 7 to 9:45 p.m. – Adult recreation begins October 3 at DTS. Teen recreation will not be held unless parent chaperones volunteer on those nights.

Block Party – October 1 at Sergeantsville Green – Steve arranged for Big Horse Band, last year’s band, to perform again. Sugar Maple Jerseys Farm - The Farmers Table will sell ice cream.

SVFC will cook and sell food. Brian will arrange with the County to close Rt. 604 and also for a port-a-potty.

Meteor Shower Watch Party – November 18<sup>th</sup> 5 to 10 p.m. at the Dilts Park – Jes said she will talk to Deputy Township Clerk Tiffany Crivelli about a permit for the fire pit at the Park. She will try to get a speaker/presenter to talk about this Meteor. This event is still in the planning stages.

#### OLD BUSINESS –

Dilts Park – There is nothing new to report.

NEW BUSINESS – Broadway Show – Jes ran an informal survey to determine interest in a trip to a Broadway show early next year. Joe Benincasa had indicated he may be able to help make this arrangement. There was interest in a weekend matinee to a family show, preferably with a dinner opportunity and bus transportation. Jes will relay this information to Joe.

Rebecca is researching ski trip opportunities for early next year. She mentioned the very successful Thanksgiving in the Country House Tour that was held annually for many years in the Township. After some discussion, it appears that it would be an enormous undertaking to resurrect it. Jes is researching a Chili Cook-off event. Combining it with a Bingo Night or a separate Bingo Night at the Firehouse would be a fun adults-only event.

HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST – December 12 – Members agreed everyone will drive the route of participating houses individually and report to the Township Building on December 12 to compare scores and select the winners.

#### MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments or questions from the public.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

NEXT MEETING: October 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

#### ADDITIONAL UPCOMING 2022 ACTIVITIES

Plant Swap – October 15 at Dilts Park

Meteor Shower Watch Party – November 18<sup>th</sup> at Dilts Park

Holiday Lighting and Parade – December 3<sup>rd</sup> (Rain/Snow Date December 4<sup>th</sup>)

Holiday Decorating Contest Judging – December 12<sup>th</sup>