

Delaware Township Recreation Commission Minutes – January 6, 2020

Chairperson Brian Sulewski called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Notice Statement – The Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied by notification to the Hunterdon County Democrat and Trenton Times and by posting with the Township Clerk and on the Delaware Township bulletin board on December XX, 2019.

Flag Salute – Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Judy Allen, Rebecca Burns, Chad Bower, Tim Drew, Charles Herman, Aiden Ricci, Julie Luster-Roell, Toby Ruttenberg, Steve Smotrich, Tim Soltis, Brian Sulewski, Linda Ubry
Absent: Connor Devlin, Kristin Devlin

Approval of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary

Members unanimously agreed to select Brian Sulewski to serve as Chairperson, Steve Smotrich as Vice Chairperson, and Judy Allen to serve as Secretary in 2020.

2020 Membership

Rebecca Burns will serve as the Delaware Township School Liaison in 2020. Kristen Devlin is the Alternate DTS Liaison. Chad Bower is the Alternate DTAA Liaison. Members would like to find a Seniors Group Liaison.

ANNUAL NOTICE

Members reviewed the following 2020 Annual Notice Resolution.

DELAWARE TOWNSHIP RECREATION COMMISSION
ANNUAL NOTICE RESOLUTION #2020-01

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 during the 2020 calendar year at 7:30 p.m. at the Delaware Township Municipal Building, 570 Rosemont Ringoes Rd., (Cty. Rt. 604), Sergeantsville, New Jersey 08557 on the first Monday of each month except the September 7, 2020 meeting will be held on Monday, September 14, 2020, and the December 7, 2020 meeting will be held on Monday, December 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. followed by a car tour of houses registered for the Holiday Decorating Contest for final judging. In the event of inclement

weather forecast for December 14th, that meeting will take place instead on Sunday, December 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

2. The following newspapers are hereby 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 Trenton Times and the Courier News 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 2020 calendar year on the bulletin board at the Delaware Township Municipal Building;
- b. Mailed or hand delivered 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:

Brian Sulewski, Chairperson
January 6, 2020

Judith A. Allen,
Recreation Commission Secretary
January 6, 2020

Julie moved to approve the 2020 Annual Notice Resolution, Tim Soltis seconded the motion, and members unanimously approved Resolution 2020-01.

Tim Soltis asked whether the name of the Recreation Commission could be changed to Parks and Recreation Commission to reflect the Commission's dual interests. Charlie said he will check with the Township Attorney.

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of November 4, 2019 – Charlie moved, Julie seconded, and members present approved the minutes as written from the meeting of November 4, 2019 with an abstention by Rebecca Burns.

Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of December 16, 2019 – Members agreed that the minutes from this meeting consisted of the Holiday Decorating Contest road trip and selection of winners. Julie moved, Tim Drew seconded, and members approved the minutes from the meeting of December 16, 2019 with abstentions by Rebecca and Judy.

2019 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners - Grand Prize – The Bench Family; First Place – The Engler Family; Second Place – The Fusi Family; Third Place – The Reycraft Family.

REPORTS:

Teens

Toby and Aidan discussed a possible Middle School 3 on 3 basketball tournament. Topics included date (probably in March), possible snow date, advertising, referees (probably Aidan, Toby and Connor), prizes (possibly medals to overall winners and/or gift certificates), and completion of waiver requirement at registration. Julie suggested including students from East Amwell Township. Once a date is finalized, they will let Judy know so she can submit a Use of Facility form to DTS and arrange for insurance. Brian asked them to bring three possible teen event ideas for 2020 to the next meeting. The Commission will support their activities.

DTS BOE – Rebecca Burns is now the DTS Liaison. She said the Board held a nice reception in December to thank outgoing School Board President Linda Ubry for her many years of excellent service. Linda thanked members for coming to the last Board meeting in 2019 and presenting her with a gift certificate. She looks forward to continuing on the Commission as a regular member. Rebecca said the School referendum authorizing funds for various repairs passed in December. She said Catherine Pouria is the new Board President, and Kristen Devlin is the new Vice President. Stephanie Dunn was reelected to the Board, and Joe Ponzo is a new member. Members discussed upcoming school repairs and their impact on the Summer Recreation Program that will probably begin July 7th. Rebecca thought any impact of the repairs on the Program's operation can be addressed.

DTAA

Tim Drew said the basketball program is in full swing. He thanked DTS for its cooperation with the program. DTAA will sponsor an Apps and Taps fundraiser. A date for the Spring Opening Day of Baseball/Softball season has been tentatively set. The new electronic scoreboard will be unveiled, and the event will include a scoreboard dedication to the late Jerry Hudzik.

Charlie said the Township Committee awarded a contract to Tru Green for field treatment. Tim Soltis said the water fountain at the restrooms is broken, and he asked whether it could be replaced with a bottle filler system. Tim Drew said the dugouts need refurbishment and would make a good Eagle Scout project. He said the LBL field saw a lot of use in 2019. It has drainage issues and will need ten tons of new clay fill in 2020. John Martin will assist with this work. Tim said John does so much to help with field work. Tim asked about use of the new fire pit constructed by Eagle Scout Vincent Colalillo. Charlie thought prospective users must obtain a permit from the Township similar to the process to use the pavilion. Tim Drew suggested amending the Park regulations ordinance to include this requirement.

OPEN SPACE

Steve said there is nothing new to report from the Open Space Committee.

APPROVAL OF DILTS FARM PARK APPLICATIONS – There were no applications for the Commission to review and approve.

COMMITTEES:

Egg Hunt - Julie said this year's Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 11th beginning at 1 p.m.

Chili Cookoff – Julie said County Health Department regulations make this event difficult. The food would have to be prepared in an approved commercial kitchen. It can not be cooked at homes and brought to the event. After further discussion, members agreed not to host this event.

Yard Sale – Judy said the Yard Sale will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 16th with a Sunday May 17th rain date.

Fishing Derby – Tim said the Fishing Derby will also be held from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. on May 16th with a Sunday May 17th rain date at the Copelands' Pond. He will check with the Flemington ShopRite for a possible donation of food.

Plant Swap – Jes Stahl has agreed to organize another plant swap, possibly on the first weekend of June and again in October. The spring event might again be at the Dilts Farm Park and the fall swap at the Sergeantsville Farmers' Market.

Campout/Bonfire – Tim Soltis wondered if a bonfire could be held at DTS. Tim Drew suggested a campout only, no bonfire, on the Makara Field after the Fall Fireworks display on September 12th. Julie liked the idea of two separate events. Members will continue this discussion at the next meeting.

Great Crate Race – Steve said this event will be held on July 4th. He understood the Township has received a grant to repair Lower Ferry Road – Delaware Downs, and he hoped the project could be completed after school ends and before Race Day. John Bradshaw Trophies has been an important contributor to this event.

Summer Recreation Program – Details on this Program will be discussed at future meetings.

Mini-Golf – Members agreed not to hold this event this year.

Fall Fireworks – This event is tentatively scheduled for September 12th.

Community Day/Block Party – This event is held on the first Saturday in October, October 3rd in 2020.

Halloween Fun Night – Julie did not think the Commission needs to host this event. There are already enough Halloween activities including the Parade and Party at the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company. A severe weather forecast for Halloween in 2019 prompted this event. Even though the weather ended up cooperating, there was a good turnout for this quickly organized event at DTS. Charlie suggested keeping this event on the back burner.

Holiday Decorating Contest – Judging for this year's Holiday Decorating Contest is tentatively scheduled for December 14th (December 13th if weather conditions on December 14th warrant). Fewer residents registered for this event in 2019. More advertising and a possible later judging date may help.

NEW BUSINESS

2020 Budget – Julie distributed records for 2019 Commission revenue and expenses. She said the Commission's Trust Fund decreased from \$6,271 to \$4,043 – a one-third decrease. The Commission's contribution toward the new scoreboard is still due. She suggested the Commission request \$25,000 for its 2020 budget. Members agreed that Brian will submit this budget request to the Township Committee with some details about expected expenses. Monthly statements will be requested from Chief Financial Officer Diane McDaniel. Sponsorships for the Fishing Derby to offset those expenses will be solicited.

OLD BUSINESS

Adult and Teen Recreation at DTS – These activities are ongoing.

Ice Rink – Steve said the temporary ice rink at Delaware Township School will be installed when the weather cooperates. He received approval from DTS.

Dilts Farm Park – Charlie said the majority of trail repairs has been completed except for the closed trail area. There is no timetable for additional trail repairs. The highest-priority diseased trees have been removed. The Ash trees by the playground are still under review. Linda said the trail is not maintenance free. Charlie said there are some washed out areas. He will look into fire pit use. Judy said there are deep cracks in the basketball and tennis courts. The need for these repairs should be noted when the Commission submits its 2020 budget request to alert the

Committee. Judy asked whether a dog park might be considered for the Park as the Commission had once discussed. Charlie said dog parks are complicated for many reasons.

NEW BUSINESS

Tennis Clinic - Sarah Harding Perrinys has expressed an interested in coaching a tennis clinic this summer.

Website – Charlie said the Township authorized funds in 2019 to work with website designer Kevin Eberly to create a Recreation Commission page on the Township’s website. Easier access to information about Recreation events is the goal. He will check on how events that have already taken place can be removed from the website.

Newsletter – Members reviewed articles Judy drafted for the upcoming Newsletter. The May date for the Fishing Derby will be added. The Fall Fireworks date will be included under “Save the Date”.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Next Meeting – Monday, February 3, 2020 at 7:20 p.m.